

Grand ROUNDS

RVH on track for screening



At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, routine screening mammograms and screening mammograms through the Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) were postponed.

Since April 1, RVH has performed only 450 OBSP screens when normally they would have seen 900 patients. There were also 180 fewer patients seen outside of the OBSP program.

“With a rate of 5–7 women per 1,000 cancer detection through routine screens, that means we have a number of women out there who need to be seen,” says Lisa Wherry, RVH Manager, Medical Imaging.

The good news is, RVH has very quickly tackled backlogs with extra shifts, since things opened up, to ensure that our community has access to care close to home in a timely manner.

“We are very happy to once again be providing this service in good time to those who need it in our community,” notes Wherry.

All staff in the RVH Medical Imaging Department are wearing procedure masks and visors to help keep our patients, staff and visitors safe. All patients and visitors must also wear masks and be screened upon entering the hospital at one of the designated entrances.

The Ontario Breast Screening Program recommends that women have mammograms every year or two years depending on age and risk level. Women aged 50–74 who are due for a mammogram can self-refer by calling 613-432-4986 to make an appointment.