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Colleagues,

London Pediatrics is a cooperative/partnership which at any time includes Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Pathologists, Psychometrists, Psychotherapists, Social Workers, Pediatricians, Pharmacists and Psychiatrists. Dr Jared Berman, Psychologist, is the Managing Partner. We would like to announce the opening of a new rapid-intake Multidisciplinary Diagnostic Service for Developmental (including Autism) and Mental Health (including behavioural) concerns, which will function separately from our Therapeutic Services Clinic. The purpose and design of the clinic is described below.

Attached is our new Primary Care Provider Referral Form. We understand that some may find the form onerous and choose to write a letter. If so, the form provides guidance on the information needed to appropriately triage the referral. **ALL REFERRALS - Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services – ARE ADDRESSED TO THE LONDON PEDIATRICS DIAGNOSTIC TEAM. REFERRALS TO INDIVIDUAL PROVIDERS WILL BE RETURNED.**

The Diagnostic Service is designed to rapidly respond to a referral. Ongoing care is not provided. Rapid access to therapeutic services is neither implied nor possible. We believe that by assessing an individual early, the risk for poor outcomes is potentially mitigated. The referred individual will be seen on (maximum) 3 occasions. Referred individuals will receive a Clinical interview within 2-3 and we hope to provide a diagnostic framework and plan within 8 weeks of receipt of the referral.

To ensure a timely response, the first clinical assessment will be provided by a member of our team for a fee in a private-public model. Individuals with extended healthcare benefits are billed at the standard rate for a registered psychologist. To avoid costs being a detriment to access, at the discretion of the clinic, a sliding scale may be available for individuals without extended healthcare benefits. The two subsequent visits if indicated will involve a physician are eligible for OHIP.

At the end of the assessment, the referred and the referring provider should expect an exhaustive assessment with a clear plan of action. If medication is recommended, the prescription is the province of the primary care provider. Should concerns arise, our physicians and pharmacists will be available to the referring primary care provider to discuss concerns and offer further advice on medication.

The team is focused on providing a service to the community in providing early assessments. We will thank all to stay within the parameters of the service offered.

Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

J.M.J. Berman, PhD, CPsych