



## UPCOMING EVENTS

1 KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION (KT)  
PROGRAM AT ST. MICHAEL'S  
HOSPITAL

KT BASICS WORKSHOP

FEBRUARY 13-14TH, 2017

LI KA SHING KNOWLEDGE  
INSTITUTE AT ST. MICHAEL'S  
HOSPITAL, TORONTO, ONTARIO2 INSTITUTE FOR HEALTHCARE  
IMPROVEMENT

IHI CHANGE CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 13-14TH, 2017

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

## 3 IDEAS

ADVANCED LEARNING PROGRAM

REGISTRATION OPENS ON  
JANUARY 31ST, 2017CHECK OUT  
OUR WEBSITE:

bestpracticeinsurgery.ca

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in Surgery

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**WELCOME!** This month's guest writer is Erin Kennedy, a general surgeon at Mount Sinai Health System. She is passionate about improving the quality of care for patients, as well as improving their surgical experience. Dr. Kennedy is leading the work currently being done in patient experience within the University of Toronto Department of Surgery.

## QI @ UofT

By Erin Kennedy

Over the last year, the Patient Engagement subcommittee of the Best Practice in Surgery hosted a series of 3 patient engagement meetings involving 46 patient and surgeon representatives from all 8 divisions and U of T hospitals. The main objectives of these meetings were to identify and prioritize opportunities for improving the surgical experience for our patients across the Department of Surgery as well as provide recommendations for strategies for quality improvement in these areas.

The opportunities identified that were of highest priority were:

- (1) physician communication,
- (2) discharge process and
- (3) expectations at home after surgery.

The strategies for quality improvement in these areas included:

- (1) patient survey of physician communication with audit and feedback;
- (2) standardized discharge process across all divisions and U of T hospitals and
- (3) standardized information regarding "what to expect" at home following surgery across all divisions and U of T hospitals.

This coming year, the Patient Engagement Subcommittee (Jaime Escallon, Karen Wong, Nam Le, Mary-Anne Aarts, Rahima Nenshi-Patel, Robin McLeod, Lucia Vanta, Erin Kennedy, and Marg McKenzie) will continue to move forward with these quality improvement strategies. In the next few weeks, an Executive Summary as well as a "Top 5 List" of things that you can do tomorrow to improve your patients' experience will be sent to all members of the Department of Surgery. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact any of the subcommittee members.

We would like to thank all of the patient and surgeon representatives and committee members for time and effort in making this initiative such a great success!

## CURRENT WORK

CPGs Almost Ready for Review

In conjunction with the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, we have been developing a Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) on the Prevention of Surgical Site Infections. The guideline includes recommendations on type and duration of antibiotics, strategies to maintain perioperative normothermia, preoperative skin preparation and hair removal as well as *Staphylococcus aureus* decolonization. Second, in conjunction with our Anesthesia colleagues, we have developed a guideline for preoperative fasting.

These CPGs will be circulated to all faculty, fellows and residents in the Departments of Surgery and Anesthesia for review. As with all CPGs that are developed by the Best Practice in Surgery, we want your feedback prior to finalization and implementation. We will look forward to receiving your comments (positive or negative) which will be reviewed by our working group.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

- We are in the process of developing protocols to guide us in the development of new clinical practice guidelines and adoption of published guidelines. We hope that these guidance documents will increase your participation in guideline development!

## KUDOS!

- Kudos to Dr. Ed Hickey and colleagues at SickKids hospital who were featured in the National Post following publication in *Annals of Thoracic Surgery* on using a NASA-developed system for 'threat and error' to increase the safety for pediatric patients undergoing cardiac surgery. (Link: <http://news.nationalpost.com/health/child-heart-surgeons-adopt-threat-and-error-system-developed-by-nasa-to-try-and-make-operations-safer>)