

SIMS Partnership wins Silver Award of Excellence

The Silver Award of Excellence was presented to the SIMS Partnership: Toronto Community Care Access Centre and University Health Network November at the 2006 Gala Banquet sponsored by Canadian Information Productivity Awards (CIPA) at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel.

The Silver Award, in the category of innovation, not-for-profit sector, recognizes the SIMS partnership for its outstanding efforts in creating the Emergency Room Notification system to automate the patient-referral process. Now, when a patient comes to a UHN emergency room, the system automatically builds a profile, based on previous information, to determine whether the individual is a suitable candidate for CCAC services. An average of 650 patients a month, at each emergency room, are now referred to the Toronto CCAC for services to keep the patient from having to return to the emergency room. As a result, since January 2006, there has been a 52% decrease in patients who present at Toronto General's emergency room and a 31% decrease at Toronto Western Hospital.

Congratulations and special thanks to all the coordinators at Toronto General Hospital and Toronto Western Hospital Teams for their commitment and hard work on this project! Your support and dedication is what made this initiative such a success in optimizing client access and care in your ERs.

Toronto General

Eleanor Ferguson (Project Lead) Claudia Henriques, Susan Lee, Collean Mottley, Lisa Rezler, Julie Skaria, Barb Stawiarz

Toronto Western

Tina Vango (Project Lead) Jane Cockburn, Lucy Deluca, Nancy Ingrouville, Denise McKinnon, Heather Will

These annual awards recognize excellence in information technology as a driver of increased efficiency and competitiveness among for profit and not-for-profit organizations across Canada. The Gala Banquet brings together key players in government, industry and academia to develop, promote and celebrate innovation and productivity.

(Excerpted and reprinted with permission from the Toronto CCAC Fall 2006 staff newsletter – Access250)