



Backgrounder

New funds, staffing planned for Baffin Regional Hospital

What will the new funds be used for?

The \$2.3 million will cover the costs of filling 26 new positions at the hospital – about a 20 per cent increase in staff. These positions include housekeepers, clerk interpreters, records clerks and a handyman as well as clinical staff such as RNs, LPNs, respiratory therapist and infection control. Risk management, quality improvement and decision support functions will also be covered.

How soon will changes happen?

Small changes are already being made at the hospital, such as hiring additional housekeepers and clerk-interpreters. Recruitment for the new positions will begin in March with new staff coming on-stream as soon as possible.

What is accreditation?

Accreditation is an evaluation of an organization's services and method of operation against a set of national standards, with a focus on quality and consistency. It offers them insight and practical advice on ways to maintain and improve the quality of their care and services. It is not a licence to practice and is voluntary.

How long has the hospital been accredited?

This Baffin Regional Hospital joined the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation in the early 1990s. This is the first time it has not been accredited.

What are the consequences of not being accredited?

The loss of accreditation may affect clinical placements for nursing and medical students, or host medical residents.

What is risk management and why is it important?

Risk management is the process of measuring, or assessing, risk and then developing strategies to manage the risk. Risk management is the process used to ensure patient safety