



CANADA'S MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES  
LES SOCIÉTÉS CANADIENNES DE TECHNOLOGIES MÉDICALES

## **News Release For Immediate Release**

### **MEDEC Commends the Ontario Government's Decision to Make PET Scans More Accessible to Patients in the Province**

Toronto (July 24, 2009)— MEDEC - Canada's Medical Technology Companies - applauds the Ontario Government for its recent decision to add Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Technology to the services covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) thereby ensuring that Ontarians have access to PET technology.

MEDEC Vice President Corporate Affairs, Lawrence Sereacki praised the actions of the Ontario government, noting that this is an opportune time for the government to modify its PET policy to help resolve the medical isotope dilemma and enhance the expeditious review and adoption of new technology for the benefit of patients. He added that MEDEC looks forward to working with the government and acting as a resource to ensure smooth implementation of PET access for Ontarians.

"PET scan technology is well recognized by Health Canada and others around the world" he said. "We are pleased that the government has decided to make this modern medical technology available to a wide cross section of Ontarians.

Historically, Ontario had taken a decision to restrict PET scans. MEDEC had repeatedly stressed in the past that this restrictive access to PET technology has disadvantaged Ontario residents who needed access to PET scans for appropriate diagnosis and treatment and created a disparity between access to health care in Ontario versus other provinces.

While applauding the province's new step towards improving access to health technologies, MEDEC sees the need for the Ontario government to make additional changes to expeditiously assess and make modern technology more rapidly available to Ontario patients.

Additionally, MEDEC recommends that the Ontario Government set up a Medical Device Technology Fund to finance technologies recommended by the Ontario Health Technology Advisory Committee (OHTAC) to improve patient access to advanced medical technologies and ensure hospitals and healthcare facilities offer advanced technologies that can save lives.

#### **About MEDEC**

MEDEC is the national association representing the medical technology industry in Canada. MEDEC is the primary source for advocacy, information and education on the medical technology industry for members, the greater healthcare community, industry partners and the general public. Our 150 members are committed to providing safe and innovative medical technologies that enhance quality patient care and advance patient outcomes

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