

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Central East Ontario Hospitals Coming Together to Introduce Single, Unified Digital Health Record for Patients

**Northumberland County - November 24, 2021** – On December 3, 2021, seven partner hospital organizations, representing 14 hospitals in Central East Ontario, will introduce Epic – a new, digital clinical information system (CIS) that will provide a single, unified personal health record for each patient.

The new Epic CIS will go live at Campbellford Memorial Hospital, Haliburton Highlands Health Services, Lakeridge Health, Northumberland Hills Hospital, Peterborough Regional Health Centre, Ross Memorial Hospital, and Scarborough Health Network. This collaboration represents the largest number of individual organizations joining together on Epic in Ontario and will transform the way health care is delivered for generations to come.

“Epic is a gamechanger for Central East Ontario,” said Dr. Ilan Lenga, Chief Information Officer and Chief Medical Information Officer at Lakeridge Health, who is also leading the regional Epic team. “It will vastly improve the way we deliver care across Central East Ontario for generations to come.”

“For the first time, patients, families and their entire Central East care teams will have real-time access to hospital-related health information in one place,” said Susan Walsh, President and CEO of Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH). “A partnership of this magnitude is unprecedented for our hospital. Because of this collaboration—and the support of our local team, physician partners and community—the transformation to our new Epic CIS has been possible. I thank everyone involved. We are very excited about our Epic transformation and the benefits it will bring to our hospital and our region.”

Epic will provide health-care teams with the tools they need to better collaborate across the region and enable them to make the best possible decisions about an individual’s care and treatment. In addition, there will be increased access to real-time information that will help to improve patient outcomes, and access to standardized tools and processes that will reduce duplication, streamline processes, and improve results.

The launch of Epic will also include a new MyChart Central East Ontario patient portal that is integrated with the Epic system. This free, secure, online portal will allow patients to access their medical records and personal health information. Patients can register for the new MyChart patient portal beginning December 3, 2021 by visiting [mychart.ourepic.ca](https://mychart.ourepic.ca).

“As our teams transition to this faster, safer, and better way to deliver care, patients and families may initially notice longer than usual wait times and some processes that are done differently,” explains Dr. Lenga. “We appreciate our community’s patience and understanding as our teams make this important change to serve them better.”

Epic is one of the world’s largest electronic health records software companies. Their best-in-class clinical information system has been adopted by hundreds of leading hospitals in North America and Europe, including the Mayo Clinic, Cleveland Clinic, The Ottawa Hospital, SickKids, and others.

**About Northumberland Hills Hospital** – Located approximately 100 kilometres east of Toronto, NHH delivers a broad range of acute, post-acute, outpatient and diagnostic services. Acute services include emergency and intensive care, medical/surgical care, obstetrical care and palliative care. Post-acute specialty services (PASS) include restorative care and rehabilitation. Mental health care, chemotherapy, dialysis and 16 other ambulatory care clinics are offered on an outpatient basis through partnerships with regional centres and nearby specialists. NHH offers a full range of diagnostic services, including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT) and mammography. The hospital serves the catchment area of west Northumberland County. A mixed urban and rural population of approximately 60,000 residents, west Northumberland comprises the Town of Cobourg, the Municipality of Port Hope and the townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alwick/Haldimand. NHH employs more than 700 people and relies on the additional support provided by physicians and volunteers. NHH is an active member of Ontario Health (East) – formerly the Central East Local Health Integration Network. For more information, please visit [www.nhh.ca](http://www.nhh.ca) or follow us on Twitter [@NorHillsHosp](https://twitter.com/NorHillsHosp) or Facebook [@northumberlandhillshosp](https://facebook.com/northumberlandhillshosp)

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