



Information and Privacy  
Commissioner of Ontario  
Commissaire à l'information  
et à la protection de la vie privée de l'Ontario

June 24, 2014

VIA COURIER

Robert MacIsaac,  
President and CEO Hamilton Health Sciences  
McMaster University Medical Centre  
1200 Main Street West  
Room 2E28  
Hamilton, Ontario  
L8N 3Z5

Dear Mr. MacIsaac:

**RE: Review of the Practices and Procedures of the Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation in respect of the Critical Care Information System**

Pursuant to subsection 13(2) of Regulation 329/04 of the Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004 ("the Act"), my office is responsible for reviewing the practices and procedures implemented by an organization that has been designated a "prescribed person" under section 39(1)(c) of the Act to protect the privacy of individuals whose personal health information it receives and to protect the confidentiality of that information.

My office has now completed its detailed review of the practices and procedures of the prescribed person, the Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation (HHS) in respect of the Critical Care Information System (CCIS). The review process included a review of the privacy and security policies, procedures and practices implemented by HHS in respect of CCIS and an on-site meeting to discuss questions arising from these policies, procedures and practices.

Based on this review, I am satisfied that HHS in respect of CCIS has in place practices and procedures that sufficiently protect the privacy of individuals whose personal health information it receives and that sufficiently maintain the confidentiality of that information.

Accordingly, effective June 24, 2014, I am pleased to advise that the practices and procedures of HHS in respect of CCIS have been approved.

Attached is a report summarizing the findings of the review.

In order to synchronize the timing of the IPC's review of HHS in respect of CCIS with the reviews of other prescribed persons, this approval will remain effective until October 30, 2014. Prior to September 1, 2014, HHS should submit to the IPC a letter describing significant changes that have been made to the policies and procedures, if any, so that the IPC may review and approve these practices and procedures effective October 31, 2014 for a further period of three years.

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I would like to extend my gratitude to you and your staff for the cooperation provided during the course of the review, including your diligence and timeliness in submitting the requested documentation and in responding to requests by my office for further information.

Sincerely yours,



Ann Cavoukian, Ph.D.  
Commissioner

Enclosure

c: Christine Moon, Senior Specialist Communications, Quality and Privacy Lead, CritiCall  
Mary Bedek, Director of Privacy and Freedom of Information, Hamilton Health Sciences  
Donna Thomson, Executive Director, CritiCall