

# Innovation in the Nurse Practitioner-led Model of Care

Lakeridge Health Whitby is the first hospital in Ontario to fully implement the Nurse Practitioner's maximized scope of practice.



We're also working to inform and shape the RNAO/NPAO and OHA toolkits to optimize implementation for other hospitals.



Our Nurse Practitioners are the MRP (most responsible provider) who are empowered to admit, treat and discharge patients.

We're providing our patients with comprehensive, consistent access to care, closer to home.



**"It's truly patients first"**

- Michelle Acorn, Lead Nurse Practitioner and Professional Practice Leader

## Our Leadership & Innovation is Getting Noticed



### Accessible care, thanks to nurse practitioners

May 6, 2011  
ELVIRA CORDILEONE

SPECIAL TO THE STAR

In the not too distant future, your family doctor may well be a nurse.

The Ontario government has given nurse practitioners a bigger role in the health-care system by removing legal barriers that limited their scope of practice.

As of July 1, nurse practitioners can discharge patients from hospital and, starting July 2012, they will also be able to admit them.



Nurse practitioner Michelle Acorn examines patient Dave Switzer at Lakeridge Health Centre in Oshawa. Acorn is also president of the Nurse Practitioners Association of Ontario.

FRED THORNHILL/FOR THE TORONTO STAR

Changes to the law regulating health professionals also authorize them to prescribe medications (except opiates, which fall under federal laws) and to order diagnostic tests, among other things.

MORE ON NURSING WEEK

**"I want to thank Lakeridge Health Whitby's NPs for your dedication to your patients."** - Deb Matthews, Minister of Health