

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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LHSC first North American hospital to have robotic-arm neuro-angiogram machine in OR suite Donors make the difference in how care is received

(LONDON, Ontario) – London Health Sciences Centre is the first hospital in North America to have a robotic-arm neuro-angiogram machine in an operating room. The Zeego, manufactured by Siemens, is a floor-mounted neuro-angiogram machine designed to take images during surgery.

Says Dr. Steve Lownie, Neurosurgeon and Co-chair, Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences (CNS), “By generating 3D images during surgery, the intra-operative neuro-angiogram machine helps patients experience a safer and more seamless surgery resulting in less trauma and shorter recovery time.”

The Zeego will allow surgeons to accelerate treatment decisions while in the OR suite, as patients will no longer have to be moved to another hospital area for a neuro-angiogram since imaging that would have previously been taken after surgery can now be done during surgery. The 3D imaging and robotic-arm allow the Zeego to be spun-around, to provide numerous angles by which to take and view an x-ray. The robotic-arm also extends out of the operating field, when not needed, and can be brought back into the operating field when images are necessary.

The Zeego machine has been in use at LHSC since January 2009 and has been used on four patients.

“This represents a decade of work that has brought research and innovation to direct patient care. We are fortunate to have this equipment and these services available to our patients at LHSC,” says Neil Johnson, Integrated Vice President, Medicine Services.

The cost for the Zeego and the renovations to accommodate this new capability is \$2.173 million. The hospital provided \$750,000 from capital commitment funds and London Health Sciences Foundation provided \$1.423 million from donations, including money raised by the annual Great Drake golf tournament.

“Donor-supported resources, like state-of-the-art equipment and facilities, allow LHSC to provide cutting-edge treatments and outstanding care,” says London Health Sciences Foundation president and CEO Dan Ross. “It is our donors’ generosity that makes these critical initiatives possible. It simply doesn’t happen without them.”

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About London Health Sciences Centre

London Health Sciences Centre has been in the forefront of medicine in Canada for over 130 years and offers the broadest range of specialized clinical services in Ontario. Building on the traditions of its founding hospitals to provide compassionate care in an academic teaching setting, London Health Sciences Centre is home to Children's Hospital, South Street Hospital, University Hospital, Victoria Hospital, two family medical centres, and Lawson Health Research Institute – a joint research initiative with St Joseph's Health Care, London. As a leader in medical discovery and health research, London Health Sciences Centre has a history of over 30 international and national firsts and attracts top clinicians and researchers from around the world. As a regional referral centre, London Health Sciences Centre cares for the most medically complex patients including critically injured adults and children in Southwestern Ontario and beyond. The hospital's 10,000 staff, physicians, students and volunteers provide care for more than one million patient visits a year. For more information visit www.lhsc.on.ca

About London Health Sciences Foundation

London Health Sciences Foundation is a Better Business Bureau accredited charity, linking our community and health care experts—including physicians, allied professionals, researchers, staff and educators—together in pursuit of medical excellence at London Health Sciences Centre. Established to strengthen London Health Sciences Centre's ability to provide the highest quality health care for patients in Southwestern Ontario and beyond, we offer opportunities to support discovery and innovation in research, education and patient care at our hospital. To see how donations create positive moments changing the lives of patients, their families and friends at London Health Sciences Centre, visit www.lhsf.ca.

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