

Espanola & Area Family Health Team Implement New Service

Espanola & Area Family Health Team has implemented a new program to enhance services offered at their clinic. The **Rapid Access Addiction Medicine (RAAM) Clinic** serves those with substance abuse issues, primarily addictions to opioids and alcohol. The purpose of the clinic is to provide quick access to care for addiction issues, including assessments, counselling and prescriptions for medications that may help with lessening cravings and withdrawal symptoms. The RAAM Clinic will also help patients to navigate access to other addiction services in our community and provide support through transitions.

How this Program helps...

The RAAM Clinic helps those with alcohol and substance use disorders in a timely way by:

- **Offering rapid assessment:** Patients will be seen by an Addiction Worker within 24-48 hours after referral. Patients will be screened and assessed for substance use disorder. They will then be seen by the Addiction Specialist to create and implement a treatment and medication plan.
- **Offering pharmacological treatment:** While not everyone with addictions requires pharmacological treatment, some may benefit from prescription medications that may help with lessening cravings and withdrawal symptoms. Additionally, the RAAM Clinic will support family physicians to ensure they are able to help with pharmacological treatment for addictions. An example of a pharmacological treatment for addiction is the prescribing of anti-craving or abstinence medications.
- **Offering connections to community treatment programs:** The RAAM Clinic will help patients successfully connect with community-based mental health and addiction services. The clinic addiction worker will help the patient navigate through the transitioning to community programs.

Contact us

Phone: (705) 862-7991 ext. 4245

(Monday to Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm)