



Remarks by

**Bonnie Adamson
President and Chief Executive Officer
North York General Hospital**

&

**Dr. David White
Acting Vice President, Medical & Academic Affairs
and Chief of Staff
North York General Hospital**

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North York General Hospital

Check Against Delivery

Bonnie Adamson

Good afternoon, my name is Bonnie Adamson and I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of North York General Hospital.

You heard this afternoon from the Toronto Police that they have arrested Dr. George Doodnaught, a physician from our hospital, charging him with three counts of sexual assault of patients.

Dr. Doodnaught is an anesthetist and is alleged to have sexually assaulted patients during surgical procedures.

I speak for our entire staff when I say that we are shocked and devastated that anything like this may have happened at North York General Hospital.

The arrest of this physician is the result of an ongoing police investigation stemming from patient complaints.

We have been cooperating fully with police during this investigation and will continue to do so.

We have taken action to ensure Dr. Doodnaught is not working at the hospital during this investigation.

In addition, we have notified the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.

I cannot imagine how painful this must be for those patients who have come forward and their families – my heart goes out to them.

The patients we serve put their trust in us as health-care providers and we take this responsibility very seriously.

These allegations of sexual assault have been associated with one physician – an anesthetist – patients should continue to feel safe when coming to our hospital for care.

I speak for all our dedicated staff, physicians, Board of Governors and volunteers when I say sincerely that we are saddened and deeply devastated by this situation.

Our attention right now is focused on fully cooperating with the police while they continue to investigate these very serious allegations.

If you believe you have any information that may assist the police in their investigation, please call them at 416-222-TIPS.

If you have questions or concerns about your care at North York General Hospital, I would encourage you to call our Patient and Family Information Line. The number is 416-756-6271.

Our staff, physicians and volunteers continue in their steadfast commitment to provide compassionate, high quality and safe care to patients each and every day.

Dr. David White

My name is Dr. David White and I am a family physician and the Acting Vice President of Medical and Academic Affairs and Chief of Staff at North York General Hospital.

I would like to reinforce the deep concern that the physicians and staff have for the patients and families who have come forward.

As members of the medical leadership, it is our job to ensure that we are providing the highest quality of care possible to patients.

We are devastated to think that something like this could possibly have happened to any of our patients.

In my 30 years as a family doctor, I can tell you that this is an extremely unusual situation.

Although I cannot discuss the specifics of these cases, as you know, the surgical environment is a busy place with many people entering and exiting.

We are working cooperatively with the police as they continue their investigation and over time this will help us understand what actually occurred.

I am confident that these charges are specific to one physician and that the hospital is a safe environment for our patients.

Everyday, thousands of people who work here provide great care to hundreds of patients and every year perform tens of thousands of medical and surgical procedures – expertly and safely.

On behalf of the clinical team, I can assure you that we continue to provide high quality care and that we remain focused on that important work.

Thank You.