

# They're one caring bunch

## Outpatient program picked to receive health care award

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Seven Oaks Geriatric Day Hospital is being recognized for improving the quality of life of elderly adults in the community.

The Seven Oaks General Hospital (SOGH) outpatient program will receive the Interdisciplinary Health Care Team Award at the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba's (CRNM) Professional Nursing Awards, to be presented on Thurs., May 15 at Canad Inns Polo Park.

The Day Hospital team was nominated for the award by Kate Hodgson, patient care team manager at SOGH.

"They are an exceptional team and they are a collaborative, interdisciplinary health care team," said Hodgson, who oversees Day Hospital and an inpatient geriatric rehabilitation unit at SOGH.

"Some of the criteria that was in the award, they met hands down, such as they achieve a positive outcome for patients through a team approach, they model interdisciplinary teamwork, co-operation and respect, they apply best practices to improve patient care and they use innovative and creative approaches to improve patient care, all

within an interprofessional, interdisciplinary team approach."

Established in 1981, the Day Hospital team includes registered nurses, physicians, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, social workers, dieticians, speech language pathologists, recreation therapists and rehabilitation assistants.

"It utilizes this team approach and it helps older adults and their families improve quality of life and maintain quality of life, while living in the community, which helps negate emergency room visits and hospital stays," Hodgson said.

"With our aging population, it's about making sure we're providing care to those patients that are in the community that don't necessarily need a hospital admission but require that interdisciplinary approach. You're not just going to see your primary care providers, your nurse practitioner or your doctor. You're coming to see physicians, nurses, OT (occupational therapist) if you need that, physio if you need that, and all under one roof."

Hodgson says the Day Hospital team has a wealth of experience caring for patients, as well as each other.

"You can tell within the team that they care about each other," Hodgson said. "They've committed to this team building program that was put on called Agreements for Excellence. They have fun things they do at work to build morale. They care about each other as teammates, which is really important when you're providing that level of care."



Supplied photo

Members of the Seven Oaks Geriatric Day Hospital team. Back row, from left: Betty Smith (registered nurse), Nancy Speidel (registered nurse), Cameella Harrysingh (occupational therapist), Sonia Cruz (recreation therapist), Crystal Charbonneau (physiotherapist), Rod Reyes (health care aide), Natalie Kulbaba (unit clerk) and Maureen Boyce (registered nurse). Front Row: Jill Overwater (registered nurse), Ed Ogloza (rehabilitation assistant) and Kate Hodgson (registered nurse and patient care team manager). Not pictured: Sharon Maciboric Sohor (social worker), Jennifer Campbell (physiotherapist) and Heidi Neumann Briem (rehabilitation assistant).