MOREOB Program Participants Earn Awards

(Monday, July 27, 2015, Muskoka, ON) – Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare’s obstetrical teams have earned recognition awards for their participation in the MOREOB (Managing Obstetrical Risk Efficiently) program.

MOREOB is a three-year professional development and performance improvement program that addresses risk and patient safety issues in birthing units. The program integrates evidence-based practice standards and guidelines and aims to create a consistent level of care amongst all obstetrical care team members including physicians, midwives and nursing through standardized procedures and care pathways.

MAHC’s obstetrical teams joined the program in 2013-14 and are preparing to start the third and final module this fall. The recognition award is presented to teams who achieve over 80% completion from all participants in Module 2. In Module 2, the MOREOB teams had to meet six criteria for patient safety activities. They also had to show evidence of an effective core team.

“This amazing accomplishment recognizes the hard work and dedication of our MOREOB core teams and participants in implementing key patient safety activities that lead to or sustain a highly reliable obstetrical unit,” says Natalie Bubela, Chief Executive Officer. “As part of our
ongoing commitment to deliver safe, high-quality care, the MORE<sup>OB</sup> program is enhancing patient safety, quality improvement, and collaboration in our obstetrical practice.”

In the final module, participants will use core program components and patient safety tools to identify and accomplish specific changes that will improve the safety of patient care. The focus continues to be on developing effective teamwork and communication; eliminating the culture of blame; embracing learning, knowledge sharing, and evaluation; and promoting collaboration with trust and respect.

“The MORE<sup>OB</sup> program has provided midwives the opportunity to learn, teach, plan and implement safe care strategies alongside our nurse and physician colleagues at MAHC,” says Midwife Dianne Smith. “When midwifery and medical worlds meet, our clients can be comforted to know that we all share the same objectives of providing the highest levels of safety, efficiency, and satisfaction.”

Hospitals who have implemented the MORE<sup>OB</sup> program have improved outcomes for mothers and babies because of standardization in practice, consistency in care delivery, enhanced core clinical knowledge, and an improved patient safety culture, explains Karen Fleming, Chief Quality & Nursing Executive.

“As a nurse with a strong background in maternal/child health, I am extremely proud of the success of our teams. I commend them on their great work and the successes they have achieved in their learning journey,” says Fleming.

-Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC) is a multi-site health care organization providing acute care services at the Huntsville District Memorial Hospital and South Muskoka Memorial Hospital in Bracebridge. Find out more about Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare by visiting www.mahc.ca.

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