

CRITICAL CARE



I don't recall a lot of it, but I do remember being in a glass room where everyone at RVH could see me. They were so encouraging, so supportive. They would walk by and wave and motivate me to get better."

Judy Carson

Judy contracted COVID-19 in early 2020. She spent seven weeks in hospital between the ICU and Respiratory Units.



CRITICAL CARE AT RVH

RVH cares for the most critically ill patients in Simcoe Muskoka. Last year, more than 700 patients required intensive care at RVH. On average, those patients spent about five days in our ICU, with some patients requiring significantly longer stays.

Our Intensive Care Unit is a 15-bed specialized closed unit where patients who are critically ill or injured are offered comprehensive, multi-disciplinary care and constant observation.

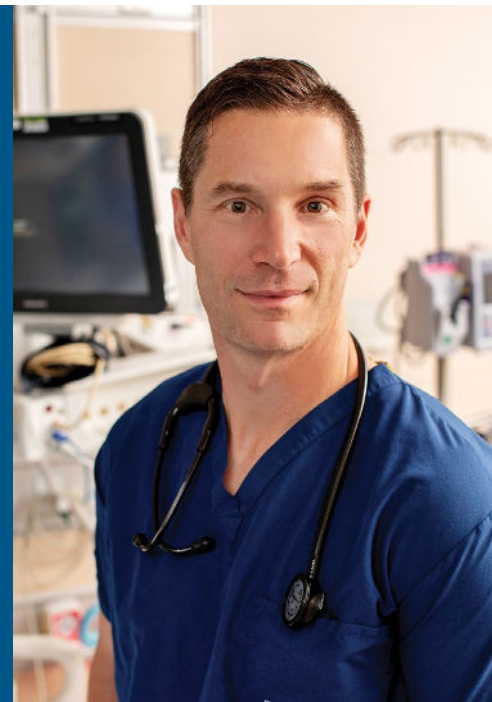
Patients in our ICU are monitored and cared for using state-of-the-art equipment and specially trained medical staff. Their care incorporates the expertise of many different healthcare professionals who determine and execute the best possible treatment plan for each individual patient. That care plan is adapted based on the patient's response to treatment and the input and involvement of their support system, which may include family or loved ones.

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Over the last ten years, there has been higher demand for Intensive Care in Barrie and to support our smaller hospitals in the region and beyond. We're treating more critically ill patients who require around-the-clock intensive care in a space built over two decades ago. Expanding our ICU and bringing it up to modern standards will mean we can provide even better care to our patients and, importantly, offer more support to their families and loved ones.”

Dr. Christopher Martin

Chief and Director of Critical Care and Director of Medical Education



THE CASE FOR EXPANSION

Right now our critical care teams are providing world-class care in a unit that was built in the 90s. The ICU lacks the appropriate space needed to properly support a critically ill patient. Most patients receiving intensive care require a lot of equipment. That leaves little room for medical teams to manoeuvre and even less space for families to be active participants in their loved ones' care – a particularly important element in any ICU patient's recovery.

As part of the expansion, we will create an ICU “step down” unit for patients who no longer need the intense level of critical care provided in the ICU but are still too sick to be cared for in other areas of the hospital. This allows us to keep precious ICU resources dedicated to our most critically ill patients while ensuring those who are transitioning out of the ICU still have the specialized care they need for a faster recovery.



Current north site after planned expansion.

Courtesy of Diamond Schmitt

OUR VISION FOR YOUR CARE

Our vision is to bring together multi-disciplinary teams to save lives in one technologically advanced space within RVH, while providing much-needed comfort and support to loved ones.

Our aim is to enlarge the unit and add more state-of-the-art equipment, as well as expand the types of care we can provide.

Priority initiatives

- + Expand our ability to provide dialysis to patients in the ICU
- + Offer more advanced cardiac intensive care
- + Add a satellite pharmacy and lab testing right in the ICU
- + A new "step down" unit to transition patients from the ICU to regular care units elsewhere in the hospital
- + New life-saving equipment and treatments
 - The most advanced ventilators to help patients breathe when they can't

- + New programs to help support patients and families through recovery

- A program designed to reduce the side effects of a stay in the ICU
- Post-ICU patient and family services

- + More patient rooms

- 15 new private rooms, including three airborne isolation rooms



THE PLAN TO KEEP LIFE WILD

The pandemic has taught us that our health can't wait. The time to invest in new ICU infrastructure, equipment and resources is now to ensure we can continue to provide the best critical care possible to everyone who needs it.

The Keep Life Wild campaign is a rallying cry for our community to come together to protect our health so we can all continue to enjoy the unique way of life we have here in Simcoe Muskoka.

But we can't do it without you. Public support for the campaign and donations from the community are so important. You play a critical role in making our vision of the future of healthcare a reality.

We can't live a good life, the wild life, unless we have our health. So, will you join us in the fight to Keep Life Wild?



RVH
FOUNDATION

KEEPLIFEWILD.CA

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