

# How your Investment helps

- Allow more Hospital in-patients to receive an MRI diagnosis.
- Reduce the distance traveled by Hospital out-patients to receive an MRI examination.
- Minimize patient stress and system costs.
- Provide thousands of people suffering from serious and lifethreatening illnesses with an accurate and timely diagnosis
- Help attract and retain key medical professionals to our area.
- Your family, your friends, and your neighbours will have access to this diagnostic tool - Close to Home

"MRI matters for our region. I watched the terrible toll cancer took on my mother. MRI technology meant diagnosis and treatment, but it also meant long periods on the road - first by herself on the highway, then with other family members as the cancer worsened. I donated so we can focus on the timely diagnosis, treatment, and healing closer to home."

Krista Vaas, Petawawa ON

Regional access to MRI is currently inadequate and wait times greatly exceed those recommended by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. In fact, the Champlain region has the longest wait times in the province for MRI – nearly twice as long as anywhere else in Ontario. The addition of this service would mean that more than 100,000 people would have access to this important diagnostic equipment in the region.

As the Hospital continues to expand its role in regional cancer services, orthopaedic services, and stroke program, MRI equipment is a necessity. With an MRI, wait times will be significantly shortened; diagnosis and treatment will be improved, with the overall burden of illness hence reduced.

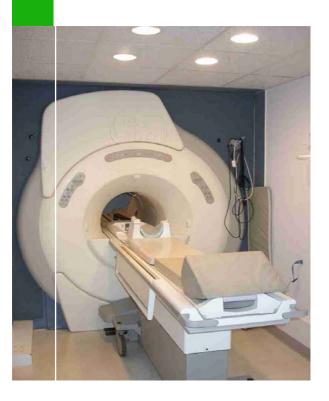
We invite you to support this campaign strengthening the Health Care for the Valley for years to come.

#### Comprehensive Health Care. Closer to Home

705 Mackay Street
Pembroke, ON K8A 1G8
613.732.2811 ext. 7408
foundation@pemreqhos.org

# MRI: Image Matters

Pembroke Regional Hospital and the future of medicine at home

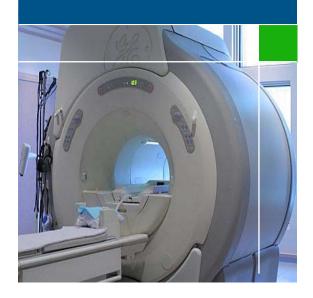




## WHAT IS AN MRI?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) uses magnetic fields, *not radiation*, to generate a detailed image.

An MRI image provides much greater contrast between the different soft tissues of the body than computed tomography (CT) does, making it especially useful in neurological, musculoskeletal. cardiovascular, and oncological (cancer) imaging. It is the tool of choice in diagnosing joint injuries, tumors of the brain, seizure disorders, multiple sclerosis and many forms of cancer.





MRI will allow us to get the right answers faster and specific treatment sooner. That means better outcomes for people in our region.

#### Reduced wait and travel time

An MRI will reduce wait times. People requiring MRI scans must presently travel to Ottawa, Kingston, North Bay, Sudbury, or Gatineau Quebec. These trips are expensive and time-consuming. Emergency patients must travel by ambulance if they need a scan.

# Non-Invasive Technology

The fundamental advantage of MRI technology is that the process is radiation-free, non-invasive and detailed. MRI technology helps in the immediate and accurate identification of potential problems and replaces many exploratory surgeries.

## **More Cancer Surgeries**

Currently the PRH is unable to perform some surgeries that require immediate MRI scans pre and post surgery. These surgeries, currently performed elsewhere, with MRI technology can occur here - in our region.

#### **Attracting Professionals**

MRI technology is considered essential for modern health care facilities such as the Pembroke Regional Hospital. Medical Students and residents in training see MRI as an essential diagnostic tool, and gravitate towards facilities with this technology.