

Attention: Assignment Desk and Health Reporters
September 27, 2017

Brachytherapy Program at Trillium Health Partners offers highly effective radiation treatment to prostate cancer patients

(Mississauga, ON) – Prostate cancer patients across the communities of Mississauga Halton (MH) and Central West (CW) can now be treated faster and closer to home with Brachytherapy treatment at Trillium Health Partners.

High-Dose-Rate (HDR) brachytherapy is one of the most effective methods of delivering high doses of targeted radiation treatment. Since 2014, brachytherapy has been in use at Trillium Health Partners' Carlo Fidani Regional Cancer Centre, treating skin and endometrial cancers, with prostate cancer as the new addition.

HDR brachytherapy treatment consists of approximately 12-18 needles inserted into the prostate, while the patient is under anesthesia. The radiation travels through each of the needles to deliver a high dose of radiation to the prostate. After the radiation is delivered, the needles are removed. This procedure can take up to 3 hours.

At Trillium Health Partners, HDR brachytherapy is used in combination with external beam radiation for the treatment of intermediate and high-risk prostate cancer. The external beam portion of the treatment starts two weeks after HDR brachytherapy and takes place daily, Monday to Friday, over 3-5 weeks.

With HDR brachytherapy, prostate cancer patients in our MH and CW region receive such added benefits as:

- Less treatment time. Patients receive one treatment of brachytherapy, followed by 3-5 weeks of external beam radiation;
- Reduced side effects due to decreased damage to surrounding normal tissue;
- Quicker recovery time that enables the patient to return to normal activities at work and home; and
- Access to treatment that is close to home.

“This highly advanced radiation treatment is shown to improve outcomes for many patients with intermediate and high-risk prostate cancer and we are very excited to offer this treatment for patients in our community, close to home,” said Dr. Anthony Brade, Division Head, Radiation Oncology, Trillium Health Partners, and Regional Lead, Radiation, for the Mississauga Halton Central West Regional Cancer Program.

About Trillium Health Partners

Trillium Health Partners is one of the largest community-based acute care facilities in Canada. Comprised of Credit Valley Hospital, the Mississauga Hospital and the Queensway Health Centre, Trillium Health Partners serves the growing and diverse populations of Mississauga, West Toronto and surrounding communities. Trillium Health Partners is a teaching hospital affiliated with the University of Toronto and is an associate member of the Toronto Academic Health Science Network.

Mississauga Halton Central West Regional Cancer Program

The Mississauga Halton/Central West Regional Cancer Program oversees the delivery and quality of cancer services for residents of both the Central West and Mississauga Halton regions. Cancer care and support is delivered through its hospital partners: Halton Healthcare Services, Headwaters Health Care Centre, Trillium Health Partners, and William Osler Health System. Visit www.mhwcancer.ca

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Media Contact:

Debbie Silva, Communications Advisor

Mississauga Halton Central West Regional Cancer Program

Debbie.Silva@thp.ca