

Media Release

Rexall Foundation donates \$20,000 to help Victoria General Hospital's smallest patients

May 11, 2015

For Immediate Release

Victoria – The Rexall Foundation recently made a \$20,000 donation to the Victoria Hospitals Foundation to support the purchase of a ventilator for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). The sophisticated piece of equipment helps infants breathe who are unable to do so on their own due to underdeveloped lungs.

Regional Director for Rexall, Atul Sachdeva, presented the cheque to the Foundation. “We’re proud to make a contribution that has such a positive impact on the most fragile babies in the NICU at Victoria General Hospital. Giving back to the communities we serve is a priority for the Rexall Foundation, and we know this advanced ventilator can help hundreds of babies survive and grow to be strong and healthy children. We’re proud that our partnership between our corporate and store staff, our vendors and our customers can make a difference.”

Every year more than 500 babies are born prematurely at Victoria General Hospital and require the high-level care provided in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Equipped with specialized life-saving equipment, the NICU helps the tiniest patients – some weighing less than one pound – get better and go home to their families. Victoria General Hospital is the region’s Pediatric specialty hospital and operates the only high-level Neonatal Intensive Care Unit outside the Lower Mainland. Being able to stay on the Island, close to home and near family and friends, is far less stressful for families who are already coping with having a sick child.

“We are very grateful for this generous gift from the Rexall Foundation,” said Gord Macatee, Board Chair of the Victoria Hospitals Foundation. “Our medical teams are dedicated to ensuring our community’s most vulnerable pediatric patients have the best possible chance at not only surviving, but thriving. This new ventilator will serve hundreds of infants who require specialized care and give them the best chance for a healthy future.”

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About the Victoria Hospitals Foundation

The Victoria Hospitals Foundation works in partnership with the Vancouver Island Health Authority to enable donations to Vancouver Island's two largest and most comprehensive hospitals: the Royal Jubilee and the Victoria General. Last year we raised more than \$10 million for urgently needed medical equipment and special projects that help these two hospitals provide care to all 765,000 residents of Vancouver Island. Since 1989, the Victoria Hospitals Foundation has raised \$107 million to benefit our hospitals. For more information, call the Foundation at 250-519-1750 or visit www.victoriahf.ca.

Photo supplied with caption:



Representatives for the Rexall Foundation present staff at Victoria General Hospital with a cheque for \$20,000.