

Impact Report

UHN
FOUNDATION
SUMMER 2025



Nurses Zareen Tasneem and Brooke Benatar preparing for AI supported surgery.

**It takes a lot of work to reimagine health care.
Together, we can.**

How your support is redefining what's possible at UHN

Turning to UHN for a life-changing answer

Your support drives UHN to do what couldn't be done

Most kids don't grow up looking forward to a major operation the way Liana Hart did.

After a childhood of excruciating pain from scoliosis, she dreamed about getting the go-ahead for corrective surgery to straighten her deeply curved spine. Doctors had told her mom, Olivia, that they just had to wait until Liana was finished growing.

But Liana also lives with myasthenia, a disease which cut her lung capacity in half. Her spine pressed onto her weakened lungs as she grew, leaving her struggling for breath.

Given her underlying health conditions, Liana's orthopedic surgeon delivered devastating news: spinal surgery wasn't possible. It would be too complicated. Too risky. *Never been done.*

Olivia took Liana to another surgeon. And another. In all, five orthopedic surgeons turned her down. Thankfully, the last specialist referred them to UHN's Dr. Stephen Lewis.

Dr. Lewis confidently explained his plan for Liana's surgery. He performed a successful spinal fusion, at last relieving her debilitating pain and breathlessness.

Once again, we changed the status quo of medicine together.

Thanks to your support of UHN, Liana is embracing life in ways that were impossible before surgery: enjoying long walks, spending time with friends and even pursuing a master's degree.

The entire Hart family is forever grateful for your life-changing support. "Liana's life is really great now," says Olivia. "As a mother, I just can't thank everyone at UHN enough." 🇺🇸



Olivia and Liana Hart, following Liana's spinal surgery at UHN.

"From the bottom of my heart, I want to say thank you to UHN donors. You're helping provide the **high-level equipment that most other hospitals don't have**, so top surgeons can **perform high-risk, complex surgeries when no one else can.**"

– Olivia, Liana Hart's mother

A major leap: AI-powered solutions are leading surgical innovation

Your support turns UHN discoveries into global impact

UHN's Sprott Department of Surgery has a long track record of pioneering leading-edge technologies, made possible thanks to steadfast donor support.

Surgeon Dr. Amin Madani and his multidisciplinary team of scientists at the Surgical AI Research Academy are leading the way in surgical innovation right now. They're focused on using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create surgical techniques that lead to better outcomes and get patients home sooner.

One program, for instance, interprets patient images in live time during surgeries using a colour-coded system. The scans are then projected in detail onto video monitors. Green or red zones show surgeons safe and risky areas, significantly reducing the chance of error.



Dr. Amin Madani and his team are redefining the future of surgical care with the use of AI.

In the operating room, even the most experienced surgeon can face challenges. This AI-powered navigation gives surgeons a more precise field of vision than the best human eye can see.

"By minimizing the risk of errors, we can ensure better results for patients, leading to quicker recoveries and fewer complications," explains Dr. Madani.

Right now, UHN's trailblazing technology is being tested in gallbladder and colorectal cancer surgeries. Your support is making every critical moment in the operating room safer for patients.

Dr. Madani is sharing his valuable advancements with surgeons worldwide, inspiring other top hospitals to join UHN on our mission to change the status quo of medicine.

Together, we're redefining the future of surgical care around the world. **U**



The Sprott Department of Surgery is Canada's largest surgical program, where surgeons perform more than 35,000 operations across each year across 13 divisions.

Watch this!

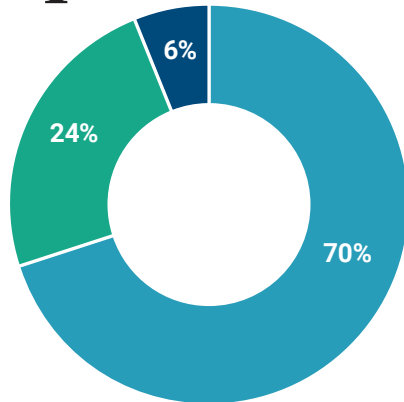
Scan the QR code or go to UHNfoundation.ca/impact to see a video of the AI colour-coded system in action.



Your impact in action

Here's how your giving is transforming lives:

- Research
- Patient care
- Education



For every dollar you give, 87 cents goes directly to patient care, research and education that saves lives.

Special report:

UHN is #1 in Canada and a leader worldwide

Newsweek's World's Best Hospitals 2025 is an extensive evaluation of over 2,400 medical institutions in 30 countries, highlighting the best 250 hospitals worldwide.

We're proud to share that for the second year in a row, *Newsweek* has named UHN the third best hospital in the world, and top hospital in Canada!

UHNITED for life-saving firsts

Never been done is what we do at UHN. **It's what we've always done, together.** We have a long track record of major health care innovation. Here are just a few of the many surgical firsts made possible through unwavering donor support.



1950

World's first external pacemaker used in open-heart resuscitation



1983

World's first successful single-lung transplant



1996

World's first awake outpatient craniotomy for brain tumour removal



2008

World's first lung transplant using the Ex Vivo Lung Perfusion System



2016

Canada's first forearm and hand transplant



2020

Canada's first robotic-assisted nipple-sparing mastectomy



2024

Construction of state-of-the-art surgical and patient tower

Construction is underway on Toronto Western Hospital's new patient tower!

Here's a breakdown of how the new tower at Toronto Western Hospital will expand UHN's capacity to perform highly complex procedures, and **increase operating room capacity by 20%** over the next 10 years:

- 380,000 square feet
- 15 storeys
- 82 new patient beds
- 16 critical care beds in the Intensive Care Unit
- 20 new operating rooms
- 1 world-leading surgical training and simulation centre

Together, we deliver exceptional health care to our community. Thank you for your visionary support.