

For Immediate Release:**July 4, 2022****Patience requested as London Health Sciences Centre experiences
summer “baby boom”**

(LONDON, Ontario) – London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) is experiencing the summer baby boom, and is asking expectant parents for patience and understanding as we adjust our processes.

“We know that welcoming a new baby is a very exciting time, and people can be both anxious and excited,” said Amanda Williams, Director of the Women’s Care Program at LHSC. “Due to the high volume of patients as well as some staffing challenges we are experiencing, we ask for patience as we work to provide high-quality care to all our patients.”

One area which has seen particular impact is scheduled inductions. The department would like to assure expectant parents that their cases are looked at on an ongoing basis, and triaged based on medical need.

“Scheduled inductions may see their date changed as we navigate an influx of spontaneous births,” said Dr. Tracey Crumley, Chair/Chief, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at LHSC. “Please be assured that every patient’s case is reviewed individually and prioritized daily based on medical needs. For those waiting on a scheduled induction, you will be contacted when it is time to come to the hospital.”

Here is additional information on what this heightened volume could mean for expectant parents this summer:

- There could be a longer wait time in both the outpatient clinic and the OB Triage area
- For the Mother Baby Care Unit – the team does their best to place patients in a room they have requested (private, semi-private, or one of the suites). However, it is dependent on room availability at the time of the patient’s stay.
- If you are experiencing any medical concerns with you or your unborn baby, the triage unit on B4 is open 24/7

Quick Facts

- Summer is the busiest season for babies being born. Last year between July and August 1,115 babies were born at LHSC
- In July 2021 LHSC set a new record when the medical teams delivered 561 newborns, the hospital's highest monthly total on record
- In one day in June 2022, LHSC's team saw two pairs of twins and one pair of triplets born
- LHSC welcomes an average of more than 5,850 newborns each year

About London Health Sciences Centre

As one of Canada's largest acute-care teaching hospitals, LHSC is dedicated to providing exceptional patient care, while championing the spirit of medical advancement through teaching practices and breakthrough research. For 146 years, LHSC has been an integral part of the London community offering compassionate medical care for its people, as well as those across the Southwestern Ontario region, and the world. National and international medical firsts have been pioneered at LHSC, including the discovery of vinblastine and the use of cobalt radiation transforming the lives of people across the globe. Through collaborative partnerships with Western University and over 30 educational institutions, more than 1,800 health care professionals actively seek out training opportunities each year at LHSC, acknowledging the opportunity to work alongside some of Canada's top medical scholars. With more than 15,000 staff, physicians, and residents, LHSC is committed to achieving its vision '*Working together to shape the future of health*'. More information about LHSC can be found at www.lhsc.on.ca.

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