

## 1.1 History and Overview

Early recommendations for a formal pilot study of satellite care were put forward in POGO’s “Childhood Cancer Services Study” (C. Greenberg, 1988) and in subsequent POGO blueprints for childhood cancer care in Ontario (“Integration of Oncology Care for the Children of Ontario into a Provincial Cancer Strategy,” C. Greenberg, 1992; “Provincial Pediatric Oncology Working Group Report,” C. Greenberg and M. Greenberg, 1994).

Between 1983 and 1997, the pediatric oncology programs of [The Hospital for Sick Children \(SickKids\)](#), [Children’s Hospital of Western Ontario \(CHWO\)](#) and [Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario \(CHEO\)](#) managed the care of some patients living at distances from the hospitals in an *ad hoc* fashion.

In 1994, at the invitation of the [Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care \(MOHLTC\)](#) and its instrument, the Provincial Cancer Network (PCN), POGO struck the Provincial Pediatric Oncology Working Group (PPOWG) and charged it to submit a comprehensive report on childhood cancer control to the PCN by the end of that year. A formal proposal was made by POGO to the MOHLTC to fund a Provincial Pediatric Oncology Satellite Program in 1994, following extensive consultation on the subject from a cross-section of caregivers and parents geographically distributed across Ontario.

In 1995, the development of a pilot Pediatric Oncology Satellite Program, defined by a consensus-driven specification of the components of care that might effectively and safely be located outside the specialized childhood cancer programs, was approved by the MOHLTC. Funding, initially for blueprint development and later for implementation, was phased in during the period 1995–1997.

The POGO Provincial Pediatric Oncology Satellite Manual outlines a formal, well-integrated satellite level of pediatric oncology practice and has been regularly updated. The original document was the result of the collaboration of POGO-affiliated specialized childhood cancer programs and potential satellite partners as the Clinical Oncology Committee (CLOC) Working Group and its task forces, 1995–1997. The group worked within the terms of reference of POGO’s proposal for an integrated system for the care of children with cancer, as presented in the PPOWG Report (November 1994). It was informed by:

1. An in-depth review and analysis of the literature on international experiences with partnered practice in the care of children with cancer – its scope, division of labour and inherent strengths and risks;
2. Consultation with prominent specialized childhood cancer programs;
3. A survey of Ontario’s childhood cancer community and specialized childhood cancer program-based physicians who then shared care of this population via informal arrangements (POGO, 1988);
4. Proceedings from pilot satellite site visits; and
5. Input of a widely representative Satellite Cluster Group, appointed by POGO (1994) to advise and inform the Blueprint submitted by the PPOWG to the MOHLTC.

The POGO Satellite Program and the Satellite Blueprint continued to evolve. In 2014, a multidisciplinary panel was struck to perform an in-depth review and update of the Blueprint. As a result of the efforts of over 100 healthcare professionals, a new document was born. Recognizing that the POGO Satellite



Program was now far beyond the planning stage and instead represented a mature and sophisticated system, this new document has been dubbed the POGO Satellite Manual. 2016 saw the first publication of the manual online. This web-based resource will serve as the definitive source for POGO Satellite Program clinical and research practice guidance. The electronic format will permit rapid review, update and turnaround as practices change.

Welcome to the POGO Satellite Manual!

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**Record of Updates**

Version Number	Date of Effect	Summary of Revisions
1	7/13/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Original version posted.</li> </ul>

