

Safety & Risk Management Initiative

Project Update No. 1

March 2019

Continuing Care's Safety & Risk Management Initiative applies a phased approach to strengthen safety as a priority, develop consistent approaches to safety in community settings, and to advance a positive culture of staff and client safety. The planning and work is informed by NSHA's framework for a Just Culture of Safety.

Phase I, **Foundations of Practice**, integrates a number of projects that will contribute to building standard processes to support safety for staff and for clients.



Safety Risk Assessment (SRA)

This work focuses on standardizing practices to support comprehensive identification and assessment of safety risks as well as improve information transfer related to safety risks within the circle of care.

To date, draft procedures, a safety risk assessment tool, and guide have been piloted with three teams across the province (care coordination, nursing, and community rehabilitation). The pilot evaluation has informed revisions to the procedures and tools with a plan to implement provincially in April 2019. The implementation plan, including an education plan, is under development.

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Safe Work Practices (SWP)

This project will: 1) Standardize an inventory of general Safe Work Practices for Continuing Care to guide staff in avoiding and managing identified safety risks; and 2) Develop a safe work practice development and monitoring process.

A working group was initiated in January and is undertaking a review of existing SWPs from across the province, best practices, and results from a comparative literature review. The initial focus is to create the standard inventory of SWPs to be available at the time the SRA Procedures are implemented provincially. Attention will then focus on the ongoing SWP development and monitoring process.

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High Risk Management (HRM)

The objective of this work is to establish a coordinated, provincial approach for identifying, communicating, and managing high risk situations to maximize staff safety in the community. This will support timely, accurate and appropriate information sharing among Continuing Care teams and service providers. The scope of work includes the development of HRM procedures including high risk identification and client contracts.

A working group has recently been formed and will review existing practices. The new High Risk Management procedures will replace existing High Risk Client policies and processes.

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The fourth component of Phase I, Safe Moving and Handling, will be initiated later in the Spring.

More information on the safety initiative and other projects is available on our SharePoint [Projects](#) page under Provincial Project Information and the [Corporate Site](#) on the Key Initiatives page.



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