



# Hospital Partner Reports 2020-21

## Unity Health - St. Joseph's Health Centre

*Submitted by Dr. Jodi Lofchy, Interim Chief and Medical Director*

St. Joseph's Health Centre is a 382-bed accredited Catholic community teaching hospital affiliated with the University of Toronto, serving half a million people living in Toronto's west end communities. St. Joseph's is part of Unity Health Toronto, which is comprised of Providence Healthcare, St. Joseph's Health Centre and St. Michael's Hospital.

The Department of Psychiatry at St. Joe's is a comprehensive program providing services spanning the life cycle. In addition, addiction services at SJHC are grouped with mental health to create a Mental Health and Addictions Program. The Mental Health and Addiction Program is organized into 4 services- Acute Care, Ambulatory, Child and Adolescent and Addictions. Our services have been organized based on the integration of clinical services around patient needs and to optimize continuity of care for the community that we serve.

The department has a 36 bed adult inpatient unit including a 6 bed psychiatric intensive care unit; a 6 bed adult short stay unit; an 8 bed Child and Adolescent inpatient unit (for a total of 50 beds) and an adult day hospital. Ambulatory services are organized into a unique open access system which enables the emergency department, inpatient units and consultation liaison service to electronically book patient's for consultation in real-time and reduce wait time for follow-up. In addition, our ambulatory services include a concurrent disorder service, and a geriatric psychiatry service. Our emergency services have a 12 bed Mental Health Emergency Services unit [MHESU], for both adults and children in our emergency department. Addiction services include community residential withdrawal management, emergency addiction crisis workers, addiction medicine consultation-liaison service, addiction medicine physicians, the Toronto Centre for Substance Use in Pregnancy and an extensive harm reduction program.

Over the 2020-21 year our Department has navigated the pandemic with a shift in our ambulatory services to virtual care and the maintenance of in person visits for those in need. Our Day Hospital has resumed its activities with a reduced patient population and the expectation of expansion as the restrictions ease. We are in the midst of creating a TAY [Transitional Age Youth] program with a 6-bed short stay unit set to open in the fall 2021 and accompanying outpatient services. The Neurostimulation program is evolving with the upcoming addition of rTMS as a treatment option for our patient population. We continue to provide excellent educational opportunities for all learners and have hosted undergraduate clinical clerks here over the past academic year in addition to psychiatry and family medicine residents. We have award winning supervisors who have been acknowledged by the Department of Psychiatry at the annual award ceremony.





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## Unity Health Toronto - St. Michael's Hospital

*Submitted by Dr. Thomas Ungar, Psychiatrist in Chief*

In 2020-21 our department has continued to grow and move forward. This included hiring five additional full-time faculty including Drs. Michael Tau, Saadia Sediqzadah, Karline Treurnicht Naylor, Lu Gao and Anika Maraj. They represent continued renewal of scholarship, teaching skills and clinical expertise.

### **Expansion of CL Service**

Our Geriatric Psychiatry service has expanded with the addition of Dr. Michael Tau. Also on our CL service, we have created a new trauma psychiatry service where a CL psychiatrist is embedded into the surgical trauma service to provide co-management of patients admitted with physical trauma and co-morbid psychiatric symptoms. The psychiatrist is involved in case finding, attending trauma inpatient rounds and closely collaborates with the inpatient trauma team to provide assessment and management.

### **Interventional Psychiatry Program**

Development of an [interventional psychiatry program](#) led by Dr. Venkat Bhat. We have successfully launched the first public-hospital based ketamine clinic in Canada, started offering several experimental interventions for treatment-resistant disorders, digital interventions during COVID-19 to reduce distress, and completed a national survey on ECT provision during COVID-19.

### **Dignify - Odette Urban Angel fund project**

We have approved and will be starting a new community Odette Urban Angel fund project called Dignify. This innovative program and service will deliver care to seniors experiencing homelessness or who are marginally housed. The program will develop using a live monitoring design research approach.

