

PRESS RELEASE

MyHealth Centre and The Hospital for Sick Children come together to enhance pediatric care in Ontario

Toronto, ON – Thursday, September 4, 2014: MyHealth Centre and The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, have entered into an agreement where radiologists from The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) will provide staff training and diagnostic image interpretation to pediatric patients seen at MyHealth Centre facilities throughout Ontario.

This is a unique collaboration that leverages SickKids' strengths and brings them to children in smaller communities, like Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie amongst many other locations.

"We strive to offer quality imaging services at our locations," says Suresh Madan, President and CEO of MyHealth Centre, which operates 16 diagnostic imaging outpatient health facilities across Ontario. "Our compassionate staff work hard to ensure patient comfort, and our dedicated team of caring professionals strive to maintain quality patient care as our top priority."

"We see a number of pediatric patients from different communities at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto" says Dr. Manohar Shroff Radiologist-in-Chief of SickKids. "We are happy to work with MyHealth Centre to extend our expertise to smaller communities throughout Ontario, diagnosing problems before they become complicated, and hopefully reducing the need for pediatric patients and their families to travel long distances."

This partnership between the leading children's hospital in Canada and one of the leading providers of outpatient imaging in Ontario is important because children form a significant portion of the patients seen day-to-day in outpatient imaging centres around Ontario. The issues, diagnoses, and safety precautions for children are unique and different from adults, often necessitating subspecialty radiology expertise. Furthermore, radiation dose reduction for x-rays of children is an important quality initiative in radiology today, as is proper training for technologists performing ultrasound examinations of children. SickKids will help bring best practices in these areas to outpatient facilities run by MyHealth.

"Children are unique and their imaging needs are just as unique," says Madan. "We need to invest in our children as they are the future of our communities all over Ontario. If they can't physically come to our renowned subspecialty children's hospital, we will now bring the expertise from the hospital to them."

About MyHealth Centre (www.myhealthcentre.ca):

MyHealth Centre provides quality diagnostic imaging services through trained radiologists, a standardized reporting system and a fast turnaround time. The Centre offers special expertise in managing Independent Health Facilities (IHF) in small towns and remote locations. Through its IHFs located in various northern communities such as Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury, along with London and Toronto, MyHealth Centre delivers outpatient diagnostic imaging patient care and provides a wide array of essential ambulatory services. Qualified technologists offer diagnostic imaging services such as x-ray, general and vascular ultrasound, nuclear medicine, fluoroscopy, mammography and bone mineral densitometry.

About The Hospital for Sick Children (www.sickkids.ca):

The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) is recognized as one of the world's foremost paediatric health-care institutions and is Canada's leading centre dedicated to advancing children's health through the integration of patient care, research and education. Founded in 1875 and affiliated with the University of Toronto, SickKids is one of Canada's most research-intensive hospitals and has generated discoveries that have helped children globally. Its mission is to provide the best in complex and specialized family-centred care; pioneer scientific and clinical advancements; share expertise; foster an academic environment that nurtures health-care professionals; and champion an accessible, comprehensive and sustainable child health system. SickKids is proud of its vision of *Healthier Children. A Better World.*™ For more information, please visit www.sickkids.ca.