

What's New? In Diagnostic Medicine for 2003

The Lab

Medical laboratories perform their work to very high standards in precision and accuracy. The margin for variation in equipment and process performance is very narrow. In September 2001, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care announced a new process for inspecting and monitoring the performance standards for all laboratories in the province. The Ontario Laboratory Accreditation (OLA) is a peer accreditation program that defines requirements for all branches of laboratory medicine and is based on criteria substantiated by legislation and recognized standards and guidelines. Our laboratory is reviewing the requirements and preparing for their first accreditation inspection!

The Cardiorespiratory and Electrodiagnostics Lab

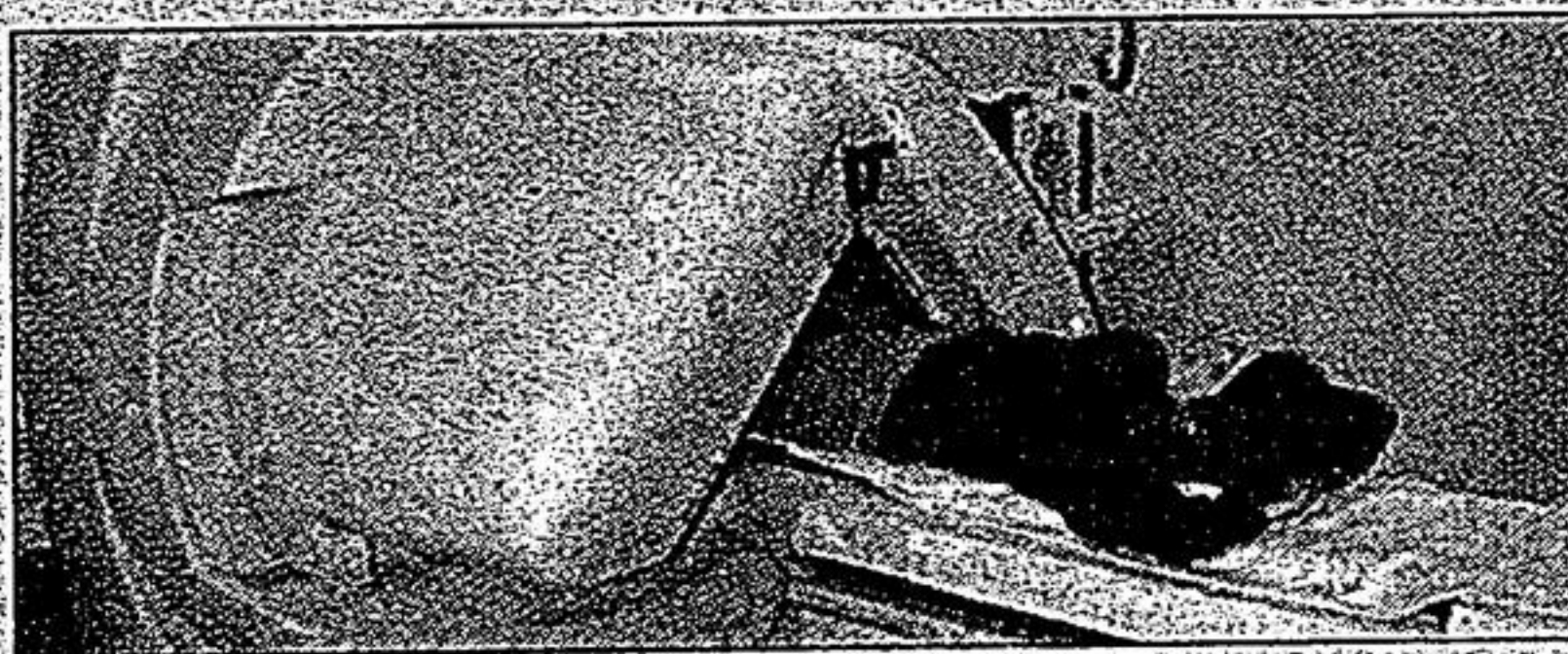
This year we upgraded the electroencephalography equipment, our new EEG system performs examinations of brain activity and helps with the diagnosis and treatment of neurological disorders in children and adults. Our technologists are a dedicated group of professionals who work with MSH and other hospitals bringing with them expertise in both adult and pediatric areas.

The new Sleep Laboratory that was profiled last year is busy with space for three patients per night. Our specialists, the neurologists and respirologists, who interpret the EEG and SLEEP studies, are pleased to have these important technologies to support their ability to diagnose and treat patients referred to them.

Diagnostic Imaging

The radiologists, cardiologists and technologists are very excited about the arrival of the new dual headed gamma camera. This very sophisticated piece of medical technology resides in the nuclear medicine department within diagnostic imaging (DI). The camera images the physiological functions of many

body organs and systems and is used in the diagnosis and follow-up of a diverse set of clinical conditions. This camera provides superb resolution and advanced design engineering enabling the technologists to image the heart, kidneys, skeleton, lungs etc. with precision. The physicians interpreting the studies now have access to advanced software applications that enhance their diagnostic capabilities. The camera will be connected to the hospital network and will acquire, transfer and store the images for interpretation electronically on the PACS (Picture Archival Communications system).



The professionals in DI have spent the year working in a markedly changed environment. All the examinations are now done without the traditional x-ray film! Every aspect of how the staff and radiologists do their jobs have changed in the PACS world. If you have had an x-ray lately you might have noticed that the doctor in emergency could see your images right away, this certainly helps us live up to our goals in the Fast Track Clinic! In celebration of new beginnings we have renamed the "film library" the "Image Management Center".

