

Schizophrenia Quality Standards

Newsletter: May 2025



Schizophrenia
Quality Standards
National
Demonstration Project



Advancing Schizophrenia Care: National Implementation Toolkit Launching Soon!

We're thrilled to share exciting progress in our nationwide effort to advance schizophrenia care across Canada. Since April 2023, the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) and Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences (Ontario Shores) have been collaborating to support the implementation of Ontario Health's Schizophrenia Quality Standards (the Standards) at four health-care sites across Canada. The demonstration project focuses on putting the Standards into practice to improve both the delivery and outcomes of schizophrenia care.

A key output of this work is the development of a comprehensive toolkit: **Advancing Schizophrenia Care Through the Schizophrenia Quality Standards - An implementation toolkit to strengthen patient outcomes and quality of life for adults living with schizophrenia**. Featuring the Standards' [11 statements for schizophrenia care for adults in hospitals](#) and the [15 statements for schizophrenia care in the community](#), this valuable resource will share key **lessons learned** by health-care sites that have implemented these Standards, identify **barriers and facilitators** they encountered during implementation, and highlight **areas for quality improvement** to ensure the long-term sustainability and successful implementation of the Standards.

The development of this toolkit has truly been a collaborative effort, built upon the experience from the Schizophrenia Quality Standards National Demonstration Project and reviewed by the Toolkit Advisory Group. This included partner organizations, individuals and families with lived and living experience, and Early Users who piloted the toolkit. Our collective aim is to:

increase awareness
of the Standards.

provide practical
resources to **support**
implementation efforts.

accelerate the delivery
of measurement-based
care.

To maximize engagement and learning, the toolkit has been designed with interactive modules. Users will find videos, checklists, templates, and other engaging elements that cater to different learning styles and needs. Whether you are just beginning to consider implementing the Standards or are looking to strengthen current practices, the toolkit will be your companion for translating evidence into action.

Who can benefit from this toolkit?

The toolkit is meant for individuals who can influence, advocate for, or lead efforts to improve care for adults living with schizophrenia across Canada, including:



- **leaders and administrators** at the hospital or community level, who can influence changes to the way care is provided to people living with schizophrenia



- **clinicians and healthcare providers** (e.g., physicians, nurses, social workers, psychologists, occupational therapists) and quality improvement leads, at the hospital or community level, who are seeking to improve the quality of care for adults living with schizophrenia.

We anticipate launching the toolkit in **summer 2025**. This resource will be instrumental in transforming schizophrenia care across Canada by setting a minimum standard of care, reducing care variability, and improving patient outcomes and quality of life.

We extend our sincerest gratitude to our Community of Practice, Evaluation Working Group, Toolkit Advisory Group, and Early Users for their invaluable insights in shaping the toolkit's content and helping to build a brighter future for schizophrenia care nationwide.

Interested in learning more about this project and joining our mailing list? [Visit the MHCC website.](#)

Interested in learning more about the implementation? [Visit the Ontario Shores website.](#)



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Ontario Shores
Centre for Mental Health Sciences