



Ontario Institute for Cancer Research appoints Dr. Aaron Fenster to lead its Imaging Platform

London, August 27, 2007 — Dr. Tom Hudson, President and Scientific Director of the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR), has announced that Dr. Aaron Fenster, Director of the Imaging Research Laboratories at the Robarts Research Institute in London, has been appointed to lead OICR's Imaging Platform.

The Imaging Platform is a key component of OICR's Strategic Plan that will ensure discoveries in the laboratory are used in a clinical setting as quickly as possible. This will support the early diagnosis of cancer and the development of imaging techniques for cancer screening, cancer stem cell research and clinical trials.

"We know that if we could detect cancer earlier, the treatments we administer could be more effective. Dr. Fenster and his colleagues have a high potential for making an impact in this important area of research," explains Dr. Hudson. "I am very pleased to welcome Dr. Fenster to the Institute."

Medical images are used at all stages of cancer care, from diagnosis to post-treatment monitoring. For example, in current practice, doctors can only detect tumours when they have grown to include billions of cells; however, scientists at Robarts are now able to detect a single cell in their laboratories.

Dr. Fenster will collaborate with colleagues at Robarts and at academic research institutions across Ontario to develop customized ultrasound probes, computer software, and medical instrumentation that can be tested in clinical trials and, ultimately, integrated into patient care.

Dr. Fenster holds a B.Sc. in Physics and Chemistry and an M.Sc. and PhD in Medical Biophysics from the University of Toronto. He has been the director of the Imaging Research Laboratories at Robarts Research Institute since 1987. He is also a professor in the departments of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, Medical Biophysics, and Oncology, an adjunct professor in the departments of Electrical Engineering and Physics and associate director of the graduate program in Biomedical Engineering at The University of Western Ontario in London.

The Ontario Institute for Cancer Research is a centre of excellence, moving Ontario to the forefront of discovery and innovation. It is dedicated to research in prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment and control of cancer. The Institute is a not-for-profit corporation funded by the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Research and Innovation.

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