



Dr. Jillian Feberwee, Lead Radiologist for Women's Imaging at Halton Healthcare Services.

Submitted photo

## Georgetown Hospital elevated to Assessment Centre for OBSP

Women in the Halton Region can now access the Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) through any of Halton Healthcare Services' (HHS) three community hospitals.

Milton District Hospital (MDH) and Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital (OTMH) were established as new Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) Sites in July. In addition, Georgetown Hospital, (GH) which was already an OBSP Screening Site, has been elevated to an Assessment Centre.

Halton Healthcare Services' (HHS) Georgetown Hospital has been affiliated with OBSP as a Screening Site since 2002, providing 2,132 OBSP screening visits in 2013-2014.

"Approximately 10 per cent of women who undergo breast cancer screening will be called back for further tests and follow-up. The path that women follow from the time they find out they may have an abnormality, until the time they have a definitive diagnosis is called 'Breast Assessment,'" said Dr. Jillian Feberwee, Lead Radiologist for Women's Imaging at HHS. "Becoming OBSP Assessment Centre provides our patients with yet another layer of quality assurance that they are receiving the highest care possible. It ensures a timely, high quality diagnosis and follow-up along with patient education and emotional support."

Each patient at an OBSP Assessment Site is assigned a caregiver who will serve as both their point of contact and their advocate throughout their entire assessment process. This ensures that every patient is carefully followed, tracked and supported in negotiating the healthcare system.

of prioritizing all breast related imaging, so that the most suspicious cases are provided with expedited care," said Dr. Robert Yu, HHS Chief of Diagnostic Imaging. "We offer complete Breast Assessment services, including digital mammography, breast ultrasound and breast MRI, and we work as a collaborative team with the Pathology and Surgical Departments, to provide the best possible outcomes, from screening to definitive surgery. Having an Assessment Centre at Georgetown Hospital helps us further enhance the quality and timeliness of this care."

"We are very excited about being approved as OBSP Sites at MDH and OTMH," said Dr. Feberwee.

"This designation allows us to expand and further enhance our program in line with our patient-centred care philosophy."

Under the direction of Cancer Care Ontario, OBSP Sites provide high-quality breast cancer screening for women aged 50 to 74 years. OBSP Sites are accredited by the Canadian Association of Radiologists and the Program requires very stringent timelines, if further testing, such as a biopsy is required.

Women can self-refer (without a referral from their healthcare practitioner) to an OBSP centre, knowing that they will receive their results within two weeks of their screening appointment. They will also be prompted with a reminder letter when it is time to return for their next screening mammogram. If needed, the centre will follow-up and help patients book extra tests or referrals.

Cancer Care Ontario established the OBSP Program in 1990 with the goal of reducing breast cancer deaths in Ontario.



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