



## **NEWS RELEASE** **from Halton Healthcare**

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital Receives International Recognition for Surgical Patient Care**

**(Oakville, ON)** – The American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP®) has recognized Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital (OTMH) as achieving meritorious outcomes for surgical patient care in 2017. The ACS NSQIP recognition program commends a select group of hospitals for reducing surgical complications. OTMH was one of 83 hospitals that achieved this recognition. The NSQIP is a major program of the ACS and is currently used in nearly 850 adult and paediatric hospitals.

As a participant in ACS NSQIP, OTMH tracks the outcomes of inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures to assess patient safety – this data is then used to direct the improvement of surgical care and patient safety. The goal of ACS NSQIP is to reduce complications related to a surgical procedure, which has a positive impact on health care costs and overall patient experience.

“I am very proud of the success we have achieved through the NSQIP program and that our surgical team at OTMH has been recognized for the improvements in patient outcomes after surgery,” said Denise Hardenne, President & CEO, Halton Healthcare. “This achievement reflects our mission to provide compassionate, quality care and deliver on our vision of exemplary patient experiences, always.”

The outcomes measured by OTMH as part of the NSQIP include surgical site infections, urinary tract infections, pneumonia, blood clots, kidney failure, readmission, and death. These outcomes after surgery are captured during the hospital stay and through confidential phone calls to patients after their procedure.

“If you want to make things better, you have to measure them. You need a protocol and a program and a group behind you to make real change,” said Dr Duncan Rozario, Chief of Surgery, OTMH. “NSQIP is about measuring problems so that improvement happens on a systemic level. It may

be only a 0.1% change here, and a 0.1% change there, but the total effect of all those small changes adds up to lower surgical complications and improved patient safety and satisfaction. Change on this scale is not possible without the commitment and skill of all of the surgeons, nurses, hospital staff and hospital support.”

The National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP) was introduced by the American College of Surgeons in 2001 and was the first nationally validated, risk-adjusted outcomes–based program designed to measure and improve the quality of surgical care in the United States. OTMH joined the Ontario collaborative in 2015.

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### **American College of Surgeons**

The American College of Surgeons is a scientific and educational organization of surgeons that was founded in 1913 to raise the standards of surgical practice and to improve the care of the surgical patient. The College is dedicated to the ethical and competent practice of surgery. Its achievements have significantly influenced the course of scientific surgery in America and have established it as an important advocate for all surgical patients. The College has more than 80,000 members and it is the largest organization of surgeons in the world.

### **Halton Healthcare**

Halton Healthcare is a healthcare organization comprised of three community hospitals - Georgetown Hospital, Milton District Hospital and Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. Together these hospitals provide healthcare services to nearly 400,000 residents in the communities of Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville. Halton Healthcare hospitals have been recognized for their best practices in a number of patient safety and patient care initiatives and have recently been Accredited with Exemplary Standing by Accreditation Canada. For more information, visit [www.haltonhealthcare.com](http://www.haltonhealthcare.com) Follow us on Twitter @HaltonHlthcare and Facebook.



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