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The CT scanner has made a dramatic difference for patients who previously had to travel to Oakville or Milton hospitals if they required a CT scan.

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## Hospital officials say patient care has improved

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The CT scanner has made a dramatic difference for patients who previously had to travel to Oakville or Milton hospitals if they required a CT scan.

"For the first time we're not having to put our sickest patients in the back of an ambulance to have a CT scan," said Andrechek. She added they are able to keep their staff on site as well, because often they would have had to accompany a patient in the ambulance.

"It's much better for patient care," said Dr. Don Trant, Georgetown Hospital Chief of Staff. "You can get a definitive diagnosis so much faster with a CT."

The CT scanner's purchase was made possible through a \$1 million donation from Georgetown resident Fred Helson to the Investing in Care Close to Home fundraising campaign.

In recognition of that contribution, the CT scanner is housed in the Marg and Fred Helson CT Scanner Suite.

"The CT at Georgetown Hospital is one of the best there is. It is advanced medicine. The scanning technology is fast enough to image the beating heart with clarity. It can image the whole body in seconds and reproduce these images in three dimensions. There are multiple features that improve patient comfort and safety. Most importantly the CT does all this while reducing radiation dose," said Dr. Robert Yu, Halton Healthcare Services Chief of Diagnostic Imaging.

It was actually the CT scanner that precipitated the hospital's redevelopment project.

K.C. Carruthers, Executive Director of Georgetown Hospital Foundation, said back in 2009 when the hospital re-

ceived the license to have a CT scanner, hospital staff looked at existing space to see where it could be housed.

When an architect suggested it would cost about the same or less to put the scanner and diagnostic imaging into the current ED space, and move the cramped ED into a bigger addition, the hospital decided that was the best option.

"It addressed the need of the CT scanner and the horribly undersized ED," said Carruthers.

The hospital renovation and expansion was an Own Funds project.

"We got incredible support from the Town (of Halton Hills), the citizens, and the Georgetown Hospital Foundation," said McDonell.

Trant estimated if the hospital had to wait for the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to provide the bulk of the funding, it could have been another ten years before construction began.

The funding breakdown for the project is:

- \$6.5 million from the Investing in Care Close to Home Campaign for Georgetown Hospital
- \$2.7 million from the Town of Halton Hills
- \$2.7 million from Halton Healthcare Services (mostly from parking revenue)
- \$2.6 million from Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
- \$250,000 from Georgetown Hospital Volunteers Association

Carruthers said the Investing in Care Close to Home Campaign, which launched in June 2011, is more than 95 per cent to its \$6.5 million goal, with about \$300,000 to go.