

**MEDIA INVITATION**

**Thursday, Oct. 20, 2011**

**PRHC celebrates 10 years of dialysis service!**

**Date: Friday, Oct. 21, 2011**  
**Time: 3 p.m.**  
**Location: PRHC Cafeteria**

This Friday, PRHC celebrates the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its dialysis program, with a ceremony in the PRHC cafeteria at 3 p.m. Liz Hawthorne, Director of the Regional Renal Program and Ken Tremblay, President & CEO will give presentations, and cake will be served. Members of the media are invited to attend.

In the decade since the dialysis program first opened its doors to patients at the Health Centre, a number of important milestones have been achieved:

- 2001:** Dialysis begins at PRHC with 4 patients.
- 2002:** A permanent satellite Dialysis Unit is opened at Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) in Cobourg
- 2007:** A temporary satellite Dialysis Unit is opened at Ross Memorial Hospital (RMH) in Lindsay. The permanent unit at RMH is officially opened in 2008
- 2008:** PRHC moves into the new hospital building; the new dialysis unit here provides 22 funded stations for patient treatment
- 2010:** A Strategic Plan for the Regional Renal Program is formalized with partner organizations NHH, RMH and the independent Dialysis Management Clinic (DMC).
- 2011:** Approximately 155 patients are now part of the hemodialysis program at PRHC, receiving life-saving dialysis treatment three to four times weekly, guided and cared for by our specially-trained staff

The Home Hemodialysis program is initiated. Currently, four patients have completed training and are dialyzing at home. Two more will join their ranks in the coming weeks

The Post-Transplantation Clinic begins operating

About 40 patients from this region are engaged in another type of home dialysis – peritoneal dialysis – as part of our Peritoneal Dialysis Clinic

Our Renal Insufficiency (RI) Clinic provides care and guidance to people whose kidneys have begun to fail but who are not yet ready for dialysis. Our RI clinic staff members currently follow about 1400 people.

**FAST FACTS  
ABOUT KIDNEY DISEASE**

- ✓ Kidney disease can strike anyone at any age.
- ✓ Two million people live with kidney disease in Canada.
- ✓ The average age of new adult patients starting hemodialysis—the most common form of dialysis—was 65 in 2009, up from 55 in 1990.
- ✓ Every day 14 Canadians learn that their kidneys are failing.
- ✓ Each year more than 2 billion dollars is spent on Dialysis in Canada

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**For more information:**

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