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## For Immediate Release

### Innovative New Program Provides Support for Men Battling Prostate Cancer

**Mississauga, ON (November 14, 2013)** – A prostate cancer diagnosis can be a daunting one. Patients are often unsure about next steps. The Mississauga Halton/Central West Regional Cancer Program has developed a program, located at Trillium Health Partners' Credit Valley Hospital and Queensway Health Centre, which can help provide some support. The Prostate Cancer Diagnostic Assessment Program (DAP) is the first and only DAP in the region that has been developed for patients in the post-diagnosis stage of their prostate cancer.

DAPs offer a single point of contact for patients to make things easier for them. Through a Nurse Navigator, patients have an opportunity to get answers to their questions about prostate cancer and treatment options, assistance with organizing appointments, psychosocial support and access to any other available resources.

“Patients play a central role in this program. The DAP helps patients understand the treatment options that are available to them, which empowers them to take an active role in their care,” says Dr. Munir Jamal, Head of the Division of Urology at Trillium Health Partners and the Physician Urology Lead for the Prostate Cancer DAP. “Patients come back from the DAP with a definite idea of which treatment option would be best suited to their needs, be it active surveillance, radiation or surgery.”

The Prostate Cancer DAP was first implemented at Trillium Health Partners in June 2013. Since its implementation, nearly 100 patients have been referred into the Program. The wait time from receipt of referral to first Nurse Navigator contact is just 1 day.

DAPs are governed by Cancer Care Ontario's Program for Evidence-Based Care, which has developed standards for the organization of DAPs using an expert panel and a systematic review of the literature. Best practice guidelines and validated clinical pathways have been developed to support DAPs in the work that they do.

### Mississauga Halton/Central West Regional Cancer Program

The Mississauga Halton/Central West (MHCW) 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: Trillium Health Partners, Halton Healthcare Services, Headwaters Health Care Centre, and William Osler Health System. For more information, please visit [www.mhccwccancer.ca](http://www.mhccwccancer.ca)

### 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,

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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.

**Media Contact:**

Catherine Pringle  
905-848-7580 ext. 3832  
[Catherine.pringle@trilliumhealthpartners.ca](mailto:Catherine.pringle@trilliumhealthpartners.ca)