

## Misericordia Eye Care Centre open 24/7 for eye emergencies

### Eye emergency patients to enter through 99 Cornish Avenue entrance

July 4, 2017 -- Misericordia Health Centre (MHC) will continue to see patients with urgent eye issues 24 hours per day, 7 days a week. Patients will visit an assessment clinic within the Eye Care Centre of Excellence during the overnight hours, the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority confirmed today.

“Eye assessment will remain on site at Misericordia Health Centre 24/7 providing eye patients with specialized care,” said Lori Lamont, WRHA vice president, interprofessional practice & chief nursing officer. “In line with our goals of improving patient care and reducing patient transfers, urgent eye patients will continue to be welcomed and treated at Misericordia Health Centre 24/7.”

Misericordia’s Urgent Care Centre will have new hours beginning Wednesday July 5, 2017, open from 7:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. During the overnight hours between 8 p.m. and 7:30 a.m., patients seeking care for urgent eye issues may register for the Eye Assessment Clinic directly via the 99 Cornish Avenue entrance.

“Ophthalmologists will be available for urgent consultations from emergency, other doctors and optometrists as per usual,” said Dr. Lorne Bellan, an ophthalmology surgeon based at Misericordia and department head, University of Manitoba.

-30-

*Misericordia’s Eye Care Centre of Excellence is the largest comprehensive surgical and treatment program in Western Canada serving Manitoba, Northwestern Ontario, the Territories and Nunavut. The 25 surgical ophthalmologists perform nearly 12,000 surgeries annually, including corneal transplants, and provide 24-hour on call services for eye emergencies. More than 32,000 patients are seen in ambulatory eye clinics for assessments and treatments such as eye injections for retinal disease. Complementing the centre is the Misericordia Eye Bank medical lab and the University of Manitoba Ophthalmology Residency Program, including a resident clinic.*