



PERFORMANCE BY DESIGN
A \$200,000 Research Study

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Toronto, Ontario) For the first time in Canada, a research study will determine what impact the design of a healing environment has on patient recovery and satisfaction. This aspect of patient care will be carefully scrutinized as part of an Ontario Hospital Association Change Foundation research grant to measure Best Performance through Metrics of Evidence-based Design.

The Change Foundation recently awarded The Credit Valley Hospital, Cancer Care Ontario and the architectural firm, Farrow Partnership Architects Inc. a \$100,000 grant to work with WIN Workflow Integrity Networks to measure the effects of space and design on staff and patient satisfaction.

The grant extends over a two-year period and will be matched by an additional \$100,000 through in-kind contributions, for a total research grant of \$200,000.

The Credit Valley Hospital is poised to open The Carlo Fidani Peel Regional Cancer Centre and ambulatory care centre in the Spring of 2005. The design of the hospital addition maximizes natural light and creates an environment far removed from the traditional hospital setting. Treatment spaces are designed to enhance workflow patterns and to minimize anxiety associated with patient treatment. The hospital, its caregivers and the architects believe the provision of a comprehensive healing environment as emotional and spiritual support for patients and their families, plays a huge part in the success of an integrated medical treatment plan.

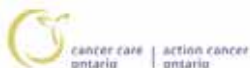
Breast cancer patients receiving adjuvant therapy will be studied in pre and post-occupancy situations as part of the project review. The breast cancer patients represent one-third of all outpatient visits to be seen in the new centre.

The research project partners will employ design metrics to measure variables such as movement patterns, number of steps, travel times etc. and the direct correlation to hospital operations, safety and error management and most importantly, the quality of the patient's experience.

For More Information Contact:

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About the participants:



The Change Foundation identifies major change initiatives and funds frontline innovation and research that will have a meaningful impact on health care and health care services in the future. Its mandate is to bring together researchers, health care providers, health care managers and policy makers in Ontario and around the world to understand the impact of change on the health of consumers and the delivery of health care services. It was incorporated by the Ontario Hospital Association in 1995.

The Credit Valley Hospital is a modern, dynamic community hospital providing leadership in the delivery of primary, secondary, and tertiary health care services to the people of Mississauga, Ontario and the surrounding region. Since opening in 1985, the hospital has earned an international reputation for combining the latest in technology with the utmost in professional and compassionate care. The hospital's culture facilitates and promotes innovation. The hospital's dedication to excellence in patient care is achieved by considering the individual's physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

Farrow Partnership Architects Inc. is a leader in the design of healthcare projects ranging from large, complex institutions to small innovative interiors. Located in Toronto, Farrow Partnership offers a full range of architectural, interior design, urban design, and master planning services. The firm has received national and international recognition for projects that achieve a high level of design excellence and display a deep understanding of the needs and aspirations of their clients.

Workflow Integrity Network

WIN Function Analysis is a pervasive yet non-invasive tool, which analyzes how and where employees spend their time, the very nature of the different roles they perform, how they gather and share information to make important patient care decisions and the role the structure plays in influencing patient and staff outcomes. Unlike other time and motion studies, WIN Function Analysis delivers aggregate data on how employees are spending their time as well as a highly detailed and granular analysis of the nature of their work at every level of responsibility and accountability, in every business process, in any structure.

Cancer Care Ontario

The mission of Cancer Care Ontario (CCO) is to improve the performance of the cancer system by driving quality, accountability and innovation in all cancer-related services.