



## **For Immediate Release**

**April 25, 2006**

### **Medical Technologists – On Guard For You**

There are many members of the Northumberland Hills Hospital healthcare team; some we readily recognize, many we don't. Medical laboratory professionals are members of the team who work on the frontlines of disease detection and diagnosis, but few patients know the important and lifesaving work they perform each day.

The nation's third largest group of health professionals, medical laboratory technologists and technicians, perform sophisticated medical tests on body tissue and body fluids, and interpret results. Eighty-five per cent of physicians' diagnosis and treatment decisions are based on those test results. April 24 – 29 is National Medical Laboratory Week as thousands of professionals across the country celebrate their achievements and skill.

At NHH, six full-time and six part-time technologists, as well as three full-time and five part-time technicians (lab assistants) work to collect body tissues and fluids, and detect and diagnose diseases. Three other employees who work in the laboratory help keep the administrative part of the process running efficiently.

"Like all healthcare professionals, we help save lives every day," says NHH's Director of Laboratory Services Myonne Allan. "People may not know anything about the work we do in helping assess their case and contribute to their diagnosis, but they can be sure that somewhere along the way medical laboratory professionals played an important part in their care."

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For more information or to arrange a photo, please contact:

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