

Forensic Psychiatric Hospital

Progress on action plan, including safety actions, as of June 26, 2019

A. Improve patient, staff and public safety

- Our forensic security officers now have Special Provincial Constable Status while inside the hospital. Previously, this status and duties extended to the community only when escorting patients to and from the hospital. This new status adds to their abilities while in the hospital and will help improve safety.
- Planned secure room entry and exit protocols have been developed to guide all direct-care staff and physicians to practice safe seclusion entry and exit. The protocols place a heavy emphasis on safety for all staff, physicians and patients while providing a high standard of care.

B. Improve clinical-service delivery and patient centred care

- We've recruited one additional health care worker/instructor.
- Staff members on our women's unit are creating a comfort sensory room for their patients. Designed to provide a comforting environment for people who have experienced trauma, it will be furnished with items that are physically comfortable and calming to the senses in order to provide a sanctuary from stress. There is evidence that this approach, called sensory modulation, has a positive effect on reducing stress. It also helps reduce seclusion, restraint and medication use.
- Staff on the same unit have developed and distributed comfort kits to the patients to help them with coping and self-regulation, and to reduce the need for restraints and seclusion.

C. Strengthen leadership, inter-disciplinary teamwork and professional development

- We held an extensive week of therapeutic and relational security in late June. Three hundred people have now been trained.