



# Vitality

October 25, 2003



## THE DIAGNOSTIC SYSTEM – WHO ARE WE?

The Diagnostic System provides multiple services through Cardiorespiratory & Electrodiagnostics, Respiratory Services, Diagnostic Imaging and the Laboratory. We strive to deliver excellence in patient oriented care by coordinating and providing information, investigative testing, consultation and treatment for the patients and medical practitioners in the Markham, Stouffville and neighbouring communities. We work collaboratively with the hospital physicians, nurses and other health care professionals.

You may ask yourself "Who are these people and what do they do?" Here is a brief description of the roles of our Diagnostic System professionals.

The clerk receptionists, medical transcriptionists and secretaries are our front line staff often making the first contact with patients. They are the glue that binds us together by making patient appointments, greeting and registering patients and transcribing patient reports.

### Cardiorespiratory & Electrodiagnostics

**Cardiology Technologists** assess heart function by conducting cardiac exercise tests, ambulatory blood pressure monitoring or holter monitoring/scanning to assist a Cardiologist in making an accurate diagnosis.

**Echocardiography (Echo) Technologists** perform echocardiography studies for diagnosis of heart function. Images of the heart are taken using ultrasound waves and are recorded for interpretation by a Cardiologist.

**Registered Respiratory Care Practitioners** perform pulmonary function tests to determine lung abnormalities and evaluate the need for inhalers. A Respiriologist reviews the results to determine lung function.

**Electroencephalography (EEG) Technologists** perform routine, intensive care and neonatal EEG procedures to assist a Neurologist in making a diagnosis of brain function.

**Polysomnographic Technologists** set up, monitor and score brain and body activity during an overnight sleep to assess the body's functions, actions and reactions. A Sleep physician will review the findings and provide a report and diagnosis.

### Respiratory Services

**Registered Respiratory Care Practitioners** work throughout the hospital using a variety of respiratory therapeutics in the assessment and treatment of patients with heart and lung problems. RRCP's work closely with physicians, nurses and team members in Emergency, Intensive Care, Operating Room, Special Care Nursery and general wards to provide drugs by inhalation, airway management, oxygen therapy, artificial life support and assisting infants in their early efforts to breathe.



### Diagnostic Imaging

**X-Ray Technologists** use sophisticated equipment and radiation (x-rays) to produce diagnostic images of parts of the body on film or on a computer screen. A Radiologist interprets the images for diagnosis.

**MRI Technologists** use magnetic energy and radio frequency pulses to create images of the inside of the body. This is called Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). The images are utilized by a Radiologist to aid in the diagnosis of various illnesses and injuries.

**Ultrasonographers** utilize high-frequency sound waves to generate diagnostic images from within the body. The sonographer will manipulate a camera or "transducer" over the area of interest to acquire images that are interpreted by a Radiologist to provide diagnostic information.

**Nuclear Medicine Technologists** use low-level radiation substances called radiopharmaceuticals which are injected, swallowed or inhaled to produce diagnostic images of how the body functions for interpretation by a Radiologist.

### Laboratory

**Laboratory Technicians** collect and process specimens needed to perform scientific investigations, and also perform Electrocardiograms (ECG) throughout the hospital. **Medical Laboratory Technologists** perform the scientific laboratory tests, investigations and analysis to assist front-line health care workers (physicians & nurses) provide excellent patient care. The **Laboratory physicians (Pathologists)** review and sign hematology results and examine grossly and microscopically all surgical specimens and provide a pathological diagnosis.



## INTRODUCING ... OUR NEW MEDICAL STAFF

Dr. Robert Gall, Chief of Staff, is pleased to announce the following new medical staff appointments:

### Dr. Anna Fu, Gastroenterologist

Dr. Anna Fu completed her Gastroenterology Fellowship at the University of Western Ontario in June 2002. Following this, she completed an additional year of training in Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopy at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. She has a special interest in ERCP and advanced therapeutic procedures. In addition to practicing Gastroenterology, Dr. Fu will be caring for Acute Medicine and Critical Care patients.



### Dr. Crystal Pallister, General Surgeon

Dr. Pallister obtained her specialty training in General Surgery in 2002 at the University of Toronto. Prior to her specialty training she obtained her Medical Degree and undergraduate Bachelor of Science in Microbiology and Immunology from McGill University in Montreal. Dr. Pallister is fluent in French.

### Dr. Anoosh Sharif, Radiologist

Dr. Anoosh Sharif obtained his medical degree from the University of Western Ontario in 1997. Undergraduate Bachelor of Science and Art degrees were obtained from the University of Ottawa. Dr. Sharif completed his dual certification at the University of Toronto in Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine in 2002 and 2003, respectively.



### Dr. Moss Weinstock, Ophthalmologist

Dr. Weinstock came to Markham-Stouffville after obtaining his Certification in Ophthalmology from the University of Toronto in June 2003. Prior to this, he completed his medical degree at the University of Toronto in 1998. He has received multiple awards as a medical student and resident at the University for outstanding achievements.

## MSH CELEBRATE NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY WEEK

October 20-24 was national Occupational Therapy Week. Occupational Therapists work in many programs throughout the hospital, helping patients regain function following illness or injury.

One of many important services offered by Occupational Therapy is outpatient orthopedics. This service is offered to patients who have had a fractured wrist or hand. Once the bone is healed and the cast is removed patients can be left with weakened muscles, stiffness, swelling and pain. As a result they find it difficult to use their hand and arm in daily activities.

Treatment may involve attending the Functional Activities Program offered by Occupational Therapy once or twice a week. Patients participate in a variety of activities that simulate functional hand and arm tasks normally performed at home or work. The purpose of the program is to increase strength and movement with the goal of regaining function in daily tasks, hobbies and sports.



An outpatient in the Functional Activities Program is being helped by an Occupational Therapist.