

18 Jessica Wilson, 14, of Acton (centre) helped open the new angiography suite at McMaster Children's Hospital in Hamilton last week. From left, are, Chris Stager, District Vice President Ontario South Central, Scotiabank; Dr. Peter Fitzgerald, President, McMaster Children's Hospital; Kim Karges, District Vice President, Hamilton Niagara, Scotiabank; Pearl Veenema, President and CEO, Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation; and Murray T. Martin, President and CEO, Hamilton Health Sciences.

Submitted photo



Acton teen helps open Mac angiography suite

A 14-year-old Acton girl helped mark the official opening of a state-of-the-art angiography suite at McMaster Children's Hospital today (Tuesday).

Jessica Wilson, who travels to the angiography suite at McMaster Children's Hospital every eight weeks for a procedure to dilate a stricture (narrowing) in her esophagus, helped unveil the recognition plaque.

The \$1.3 million required to fund the angiography suite was supported by donor contributions to Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation.

Angiography is a medical pro-

cedure that produces real-time images of the inside of blood vessels. Traditionally, angiography was primarily used as a diagnostic tool. Advancements in technology have enabled doctors to use interventional angiography procedures to treat life-threatening illness and injury and repair damaged blood vessels, without resorting to surgery. The new angiography suite is equipped with sophisticated technology that produces high-resolution images with the lowest dose of radiation possible. McMaster Children's Hospital was the first health care facility in North America to "go

live" with this new technology.

"We are very grateful for the amazing care that our daughter has received at McMaster Children's Hospital," said Jessica's father, Greg. "To the donors whose financial contributions funded the angiography suite, thank you for helping Jessica and the other children who need this technology."

Last year, 1,800 children had a procedure in the angiography suite at McMaster Children's Hospital-the only place in south-central Ontario where children can access these potentially life-saving procedures.

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