Doctoral Thesis - A Historical and Contemporary Assessment of Baptist Chaplaincy in the Halifax Hospitals

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The author examined the history of the Halifax Baptist Hospital Chaplaincy (HBHC), discovered the expectations and satisfaction of some United Baptist patients and offered suggestions for future ministry. The methodology included literature review, archival research, oral histories and survey.

He concluded these patients expected evangelical pastoral support; they are satisfied with their experience and neither individuals nor churches will accept or fund a fully ecumenical chaplaincy.

The writer found the history to be punctuated with tensions. He recommended: an incorporated ministry with the locus of authority/power in a new HBHC Board; secured funding through its own foundation; and, two possible models of cooperative ministry that respond to the survey conclusions.

The thesis can be read in the Vaughn libraryat Acadia University. Additional copies are available in the medical libraries of the QE II Health Sciences Centre and IWK Hospital for Women, Children and Families, both in Halifax, NS.