



Path2Quality



Terms of Reference*

MANDATE

Path2Quality is a collaborative initiative between the Ontario Association of Pathologists and the OMA Section on Laboratory Medicine that is committed to the enhancement of systems that support the work of Ontario's laboratory physicians. Within this context, Path2Quality seeks to promote the best practice of laboratory medicine and patient safety for the people of Ontario.

PURPOSES

Path2Quality fills a unique advocacy and advisory niche currently not assumed by other major stakeholders engaged in quality management for laboratory medicine.

Path2Quality will specifically:

- Be the communications conduit to OMA Section and OAP members and their liaison with key stakeholders.
- Serve as the key resource for practitioner input and advice as it relates to the design, development, execution, modification and / or evaluation of quality systems and peer review processes that are applicable to the work of laboratory physicians.
- Provide advice to key stakeholders on quality systems that support or have an impact on the clinical work of laboratory physicians.
- Synthesize outputs from various stakeholders already engaged in quality management in the system for the purpose of clarifying for practitioners the standards and best practice guidelines that are most relevant to them and their practice environment.
- Advocate / represent the interests and needs of the profession among key stakeholders engaged in quality management processes for laboratory medicine in Ontario.
- Promote systems and environments that optimize the practice of laboratory medicine and patient safety.

SPECIFIC AREAS OF FOCUS

With an initial focus on pathology as it relates to cancer diagnosis, Path2Quality aims to fulfill the purposes articulated above by:

- Identifying and promoting guidelines and standards to support quality systems in laboratory medicine. These would include but are not limited to:
 - Best practices in laboratory medicine;
 - Supportive infrastructure for different practice environments;
 - Adequate funding / resources; and
 - Appropriate workload.
- Communicating and meeting with key stakeholders, where such input, advice and reasoned oversight are desirable.
- Identifying practical issues that must be factored into the development and execution of quality management processes including peer review.
- Serving as the conjoint voice for the profession and advocating members' needs and interests as they relate to quality in laboratory medicine vis-a-vis the public-at-large, key stakeholders and Path2Quality's own members.
- Communicating regularly to its members and seeking their input, help and advice on key issues, processes and / or potential models of quality management for laboratory medicine.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP

Path2Quality is a voluntary initiative comprised of the 2 founding organizations, OMA Section on Laboratory Medicine and the Ontario Association of Pathologists. As such, Path2Quality reports to those organizations through their designated representatives.

There will be semi annual presentations:

- OMA Section on Laboratory Medicine Annual General Meeting (April/May); and
- Ontario Association of Pathologists' Annual General Meeting (October/ November).

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of Path2Quality currently comprises:

- Executive, OMA Section on Laboratory Medicine;
- Executive, Ontario Association of Pathologists;
- 1 member, Quality Management Program for Laboratory Services (QMP-LS);
- 1 member, Cancer Care Ontario (CCO); and
- 1 Director, OMA Diagnostic Assembly or designate.

Other members may be invited as Path2Quality evolves.

CO-CHAIRS

Co-Chairs of Path2Quality shall be

- Chair, OMA Section on Laboratory Medicine, or designate.
- President, Ontario Association of Pathologists, or designate.

MEETINGS

Shall be at the call of the Co-Chairs.

CONTACTS

Dr. Brendan Mullen
Chair,
OMA Section on Laboratory Medicine
bmullen@mtsinai.on.ca
Phone: (416) 586-4553

Dr. Suhas Joshi
President,
Ontario Association of Pathologists
sjoshi@niagarahealth.on.ca
Phone: (905) 684-7271, ext. 46510

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