



Fondation  
CHU Sainte-Justine  
Pour l'amour des enfants



CHU Sainte-Justine  
Le centre hospitalier  
universitaire mère-enfant  
Université de Montréal

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*CHU Sainte-Justine to create Canada's first pediatric formulations centre*

## MAKING MORE DRUGS AVAILABLE IN CHILD-FRIENDLY FORMULATIONS

**Montreal, February 22, 2016** –The outstanding commitment of The Morris & Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation will be the driving force behind the creation of Canada's first centre for pediatric formulations. Named in their honour, The Rosalind & Morris Goodman Family Pediatric Formulations Centre of the CHU Sainte-Justine will ensure children have access to safe, effective drugs in pharmaceutical forms and formulations adapted specifically to their needs.

Drugs play an essential role in caring for sick children. Every year, roughly half of Canada's 7 million children are given at least one prescription drug. The proportion is even higher among infants and babies under the age of one. *"Many medications given to children have no commercially available, age-appropriate formulations, leading to many challenges including manipulation of dosage forms designed for adults by health care professionals and parents,"* stated pediatric intensivist **Dr. Catherine Litalien**, who will head the new centre.

*"Suitable, commercially available pediatric formulations are of vital importance, as the availability of innovative, convenient and high-quality pediatric products can spell the difference between successful treatment or therapeutic failure. Children deserve their needs addressed,"* Dr. Litalien added.

*"With our team of experts in pediatrics, pharmacy and pharmacology, Sainte-Justine is the ideal setting for working with the pharmaceutical industry to develop new child-friendly formulations and thus facilitate their use in treating illness and improving health outcomes,"* said **Dr. Fabrice Brunet**, President and Chief Executive Officer of the merged CHUM–CHU Sainte-Justine. *"We firmly believe that, by bringing these specialists together, we can streamline innovation, research, development and clinical testing related to these drugs to ensure they become commercially available to help children. The knowledge that will emerge from this centre will benefit children in Quebec and around the world, with solutions that take into account the socioeconomic conditions in emerging countries."*

*"I am pleased that this centre will become a benchmark and a model for the entire Quebec health care system, thus contributing to our reputation for innovation, both throughout Canada and around the world. This initiative is also a reminder of how important philanthropy is in supporting our collective mission to provide the public with the best possible health care,"* indicated **Gaétan Barrette**, Quebec Minister of Health and Social Services.

**Maud Cohen**, President and Chief Executive Officer of the CHU Sainte-Justine Foundation, applauded the tremendous generosity that will make this centre possible: *"The CHU Sainte-Justine Foundation is proud to welcome The Morris & Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation on board as a major donor to the far-reaching Healing More Better campaign. Their remarkable gift will be instrumental in setting up this centre, the only one of its kind in Canada, and in changing the lives of thousands of sick children and their families by meeting a critical need in pediatric pharmacotherapy,"* she said.

*“It is our collective responsibility to ensure that our children are provided with safe and efficacious medicines that are approved for their use,”* **Shawna Goodman**, President of The Morris & Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation, commented by email. *When we heard this wasn’t always the case, we immediately knew this was an issue our family wanted to address. It’s our hope and conviction that partnering with a distinguished institution as the CHU Sainte-Justine to create the first pediatric formulations centre in Canada will effectively change the state of care for our children and provide them and their families with products adapted to their needs.”*

The Goodman family considers that taking care of the next generation through this project fully embodies its mission to create a safer world for their children and grandchildren.

The CHU Sainte-Justine Foundation is deeply grateful for the invaluable support of The Morris & Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation, which will go a long way in empowering the professionals at Sainte-Justine to develop better ways to heal more children.

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**Source:** CHU Sainte-Justine

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#### **About CHU Sainte-Justine**

The Sainte-Justine university hospital centre (CHU Sainte-Justine) is the largest mother-child centre in Canada and the second largest pediatric hospital in North America. A member of the Université de Montréal extended network of excellence in health (RUIS), Sainte-Justine has 5,664 employees, including 1,578 nurses and nursing assistants; 1,117 other healthcare professionals; 502 physicians, dentists and pharmacists; 822 residents; and more than 200 researchers, 300 volunteers and 3,400 interns and students in a wide range of disciplines. Sainte-Justine has 484 beds, including 35 at the Centre de réadaptation Marie Enfant, the only exclusively pediatric rehabilitation centre in Quebec. The World Health Organization has recognized CHU Sainte-Justine as a “health promoting hospital.” [chusj.org](http://chusj.org)

#### **About the CHU Sainte-Justine Foundation**

Through community support, the CHU Sainte-Justine Foundation strives to provide the CHU Sainte-Justine with the means to heal more children in Quebec, and do it better. The Foundation is committed to building a healthier tomorrow by delivering a standard of care that is among the best in the world. For more information, please go to [www.fondation-sainte-justine.org/en](http://www.fondation-sainte-justine.org/en).

#### **About the Morris and Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation**

The Montreal-based Morris and Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation was founded in 2003. Its mission is to empower and engage with local communities with a focus on education, and an emphasis on experiential and volunteer-based programs. The Foundation has supported a number of significant research initiatives in Quebec.