

Media Release



For Immediate Release
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Health Gateway: Bookmark for Better Health

TORONTO – People living with complex chronic conditions and episodic disabilities will be adding the [Health Gateway](#) website to their list of favourites.

On October 18, 2011, The Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, officially launched *Health Gateway*, the innovative, new website that will link individuals living with complex chronic conditions and episodic disabilities with credible support services, health providers and information links.

“Health Gateway is going to make a huge difference in the lives of those who need this vital information because, for the first time, they will be able to find everything they need at the click of a link under one roof,” explains Marian Walsh, President and CEO, [Bridgepoint Health](#). *“That means that for people living with MS and HIV and diabetes and a host of other complex and chronic conditions, life just got a whole lot easier.”*

Health Gateway is the product of an inspired collaboration between Bridgepoint Health and the [Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation](#) (CWGHR) and is funded in part by the [Ontario Trillium Foundation](#), an agency of the Government of Ontario, and [Sun Life Financial](#). The goal of this site is to provide Ontarians and their caregivers with instant, easy-to-navigate access to an extensive e-library of resources to help them locate all the information they need to better manage their conditions and enhance the quality of their lives.

Helpful at any point in the patients’ journey, Health Gateway is particularly valuable during and after the transition from hospital to home. The website’s content is organized into seven topic areas:

- Employment and income support
- Equipment and devices
- Housing
- Emotional and peer support
- Caregiving and caregiver support
- Self-care and self-management support
- Accessing quality information.

“Health Gateway will help users navigate the complex web of online health and supported-living content to find trustworthy information they can use to help with their day to day needs,” says Elisse Zack, Executive Director, CWGHR. “By using this site, users will be able to efficiently find and access needed appropriate services which will reduce unnecessary healthcare related costs.”

Health Gateway was developed through widespread consultation with stakeholders to ensure that the information and resources help individuals throughout their care journey. Early feedback from users indicated a high level of satisfaction. In a recent survey, it was described as a “one-stop-shop” that makes it easy for people to find what they need.

Health Gateway has been named as a finalist in the Patient Experience category of the Ontario Hospital Association’s Leading Practices Awards for 2011.

For more information about Health Gateway, visit healthgateway.ca

About Bridgepoint Health

Bridgepoint Health is Canada’s leader in the prevention and management of complex chronic disease and disability. Affiliated with the University of Toronto, Bridgepoint Health is restoring lives through innovations in care, research and teaching. For more information, visit bridgepointhealth.ca

About the Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR)

The Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR) is a national, charitable organization that responds to the rehabilitation needs of people living with HIV and other chronic and episodic disabilities. CWGHR brings together the traditionally separate worlds of HIV, disability and rehabilitation. Through its leadership in research, education and cross-sector partnerships, CWGHR is working to address the rehabilitation needs of people living with HIV and other chronic and episodic disabilities – and changing the future of prevention, care, treatment and support. For more information about the Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation, visit hivandrehab.ca

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