

Straight From The Heart

WRHA Cardiac Sciences Program Newsletter

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Coming Up ...

GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM on the **FUTURE of HEART HEALTH, Winnipeg, Man., October 12—15, 2006.** For details contact Ivan Berkowitz at 204-228-3193, by email at ivan.mts.net or the Web at www.heartconference.com

Cardiac Sciences Resident Research Day, May 17, 2006. The program for this year's event has been expanded and will include 11 research presentations from Cardiology, Cardiac Anaesthesia, Cardiac Surgery and Cardiovascular Sciences. **Dr. Hilary Grocott**, Duke University Medical Centre, has been confirmed, and we look forward to his participation as our guest judge.

In the Next Edition ...

- CSEP & Cardiac Surgery Updates
- Cardiac Credits
- Talkback Corner

Correction: Heather Shortridge, newly appointed Director Patient Care Services Medicine, Health Sciences Centre (HSC), will continue to oversee the Cardiology portfolio at HSC.

\$30M to SBGH Cardiac Sciences Facility ...



Left to right: Minister of Finance, Greg Selinger; Health Minister Tim Sale; and Dr. Alan Menkis, Medical Director, Cardiac Sciences Program.

Capital funding of \$30 million to provide Manitobans with a state-of-the-art cardiac sciences facility at St. Boniface General Hospital was announced on March 7, 2006 by **Health Minister Tim Sale**, the final step toward consolidating cardiac care at SBGH.

According to **Dr. Alan Menkis**, medical director of the Cardiac Sciences Program (CSP), the Bergen Cardiac Care Centre addresses cardiology's needs at St. Boniface Hospital. This new project addresses the needs of cardiac surgery, anaesthesia and critical care. Together, these facilities will support integrated, seamless and patient-centred care and will foster closer working relationships between the staff of the cardiac sciences program.

The project includes:

- the establishment of a new dedicated 15-bed cardiac intensive-care unit to support the cardiac surgery program;
- the creation of a dedicated cardiac surgery in-patient unit;
- the development of outpatient clinics including pre-admission and preoperative and post-operative clinics;
- the relocation of the coronary care unit and the consolidation of St. Boniface General Hospital's non-cardiac surgical intensive care unit and medical intensive care unit;
- the development of a six-bed chest-pain evaluation unit within the emergency department;
- renovations and equipment upgrades of the blood bank to accommodate cardiac surgery;
- the development of a satellite pharmacy; and
- the completion of space to house Program administration and medical education.

Facilities and Capital Planning Manager, **Rick Martin**, advises that plans to hire an architectural firm are underway with construction expected to begin in the Fall of 2007.

Cardiac Credits

Congratulations to ...

- **Louise Dureault**, Senior Cardiology Technologist, Grace Hospital, on her retirement after 30 years of service.
- **Dr. David Mymin**, recipient of the 2006 Manitoba Medical Association Distinguished Service award.
- **Karen Schnell**, Clinical Nurse Specialist on the publication of the article she co-authored, " *Influential factors for self-care in ambulatory care heart failure patients: A qualitative perspective.*" The article was published in the Canadian Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing, Vol. 16, No. 1

Cath Lab Site Visits ...

In February, clinicians from the WRHA Cath Labs visited facilities with a heart catheterization radial access program, with a view to implementing this service in Winnipeg. On the site visits were **Joyce Thomas** (PTM, SBGH), **Cindy Ayotte** (Manager Cardiology, HSC), **Sharon Enns** (Nurse Clinician, SBGH), **Reva Wiebe** (Wait List Coordinator, CSP) and **Bev Humphries** (Clinical Resource Nurse, SBGH). Sites visited were the Royal Alexandra in Edmonton, the Royal Jubilee in Victoria, the Trillium Health Centre in Toronto and the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Halifax.

As well as gathering information on the radial access program, team members looked at other aspects of cardiology diagnostics programs, at same-day discharge programs and patient education materials.

Team findings have been presented to site and program leaders and clinicians.

Recent Appointments

Welcome to:

- **Lissa Currie**, Continuing Education Instructor for SBGH CVT, A4S and Step-down
- **Dr. Duane Funk** and **Dr. Johann Strumpher**, joining the Program to do a combined fellowship in Cardiac Anaesthesia and Critical Care
- **Dr. Moheb Ibrahim**, **Dr. James Fonger** and **Dr. Stephen Fremes**, joining us to do locums in Cardiac Surgery

Heart Health Month ...

'Risk Factor Reduction' funding ...

In recognition of Heart Health Month, **Healthy Living Minister Theresa Oswald** announced more than \$375,000 in funding to allow Manitoba Health to develop strategies that address the risk factors associated with Heart Disease. Developed in partnership with the Heart & Stroke Foundation, the strategies will focus on developing primary and secondary prevention guidelines, public education and heart health outreach programs.

Thanks to ...

- **Heather Shortridge and SBGH Occupational Health and Safety Staff** for conducting a Blood Pressure Screening clinic for SBGH employees. 112 employees were screened. Based on Canadian Hypertension Society Guidelines, their findings were: 72 normal, 21 high normal, 17 Grade 1, 1 Grade 2 and 1 Grade 3.
- **Estrellita Estrella-Holder**, Clinical Resource Nurse, SBGH Heart Failure Clinic, who hosted a booth for "Heart Failure Awareness Week" and presented "*Heart Failure Management: Beyond the Usual Care*" at the February Nursing Research and Evaluation session.
- **SBGH Cardiology Technologists** who chose Valentine's Day to invite visitors to their booth to showcase their work. They joined colleagues across the region in launching a nation-wide campaign to designate a day for Cardiology Technologists, to promote their roles and responsibilities in the field of cardiac testing, and to provide current information on advanced technology.

Cardiac Services Enhancement Project Update ...

Francis LaBossière, CSP Program Director, reports:

- work on plans to occupy Y2/Y3 is proceeding well. A Human Resources plan is being finalized and a phased occupancy plan has been developed, starting with the relocation of the SBGH Cath Labs over the summer.
- On March 6th, regional Stress Echocardiology services were re-established in temporary facilities at SBGH— in advance of the opening of a permanent site on Y2.

Talkback Corner

We invite your feedback Please forward articles for the newsletter or questions/ comments for the Cardiac Sciences Program Team to Mary Hastings, c/o Z3055, 409 Taché, R2H 2A6, by email to mhastings@sbgh.mb.ca or via our website at www.cardiacsciences.mb.ca . Please use the "Contact Us" link on the website to pass on your comments and suggestions.