

Operating Room Suites Upgrades

Update from Dr. Sean Cleary
HPB Surgical Oncologist

Thank you to Pancreatic Cancer Canada for your significant contribution that has enabled us to upgrade two of our Operating Room (OR) Suites at Toronto General Hospital. These improvements have provided significant improvement in the equipment for minimally invasive (laparoscopic) pancreas surgery by upgrading all of the equipment to high definition image quality. This permits us to perform more precise operations and allows us to push the envelope in the type and complexity of operations that we can accomplish with a minimally invasive approach.

These advances allow patients to undergo pancreas surgery with smaller incisions that reduce pain, time in the hospital and recovery time compared to operations done through standard 'open' incisions. These operating rooms will now be fully integrated with **video conferencing** and broadcasting abilities that will enable us to enhance the teaching experience for our HPB fellows and other surgeons through participation in live video demonstrations, video-conferencing and tele-mentoring.

The first upgraded OR opened on October 29 and is already in use, with the second OR scheduled to be completed at the end of November 2013. 3D imaging is a type of navigational technology that is making operations for pancreatic cancer patients safer with reduced recovery time.

