

Principles for the Relationship of London's Hospitals

In 1997, the Boards of Directors of London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Health Care, London approved the following principles. Their purpose was to facilitate the implementation of the Health Services Restructuring commission's directives for London.

In 1999, the Boards of Directors of London's hospitals approved the implementation of London's Hospitals Shared Leadership Model founded on these principles. On December 5, 2005, the Boards of Directors of London's hospitals renewed their commitment to these principles as the foundation for the continuing close voluntary collaboration and sharing between London Health Sciences Center and St. Joseph's Health Care, London.

1. We will drive decisions based on evolving patient-care needs of the communities we serve, understanding that community includes not only London but Southwestern Ontario region and a more extensive specialty referral population.
2. We will establish partnerships to enable a network of health care providers that ensures comprehensive, seamless patient-centred care.
3. We will participate in the creation of a shared delivery system where the right care is provided at the right time, in the right setting, with the right resources.
4. We will enhance the national and international academic and research excellence that exists in London and build on the foundation to ensure long-term success.
5. We will enhance the economic future of London and region by encouraging new health related industries and by mining the health care expertise in the community.
6. We will provide excellent, affordable, efficient services within available resources.
7. We will use evidence-based material to make decisions to deliver the optimum services leading to improved health in our community. Evaluation factors will include, but will not be limited to: quality of care, volume of care and cost of care, community need, risk assessments, and patient care outcomes.
8. We will optimize the use of viable existing physical resources within the health care systems that we own, and will encourage the use of all viable physical resources across the broader health care system.
9. As per the Health Services Restructuring Commission (HSRC), each hospital will continue to own, manage, operate, and conduct the affairs of its respective facilities and specific personnel in accordance with its mission, values, and agreements.
10. The hospitals will implement the recommendations of the HSRC, planning, coordinating, rationalizing, and delivering health care services for the people they serve and to develop a more efficient and cost effective basis for delivering health care.
11. The hospitals wish to plan for and ensure strategic planning, joint service arrangements, and joint systems to better serve their patients, the community.
12. We will include other hospitals and community agencies in a manner consistent with the Shared Academic Health Systems and its purposes.
13. We will, within the constraints of available resources, share knowledge and people, to optimize the contributions of our very valuable human resources to achieve excellence in health care services, education and research.