



## **Women's College Hospital to broadcast live breast biopsies to international audience of specialists through world-renowned Breast Course**

*Annual event advances women's health by improving global best practices in breast imaging*

TORONTO, ON, March 30, 2011 - On April 3, a live satellite feed sent from Women's College Hospital to Istanbul, Turkey will help advance global best practices in breast imaging. The feed will carry live breast biopsy procedures from Women's College to more than 250 breast cancer specialists from over 45 countries gathered in Istanbul for *The Breast Course*<sup>™</sup>, an international four-day course teaching state-of-the-art breast cancer detection, diagnosis and treatment.

"*The Breast Course*<sup>™</sup> is aimed at delivering high-quality accredited education focused on small, image-detected breast cancer for specialists in medical imaging, pathology, surgery and medical and radiation oncology," says Dr. Nathalie Duchesne, head of breast imaging, Joint Department of Medical Imaging (University Health Network, Mount Sinai Hospital and Women's College Hospital) and director and founder of *The Breast Course*. "We are very proud to host the live biopsies component of the course at Women's College Hospital, a health-care facility that shares our vision for the future of women's health."

Organized each year by Dr. Duchesne, *The Breast Course*<sup>™</sup> is the only interdisciplinary and international course of its kind focused exclusively on breast imaging.

"We're thrilled to be a part of this exciting and unique experience in global education," says Dr. Heidi Roberts, site director for medical imaging at Women's College Hospital. "As a hospital dedicated to ambulatory care and women's health, and as a centre that is leading the way in medical imaging in Ontario, Women's College is the perfect setting to house this year's innovative course."

The biopsies will be performed on anonymous patients by Dr. Duchesne and broadcast in real time. Immediately following the procedures, Dr. Duchesne will travel to Istanbul to join the rest of the faculty at the course and participate in the teaching program. On the last day of the course, results from the biopsies performed in Toronto will be discussed with the faculty and the attendees.

“Our faculty includes world-renowned experts in breast cancer detection, intervention and therapy,” adds Dr. Duchesne. “Together, we seek authentic solutions to practical issues, offering renewed hope and confidence to those suffering from breast cancer around the world.”

Now in its seventh year, *The Breast Course*<sup>™</sup> allows clinicians in attendance an opportunity to go back to their home countries and incorporate what they’ve learned into their breast care practice.

The biopsies will be performed on April 3 from 1-5 a.m. EST with the assistance of four medical imaging technologists selected from the Joint Department of Medical Imaging.

### **About Women’s College Hospital**

For the past 100 years, Women’s College Hospital has been dedicated to groundbreaking advances in women’s health. Today Women’s College Hospital is Ontario’s first and only ambulatory care centre and is a teaching hospital affiliated with the University of Toronto focused on state-of-the-art care, research and education in women’s health. The Women’s College Research Institute is the only one in a Canadian hospital devoted to women’s health and innovations in ambulatory care.

For more information about Women’s College Hospital visit [www.womenscollegehospital.ca](http://www.womenscollegehospital.ca).

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