



NEWS RELEASE

from Halton Healthcare Services

For Immediate Release

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New Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Magnet Arrives at Oakville Hospital

Halton Healthcare Services is upgrading its MRI at Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital's (OTMH) Samuel MRI Centre. The new magnet for the replacement MRI arrived at OTMH in early July. Onlookers watched as a crane carried out what seemed like two effortless lifts, one to remove the nine year old, four ton magnet, and the second, to replace it with a new more technologically advanced model, the new *Siemens Aera*. The new MRI will be fully operational at the current hospital by mid-August and will be transferred to the New Oakville Hospital when it opens in late 2015.

"The new MRI will provide better image quality coupled with a faster imaging speed and, most importantly for our patients, an improved patient experience. This model has a larger opening and shorter tunnel, to accommodate patients more comfortably. It nearly eliminates the claustrophobic effect that some patients experience with the older MRIs. The new equipment also comes with a variety of additional features including auto voice commands and patient monitoring capabilities," explains Dr. Robert Yu, Chief, HHS Diagnostic Imaging. "Its advanced imaging capabilities will capture more precise images for a more accurate and timely diagnosis. What a phenomenal new tool."

"This is just one of the many recent equipment upgrades that have been possible through the generosity of the Beamish Family and the WB Family Foundation, who donated five million dollars in the summer of 2011 to help enhance Diagnostic Imaging and Interventional Services at both the existing Oakville Hospital site as well as the New Oakville Hospital," continues Dr. Yu. "This type of support enables us to purchase the most current technology so we can provide the best possible care to our patients."

New MRI Magnet Arrives at OTMH

HHS received approval from the Ministry of Health & Long Term Care last June to operate a second MRI unit. OTMH's mobile MRI Scanner, which is permanently housed in the OTMH Emergency Services parking lot, has allowed the hospital to provide the community with continual access to Emergency, Urgent and Inpatient MRI Scanning as well as some elective outpatient scanning during the MRI Replacement and Renovation project.

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Pictures



MRI Magnet Removal: Old magnet is lifted by crane from Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital's entrance to a flatbed truck and removed from site.



New MRI Magnet Delivery: New MRI is lifted from flatbed truck to hospital's entrance and transported to the MRI Suite for installation.

