

ONTARIO INCREASES DIALYSIS SERVICES IN YORK REGION*McGuinty Government Approves New Satellite Dialysis Unit***NEWS**February 5, 2009
2009/nr-003

Residents in York Region living with chronic kidney disease will have better access to dialysis services because of a new satellite unit in the Vaughan community.

The Ontario government is providing York Central Hospital with a dialysis satellite unit and an outpatient clinic where care is provided by physicians and a range of health care professionals, including nurses, nutritionists, social workers and pharmacists.

The satellite unit is expected to open later this year with 24 new stations. By 2015/16 another nine will be added for a total of 33 stations. Almost 200 patients will be treated each year when the unit is fully operational.

Increasing access to kidney dialysis services is part of the Ontario government's four-year, \$741-million diabetes strategy. Creating satellite units, such as the one in Vaughan, enables people to receive dialysis treatment, closer to home.

QUOTES

"This new community dialysis satellite unit will not only improve access to vital life-saving services, but also allows patients to receive care closer to the comforts of home," said Health and Long-Term Care Minister David Caplan. "I am deeply committed to improving the quality of life for those living with chronic conditions like kidney disease."

"This partnership reflects the future of quality health-care in Vaughan and across Ontario. We are bringing health-care delivery closer to patients' homes, and organizations like the Campus of Care and York Central are bringing health care providers closer together," said Greg Sorbara, MPP for Vaughan. "That means better opportunities for treatment today and the prospect of new partnerships down the road."

"When fully operational, the 33-station dialysis unit will provide over 30,000 additional dialysis treatments per year and the kidney outpatient clinic will provide up to 5,000 visits annually," said Reza Moridi, MPP for Richmond Hill.

"We are pleased the government is enhancing health care services for patients with chronic kidney disease," said Bruce Harber, President and CEO of York Central Hospital. "Our patients will benefit significantly from having this new 33-station dialysis unit closer to home."

QUICK FACTS

- ♣ People with chronic kidney disease need regular dialysis treatment or a kidney transplant to survive.
- ♣ The demand for kidney dialysis has been increasing by more than seven per cent each year due to Ontario's aging population and growing numbers of people with diabetes and high blood pressure.

LEARN MORE

Read about [chronic kidney disease](#).

Learn more about Ontario's [diabetes strategy](#).

Steve Erwin, Minister's Office, 416-326-3986
Andrew Morrison, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care,
416-314-6197

ontario.ca/health-news
Disponible en français