



Quality – What's New?

- **Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation** released new standards for clinicians and patients receiving interdisciplinary post-concussion care.
 - [Click here](#) to learn more.
- ARTIC-supported program **META:PHI** is spreading across Ontario. Early results show **reduced ER visits** for opioid overdose and **improved patient experience**.
 - META:PHI offers follow-up treatment programs and expanded community support services.
 - [Click here](#) to learn more.

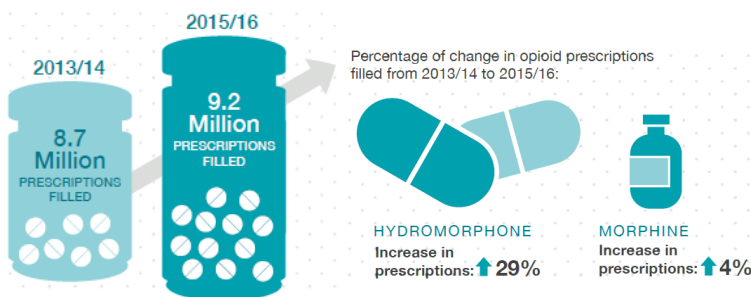
Upcoming Events

- **Coordinated Care Plan and Technology Solutions**
 - Aug. 3 – [click here](#) for details.
- **Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Forum 2017**
 - Oct. 23 – [click here](#) for details.
- **Health Quality Transformation 2017**
 - Oct. 24 – [click here](#) for details.
- **Ontario Surgical Quality Conference 2017**
 - Nov. 10 – [click here](#) for details.
- **Change Day Ontario**
 - Nov. 17 – [click here](#) for details.

Prescription Opioid Use Is Growing in Ontario: What Do We Know?

Health Quality Ontario's latest report reviews the current state of opioid prescribing in Ontario

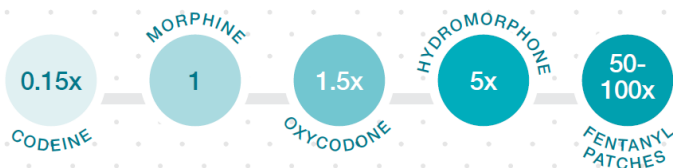
- About **two million** Ontarians filled an opioid prescription in both 2013/14 and 2015/16.
- **Over nine million** opioid prescriptions were filled by Ontarians in 2015/16—an **increase of nearly 450,000** since 2013/14.



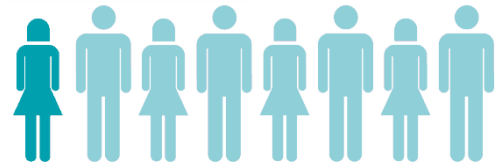
- More Ontarians are being prescribed **stronger opioids** while shifting away from weaker types like codeine.

Commonly prescribed opioids and their strength:

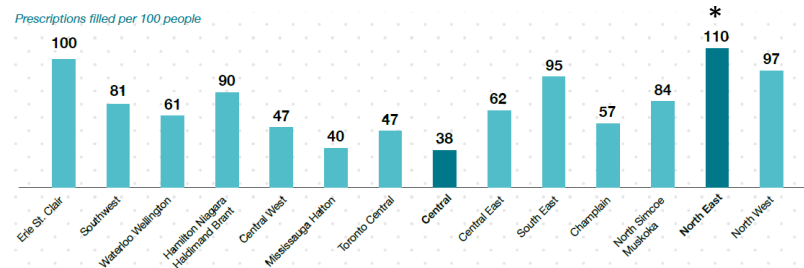
(approximate morphine equivalent)*



- Some studies suggest **one in eight people** taking opioids for chronic pain may develop an **addiction**.



- The number of opioid prescriptions filled **varies substantially** by region in Ontario—the rate is highest in the **North East**.



- Efforts are underway by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and its partners to develop **new quality standards and a comprehensive approach** to mitigate the growing opioid-related problem.
- To learn more, [click here](#) to view the full report.

Quality in the North East – North East LHIN

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