
For Immediate Release

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Pacemaker Clinic at OTMH Celebrates 35th Anniversary

(Oakville, ON) November 22, 2017 - Halton Healthcare recently celebrated the 35th Anniversary of the Pacemaker Clinic at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital (OTMH). Staff, physicians and patients joined clinic founder, Dr. Mursalene Gafoor, and his team to mark this historic milestone.

In 1981, Dr. Gafoor, Cardiovascular/ Thoracic surgeon, joined OTMH (and Joseph Brant Hospital) and began performing pacemaker implants at both hospitals. In 1982, he established the Pacemaker Program, in the former OTMH's Outpatient/Fracture Room Clinic. OTMH became the first community hospital between Hamilton and Toronto to provide follow-up services to patients with pacemakers.

“Our goal is to optimize the well-being of our pacemaker patients, so they can enjoy their lives to the fullest. We monitor them carefully and customize their pacemakers to their lifestyles,” explains Dr. Gafoor, Medical Director, Pacemaker Clinic, Halton Healthcare. “We opened with a mere 50 patients in 1982 at the former OTMH and today, at any one time, we serve approximately two thousand patients across Halton Region.”

In 1993 the clinic was assigned a dedicated space in the Outpatient Department of the former OTMH and in 2015, with the opening of the new OTMH, it was relocated to its current home in the CardioRespiratory Department.

“While so much has changed over the past 35 years in terms of technology and infrastructure, the Pacemaker Clinic's commitment to excellence has never wavered,” noted Carole Moore, Chief Operating Officer, OTMH. “With Dr. Gafoor and his group of dedicated staff and volunteers, the clinic has grown and flourished. It has improved the quality of life of thousands of cardiac pacemaker patients across Halton over the past 35 years. What an incredible accomplishment!”

Joining the 35 year celebration was Norm Favro, of Oakville, one of the Pacemaker Clinic's first patients. “I know first-hand that the care I received has been nothing short of excellent. The Pacemaker Clinic saved my life. Now, I can enjoy my grandchildren as well as my great grandchildren.”

In concluding the event, Carole Moore congratulated staff, volunteers, and of course, Dr. Gafoor for providing such tremendous patient care over the past 35 years, “This truly is a special milestone. It really exemplifies Halton Healthcare's vision of providing exemplary patient experiences, always.”

About Halton Healthcare:

Halton Healthcare is a healthcare organization comprised of three community hospitals - Georgetown Hospital, Milton District Hospital and Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. Together, these hospitals provide healthcare services to more than 350,000 residents in the communities of Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville. Halton Healthcare hospitals have been recognized for their best practices in a number of patient safety and patient care initiatives. For more information, visit www.haltonhealthcare.com Follow us on Twitter @HaltonHlthcare and Facebook.

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