



# News Release

For release Dec. 7, 2006

## St. Joseph's pain clinic receives grant

London, ON – Pharmaceutical company Purdue Pharma has recently awarded \$200,000 in an unrestricted grant to the MD Pain Clinic at St. Joseph's Hospital. The grant will be used to help shorten wait times and to improve patient outcomes at the clinic.

For over a decade, the pain management program at St. Joseph's has been providing diagnosis and treatment of chronic non-cancer pain, allowing individuals with persistent pain to receive a treatment program they can follow with the help of their family doctor.

This grant will help support the clinic's need of an additional psychologist, a primary care physician, a registered nurse, a neuropathic pain fellow and clerical staff. Ultimately the clinic hopes to establish a database of patient demographics, treatments and outcomes that will help secure long-term funding from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Long-term funding support combined with the funds from Purdue Pharma will help to educate primary care physicians in the proper treatment of chronic pain management, which will eventually lead to improved pain management at the primary care level.

-30-

### **For more information, please contact:**

Linda Whitmore  
Communication Consultant  
Communication & Public Affairs  
(519) 646-6100 ext. 65294

St. Joseph's Health Care, London is a major patient care, teaching and research centre with a distinguished legacy of service to London, Southwestern Ontario and the veterans of Canada. St. Joseph's five key role areas include acute/ambulatory care, rehabilitation & specialized geriatrics, specialized mental health care, complex care & veterans care, and long-term care. Facilities and services including St. Joseph's Hospital, Parkwood Hospital, Mount Hope Centre for Long Term Care and Regional Mental Health Care London and St. Thomas are part of the St. Joseph's family. More than 400,000 patients annually receive care from close to 6,000 physicians and staff at St. Joseph's. St. Joseph's is affiliated with the University of Western Ontario.

Purdue Pharma is known for its leadership in the treatment of persistent pain. The company supports continuing education for healthcare professionals, the Canadian-based resource [www.painCare.ca](http://www.painCare.ca) and community initiatives to raise awareness about prescription drug abuse. Purdue maintains a fully integrated R&D formulation laboratory, drug development function and manufacturing plant in Pickering, Ontario. Purdue is currently celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Canada and was the recent recipient of a Business Excellence Award from the Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade.