

Media Release



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New specialty eye clinics introduced at provincial Eye Care Centre of Excellence: neuro-ophthalmology and pediatric ophthalmology

Calling it an immense success story for Manitobans requiring specialty eye care, Dr. John van der Zweep, head of ophthalmology, announced two new clinics at Misericordia’s provincial Eye Care Centre of Excellence.

“This is a major expansion of eye care which is already having a positive impact in the health-care community,” says Dr. van der Zweep. “Adding neuro- and pediatric ophthalmology clinics to MHC means improved access to care and greatly reduced wait times. These clinics will offer nearly 7,000 eye appointments annually.”

Minister of Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care Uzoma Asagwara commended the new clinics’ opening, saying it is in keeping with the government’s health plan to bridge existing gaps and strengthen the health-care system.

“These clinics will offer sustainability, support retaining and recruiting specialists and deliver more volumes while providing specialty care right here in Manitoba,” said Minister Asagwara.

The new clinics bring two highly-specialized physicians not just to Misericordia, but to Manitoba: Dr. Conrad Goerz, neuro-ophthalmologist, returned to Winnipeg this summer to set up his practice at Misericordia. Dr. Santiago Ruano, pediatric ophthalmologist, recently moved to the province.

Adding Dr. Goerz to the Eye Care Centre of Excellence’s list of specialists who call Misericordia home is a win for Manitobans by substantially reducing the time it would take to receive the specialized neuro-ophthalmology care they need.

The patient-centric spacious new pediatric ophthalmology clinic - staffed by rotating pediatric ophthalmologists – offers state-of-the-art diagnostic tools and includes immediate access to all the Eye Care Centre of Excellence has to offer.

MHC President & CEO Caroline DeKeyster says adding new eye clinics just made sense, considering Misericordia's 125-year history of innovating to meet the needs of the communities it serves.

"MHC is home to Manitoba's dynamic Eye Care Centre of Excellence – a centre on the cusp of becoming Canada's Premier Eye Institute. Adding new specialty eye clinics are just the first step to creating a world-class facility to meet Manitobans' eye-care needs for generations to come."

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