

Mount Sinai Hospital's Schwartz/Reisman Emergency Centre

Quick Facts

By the Numbers:

- The Schwartz/Reisman Emergency Centre has averaged 3% growth each year over the past fifteen years — totaling 55,000 patient visits in 2012. That number is expected to grow to 80,000 patients over the next few years.
- The redevelopment plans will more than double the space of the Emergency Centre from 11,800 sq. ft. to 28,100 sq. ft. and will increase the number of treatment bays from 37 to 50.

Provincial Leadership:

- Despite increasing volumes, Mount Sinai's ER has the lowest combined wait time scores of any academic hospital in the province.
- **Dr. Howard Ovens**, Director of the Schwartz/Reisman Emergency Centre, was named the Provincial Expert Lead in Emergency Medicine and advises the Ministry of Health on related policy issues, including the Ontario ER Wait Time Strategy. Under his leadership, Mount Sinai has reduced emergency room wait times from 20-30 percent.
- Mount Sinai's ED has developed award-winning applications of new technologies to enable the ED to increase efficiencies around patient flow. Mount Sinai's ED is also home to regular rotations for University of Toronto medical school programs and is the base site for the University of Toronto innovative "SEME" (Supplemental Emergency Medicine Experience) program that provides intensive emergency medicine skills training for practicing physicians from rural communities.

Patient Approach:

- All of Mount Sinai Hospital's emergency physicians are certified in family and emergency medicine, bringing with them a holistic approach to individual patients and a broad view of health care systems that they interact with.
- As the first acute care hospital in Canada to make geriatrics a key strategic priority, Mount Sinai has implemented a number of senior friendly initiatives in the ED. Seniors who enter the emergency are screened for underlying problems such as depression and dementia and the ED staff are supported by geriatric emergency management nurses (GEM) who are equipped to do a comprehensive assessment and arrange community supports allowing the ED to more efficiently address their issues and plan for safe patient discharges.

Research & Technology:

- Under the leadership of **Dr. Bjug Borgundvaag**, who heads up research at the Schwartz/Reisman Emergency Centre, Mount Sinai's ED physicians are currently engaged in 16 research projects and have over 200 peer reviewed publications
- A notable example of this research focuses on **infectious disease surveillance**. Mount Sinai is making particular headway on how to treat anti-biotic resistant infections such as community acquired MRSA most effectively in the ED. **Dr. Borgundvaag** is part of a Mount Sinai led initiative that developed guidelines for the Toronto Central LHIN to avoid prescribing needless antibiotics, and this work was partly based on his research findings.
- To help bridge a common information gap between ED visits and our patients' family physicians, Mount Sinai ED has developed a prototype of an automated system to provide community physicians with their patient's clinical information from their ED visit. Results of a study that measure the effectiveness of the system have been accepted for publication, and could be used to ensure continuity of care for patients.

The Future: Schwartz/Reisman Emergency Centre Redevelopment Plans

- Today’s announcement about the Schwartz/Reisman Emergency Centre and Schwartz/Reisman Emergency Medicine Institute is part of the **\$500 million Campaign to Renew Sinai**, the largest campaign in the hospital’s history that will see the transformation of its facilities and growth of its internationally recognized clinical and research programs.
- The new emergency centre will encompass half of the existing main floor of the hospital. Based on evidence-based design research (which looks at the relationship between patient experience and the physical environment), the expanded ED will be anchored in a patient and family-centered design with an emphasis on infection control, patient flow, senior friendly design characteristics and leading-edge technology.

Current	Future
56,000 patients/year	Expanded space to accommodate 80,000 patients/year
11,395 sq. ft.	28,100 sq. ft.
37 patient bays	50 patient bays
CT and plain imaging share one room.	Expanded space will allow faster imaging and more rapid diagnosis with new and separated X-ray & CT scanner suites
Accessibility and senior-friendly enhancements constrained by space limitations	Enhanced senior-friendly design with attention to accessibility, visibility and acoustics
Centralized waiting area and internal waiting areas constrained by available space	Multiple sub-waiting areas for more efficient flow from triage to treatment rooms