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MEDIA RELEASE

CHEMOTHERAPY PATIENTS RECEIVE CARE AT HOME THANKS TO ENHANCED PROGRAM AT WDMH

October 7, 2009 - The new Chemotherapy Home Infusion Pump Program (CHIPP) at Winchester District Memorial Hospital (WDMH) is bringing additional chemotherapy treatments closer to home for local residents. In fact, it's bringing treatments right to their homes.

CHIPP is a partnership between WDMH, The Ottawa Hospital Cancer Centre and the Champlain Community Care Access Centre (CCAC). It allows patients with cancer to receive some of their chemotherapy treatments in the comfort of their own home instead of in a hospital. Patients wear a special device that delivers chemotherapy automatically.

"Past patients in the Winchester area who have been on the CHIPP program have had to go to The Ottawa Hospital Cancer Centre's Chemotherapy Unit to initiate their treatments," explains Linda Johnson, WDMH's Nurse Navigator for the cancer program. "This work can now be done at WDMH in the Brian Hough Chemotherapy Unit."

"In the true spirit of our Regional Cancer Program, this initiative demonstrates collaboration amongst a number of partners, all working together to better patient care and their experiences. This is an example of improving access to high quality, standardized cancer care provided close to home when appropriate," adds Paula Doering, Regional Vice President, Cancer Services, Champlain Regional Cancer Program.

"The CHIPP program is just one wonderful example of how the many partners in the health system are collaborating to deliver high quality care in the home and community," says Kim Peterson, senior director, client services at the Champlain CCAC. "These types of innovative partnerships make the delivery of care more comfortable, convenient, and effective for our clients."

"CHIPP is just one of the many ways that we are bringing care closer to home," sums up Dr. Chuck Adamson, Chief of Family Medicine at WDMH. "Our new facility, and the new technology that comes with it, allows our physicians and staff to provide many new and innovative ways to care for our patients and their families."

The CHIPP program also involves agencies providing care in the home and community pharmacists.

About Winchester District Memorial Hospital

Winchester District Memorial Hospital (WDMH) is a rural community teaching hospital located 40 minutes south of Ottawa. Our clinical and academic mission is rooted in our philosophy of personalized service that brings care closer to home for the 90,000 residents we serve. WDMH

is a full-service hospital that responds to the needs of our community, from childbirth and child care to complex care and geriatrics. We are a hub site for cancer care, dialysis and cataract surgery and offer specialty clinics with visiting specialists from Ottawa hospitals. A major capital expansion project has just been completed, resulting in the most technologically-advanced facility in rural Ontario. For more information, visit www.wdmh.on.ca

About The Ottawa Hospital Cancer Centre

The Ottawa Hospital Cancer Centre is a treatment centre and research facility that brings together doctors, nurses, researchers and other healthcare professionals - all committed to improving care, finding new treatments and enhancing the quality of life of cancer patients. The Cancer Centre is the second largest outpatient cancer centre in Ontario and cares for more than 24,000 patients per year for a total of more than 190,000 annual visits.

As the hub of cancer care in Ottawa and Eastern Ontario, The Ottawa Hospital Cancer Centre is expanding to enhance the timeliness, capacity and quality of the care that it provides to the region's cancer patients. The project will double the size of the Cancer Centre, adding capacity to both radiation therapy and chemotherapy to meet growing demand and treating up to 9,000 new patients per year.

About the Champlain Community Care Access Centre

The Champlain Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) is the second largest health service provider in the Champlain LHIN with a budget of approximately \$179 million and over 650 staff. It serves about 25,000 residents on any given day, and close to 55,000 clients annually across our region.

The Champlain CCAC provides a single point of access to health and personal support services to help people live independently in their homes or to facilitate their transition into a long-term care home. The CCAC plans, coordinates and ensures the delivery of a full-range of in-home and community-based services to support clients and their caregivers. In addition, the CCAC provides clients with information and referral to alternate sources of care in the community.

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