

The Ottawa Hospital (TOH) continuously strives to provide excellence in patient care. In the fall of 2009, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care released funding to establish the Ottawa Hospital Bariatric Center of Excellence. Administrators and clinicians were challenged to provide 250 bariatric surgeries within the first year the program. To achieve that end administrators implemented an Advanced Practice Nursing (APN) role to advocate for and develop a bariatric surgery program to compliment TOH's pre-existing medical Weight Management Program. At the program's start, the Bariatric APN role maintained fidelity with traditional APN roles while taking advantage of the extended skill set of a Master's prepared Nurse Practitioner in order to address the immediate clinical needs of the bariatric patient population. As the Bariatric Center of Excellence has matured, the Bariatric APN role continues to evolve; the clinical focus giving way to activities such as research and case management as clinical capacity grows within the program. The trust, passion and teamwork needed to implement the Bariatric APN role not only reflect the values and vision of TOH but also serves to provide timely, safe and relevant patient care. This poster details the development and timeline of the TOH Bariatric APN.