Markham Stouffville Hospital is fortunate to be in a position to use current technology in providing great patient care. Our thanks go out again to the business and resident community for their generous and considerate support of the Diagnostic System.

Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday season from the staff, physicians and volunteers of Markham Stouffville Hospital and Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation

Bankers Challenge



Bankers in Markham and Richmond Hill have challenged each other in this Campaign to see who can raise the most money. Here, John Borch from HSBC and Lorraine Kenney, Andrew Baldwin and Jim Parkhill from TD Canada Trust (left to right) participate in the TEAM 905 Phonathon to raise money for a new Gamma Camera for Markham Stouffville Hospital.

"Good Health is Good Business" is the theme of the TEAM 905 Campaign that enables the business community to become involved with the Hospital. For further information on how to become a part of TEAM 905, call Marion Zimmer, Manager of Corporate and Major Gifts, at 905-472-7089.

Our Appreciation

A special thank you to all of individuals, corporations, businesses, service clubs, private foundations and organizations, who have contributed to Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation. We appreciate your generosity and we want you to know that your gift has made a difference to the health of our community.

THANK YOU!

Some of the Equipment
You Helped Purchased in 2001/2002

- Life Pak 12 Monitor Defibrillator/Pacer
- Emergency Vision BiPAP Ventilator and Stand
- ICU/CCU Beds
- ICU/CCU Continuous Flow Resectoscope
- Surgical Echocardiology Probe
- Diagnostic System EEG machine
- Diagnostic System Telemetry Monitoring System
- Medicine Dash 3000 Monitor
- Maternal/Child Oxygen Saturation Monitor
- Complex Rehab
- Palliative Care

Fire Fighters of York Region Calendar Supports MSH

A few of the Fire Fighters of York Region featured in their first annual Calendar were at the Hospital recently to sell and autograph calendars. The Calendar proceeds will go to Breast Cancer and the three York Region Hospitals including Markham Stouffville Hospital.



Season's
Greetings to our
Fire Fighters!
What a great
bunch!

Calendars are still available. Call MSH Foundation at 905-472-7059 to purchase.

Helpful Hints for Holiday Giving

Take your time.

It's okay to take a day or two to consider a request for a donation. You can always send in your contributions at a later date.

Get information.

Understand the organization's mission and the way it intends to use your donations. Ask the charity for a brochure or other information, or visit their website. Offer to volunteer your time to promote the goals and objectives of the charity and to learn more about the organization.

Know who you are dealing with.

Ask whether those seeking your donation are volunteers, employees of the organization, or hired solicitors. This will influence their perspective and help you consider the information they're sharing. If it's a hired solicitor, ask how they're being paid. Percentage-based compensation (taking a percentage of each contribution received) often leads to very high fundraising costs, and little of the gift will be used for charitable purposes. Percentage-based fundraising is prohibited by the AFP's Code of Ethics.

Be careful of 'mistaken identity.'

Many charities have similar sounding names so make sure the charity you are considering is the one you think it is.

Give safely on-line.

As Internet use increases, more and more charities are setting up on-line donations. Make sure the site you are using has a safe, private and secure system that protects your personal information.

Give the smart gift of giving.

Embrace the trend toward conscious giving and combine your holiday gift giving with charitable giving. Adopt an endangered panda for your Aunt Sue, save the rainforest for your kids' teachers, or help your local hospital purchase a CT scanner. Unique and inspiring charitable gifts are the perfect way to show your care.

A New Surgical Suite

It is the time of year when many Wish Lists are being written. The Hospital, too, has its Wish List. At the top of the Wish List is the wish to provide the very best service possible to our patients. In order to do this, the Hospital must shorten the waiting lists for surgery. A new Surgical Suite is an immediate priority for the Hospital.

All Cataract Surgery will be moved to the new Surgical Suite, thereby allowing the Hospital to hire a new Ophthalmologist. In turn, waiting times for this vital surgery, sometimes 8 to 12 months, will be reduced.

By relocating Cataract Surgery there will be more capacity for both Orthopaedic cases and for Endoscopic Procedures such as Colonoscopies. This will make a big difference to patients who may currently have to wait 12 to 18 months for a hip or knee replacement. And for patients needing Colonoscopies, this will help reduce waiting times which are now up to 4 or 6 months.

Finally, the additional surgical capacity will improve flexibility and offer growth opportunities to services such as General Surgery, Ear, Nose and Throat procedures, Plastic Surgery and some gynecological procedures.

The total cost of the new Surgical Suite is \$1.6 million. The cost covers three components:

- Surgical Suite- Renovation and Equipment \$870,000
- Expand SPU (Surgical Procedures Unit) Endoscopy and Reconfigure Day Surgery - Renovation and Equipment \$469,280
- Equipment and Renovation of Space for Clinic moved from SPU \$181,600

Each component of the Surgical Suite Project has both renovation and equipment costs.

To build the new Surgical Suite and be able to keep pace with growing demand from our community, we must rely on the help of our donors! Hence, we are turning to businesses and individuals in our community to help fund the \$1.6 million cost of the Surgical Expansion.

If you are interested in further information about the Surgical Suite, and how to support the project, please contact Marion Zimmer, Manager of Corporate and Major Giving, at 905-472-7089.