



# PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release May 23, 2024

## NSHN Expanding Geriatric Outpatient Services at Thessalon Site

Thessalon, ON: The North Shore Health Network (NSHN) Geriatric Team is excited to announce that services are expanding at the Thessalon Site.

**Effective Thursday May 23, 2024, geriatric rehabilitation services will be available at the Thessalon Site, by appointment.**

“NSHN is very pleased to be expanding services at the Thessalon site again,” said Tim Vine, NSHN President & CEO. “Offering care close to home is an important part of supporting health and wellness, and rehabilitation services like this allow older adults to live in their homes more independently for longer, reduce travel barriers to access care, and help support a vibrant community.”

Referrals to access the geriatric rehabilitation services may be sent by a provider from hospital, emergency department or walk-in-clinics. Referrals by a primary care provider are preferred to ensure a collaborative approach to care. Where this is not possible, referrals to the service may be initiated by patients themselves or a family member on their behalf. All referrals will be triaged by the intake team.

Referrals should be sent through one of the following:

- Fax: 705-356-2574 ATTN: Physiotherapy Department
- Phone: 705-356-2265 ext 2480
- Email: [geriatric@nshn.care](mailto:geriatric@nshn.care)
- Website: <https://www.nshn.care/geriatric-team>

For more information about the Geriatric Program, please visit our website: <https://www.nshn.care/geriatric-team>

### **ADDITIONAL SERVICE DESCRIPTION:**

The goal of the Geriatric Consultation Service is to provide individualized recommendations for older adults with acute medical, surgical and psycho-social needs with a focus on improving outcomes, restoring independence and supporting patients' transition back to community. Also, to reduce the burden of disability of older adults by detecting and treating reversible conditions, providing optimal patient-centered care, and managing co-existing chronic conditions. The specialized geriatric team provides comprehensive assessment and treatment by various allied health professionals.

The team works in collaboration with patients, care partners, inpatient teams and community partners to manage geriatric syndromes and multiple co-existing chronic conditions and to support safe and effective care transitions. Every patient will have access to a Geriatric Assessor (GA), with Comprehensive Geriatric Assessments (CGA) to be completed as clinically required. CGAs will be completed by a GA and the geriatrician/care of the elderly physician (COE). The team initiates an appropriate treatment and follow-up plan developed as needed.

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### **ATTACHED PHOTO DETAILS:**

**NSHN GEM-1)** John Stevenson is the first patient to try out the new equipment for expanded geriatric rehabilitation at the Thessalon Site with the assistance of Lisa Straatsma, Registered Kinesiologist (L) and Carli King, Physiotherapy Assistant (R).

**NSHN GEM-2)** On Tuesday May 22, 2024 the expanded geriatric rehabilitation services at the Thessalon Site were officially opened. Pictured (L-R): Lisa Straatsma, Registered Kinesiologist, Sulabh Singh, Registered Physiotherapist and Manager of Allied Health & Geriatric Services, Tim Vine, President & CEO, Joanne Falk, Vice-Chair NSHN Patient and Family Advisory Committee, Carli King, Physiotherapy Assistant.

### **Media Contact:**

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