

New CT Service in Estevan

June 27, 2014

About computed tomography (CT)

Computed tomography (CT) is an advanced method of using x-rays from multiple angles to view systems or organs in the body, often providing a three-dimensional view.

CT scans are often used to determine the extent of internal injuries after an accident or other trauma. They are commonly used to view very small bones and surrounding tissues such as muscles and blood vessels. Imaging can be used on all parts of the body to help diagnose internal issues. CT is a key tool immediately following a stroke to determine the best care options and improve chances of recovery.

Why does Sun Country Health Region need regional CT services?

Patients often need to travel to Regina for CT services, either because of an injury or to diagnose a medical condition. An expansion of service in southern Saskatchewan will meet demand due to population growth and help reduce wait times for medical imaging services. By adding the service in Estevan, overall capacity is increased, while greatly improving access in the southeast corner of the province.

How will this help patients?

Patients will no longer need to travel to Regina or another location for a scan. This will allow quicker diagnosis and treatment, with fewer delays and travel costs. The new CT scanner will be the fourteenth permanent hospital-based unit in Saskatchewan, providing closer-to-home service that will reduce wait times for medical diagnosis and treatment for patients. Some publicly-funded CT services are also provided by a third-party medical imaging company in Regina.

How much funding will be raised locally?

The pressing need for CT services is supported by medical staff, Sun Country Health Region and the South East Health Committee. St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation is undertaking a priority campaign to raise \$2 million for hospital space renovations, purchasing and installing the CT scanner and launching the new service.

More information:

www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media (See June 27 news release)

