

# BACKGROUND

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## Long-Term Care Reporting

On June 17, 2008, the Ontario government announced that it would task the Ontario Health Quality Council with measuring and publicly reporting quality of care and resident satisfaction in long-term care (LTC) homes. The government's objective in doing so is to be more accountable to residents and their families, but this kind of information will also be helpful to healthcare providers in identifying areas that need improvement, in learning about what works best and in working to improve care within their facilities.

## Developing the Public Reporting System

Development of the public reporting system will take place over a minimum of three years. It is anticipated that web-based public reporting will commence in the fall of 2009, for a handful of homes (for three indicators). In fall 2010, the website will be augmented by an expanded list of indicators for a greater number of facilities. By fall 2011, the site should include a final list of indicators, for all long-term care facilities.

In June 2009, the Council published a supplementary report on long-term care. It included a preliminary set of measures from our 2009 yearly report.

The Council's approach to developing a provincial web-based reporting system is transparent, valid, meaningful, aligned and supportive of quality improvement. It includes an environmental scan of long-term care indicators in use in Ontario and other jurisdictions and public reporting mechanisms, as well as consultations with academic experts and representatives of LTC residents and their families, LTC operators and staff, and the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs). These representatives are part of the People Caring for People Implementation Team, led by Shirlee Sharkey, President and CEO of Saint Elizabeth Health Care and author of the People Caring for People report.

## Consultation & Communications

In keeping with the principle of transparency, the Council is seeking the feedback of the sector at large, and the input of LTC residents and their families through a variety of mechanisms, such as webcasts and focus group testing. The Council's website (Long-Term Care Reporting section) features regular updates on the development of the site.

For further information, write to us at [ohqc@ohqc.ca](mailto:ohqc@ohqc.ca).