

*Wednesday October 10, 2007*

*For more information  
contact:*

## MEDIA RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

**Michael Mazza**

Chief Executive Officer

519 245-5295 ext. 5592

### *New Emergency Room Physician at Middlesex Hospital Alliance*

The Strathroy site of the Middlesex Hospital Alliance (MHA) is pleased to announce that Dr. Ganesh Ram has joined the hospital as the new full time Emergency Room physician in the Emergency Department.

“We welcome Dr. Ram to MHA. Having a full time Emergentologist will be a huge asset to the hospital in ensuring continued excellent emergency room coverage at Strathroy,” Dr. Ferner, Chief of Staff for Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital says.

Dr. Ram obtained his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Calgary and did his residency at Memorial University in Newfoundland. “I am looking forward to working in Strathroy and getting to know the area and the people. The MHA staff is a very dynamic and energetic team, and I am pleased to be working with them.”

Maintaining emergency coverage at both of MHA’s sites, especially during the summer holiday months, was difficult this past summer. Earlier this year, a number of local physicians stepped forward to do extra shifts in order to ensure the smooth operation of the ED department. “We were thankful for the willingness of the two medical staffs at MHA’s FCHS and SMGH sites to do additional shifts in order to maintain services to the communities the Alliance serves,” Yvonne Lambert, chair of the MHA board says.

Dr. Ferner agrees that the help of local physicians has been tremendous, but inevitably unsustainable at the Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital site. “In the past, we have relied upon the local family physicians to cover the ED department, but we know this is not sustainable in the long run. The toll this takes on physicians is too great if they are expected to see inpatients, work in local nursing homes, staff the ED and operate busy family practices. Having Dr. Ram here will be a benefit to both our residents – and to our physicians.” A full time Emergency Room physician goes a long way in maintaining the high standard care that is provided in the emergency department at Strathroy.