



Pharmacy

A Hospital Pharmacy must operate at a fast pace, and the work is complicated and complex. Through generous donor support combined with a \$1 million Zaretski Family Legacy Gift through the RUH Foundation and Saskatchewan Ministry of Health funding, the new \$4.45 million Hospital Pharmacy opened November 13, 2013.

Senior Pharmacy staff say that both safety and efficiency have increased now that all department personnel and the required inventory are together in one place. Thanks to donor support, a newest-generation FastPak EXP machine was purchased to provide more accurate, efficient and economical disbursement of medications to individual patients.

*"The most amazing gift anyone can receive is to be given their life back."
 – Desiree Nieckar, who waited for two years for the EEG Telemetry procedure.
 On February 13, 2012, she had epilepsy brain surgery and is now seizure-free.*

Rhonda Zalewski, Senior Pharmacy Technician, with the state-of-the-art FastPak EXP machine in the new Hospital Pharmacy

Second Telemetry Bed

Electroencephalogram (EEG) Telemetry records brain activity (specifically seizures), which helps to localize an affected area for surgery. In spring 2011, Faye and Finlay MacKenzie recognized the urgent need for another EEG Telemetry System and an associated dedicated bed at RUH, so they donated the \$65,000 to support its purchase. The result was substantially decreased waiting times for patients who, at that point, were waiting up to three years for diagnosis and treatment.

Three-year-old Brock Kolibab, who was having 100 seizures a day, spent three days in what, at that point, was the only dedicated telemetry (epilepsy-testing) bed at RUH. Diagnosis led to treatment, and today Brock is seizure-free. When his grateful parents Shantel and Curtis learned that the Royal University Hospital Foundation was raising \$100,000 to purchase a second new telemetry bed and related equipment, along with family, friends and business partners they raised and contributed \$66,865. With funding support from many other donors, the second new dedicated bed and equipment were purchased, and the Grand Opening was held March 26. The wait time for patients with epilepsy seeking telemetry monitoring has been reduced in half again.



Faye and Finlay MacKenzie (second and third from left) celebrate Purple Day for Epilepsy with the Kolibab family, Dr. José F. Tellez-Zenteno (far right) and Lisa Laskowski (far left)