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## MEDIA RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

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### ***Middlesex Hospital Alliance Joins Regional Hospitals with Investment in Technology to Build on Exceptional Patient Care***

**Strathroy, ON** - Always improving the care we provide to patients is central to the work of doctors, nurses and all health care professionals. With an investment of \$26.1 million over three years, Four Counties and Strathroy Hospitals along with other hospitals throughout the region are embarking on a three-year journey that will build on the excellent care we provide to our patients.

We are calling this journey HUGO -- Healthcare Undergoing Optimization – and with HUGO we will be:

- Implementing new technology,
- Shifting from paper to the electronic environment to incorporate standardization
- Improving patient safety and patient outcomes
- Shortening hospital stays
- Freeing up beds to care for new patients
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"We will be shifting from paper processes to technology for ordering tests, prescribing medication, and adding bar-coding to make sure the right patient is receiving the right medication at the right time," says Dr. Paul Ferner, Chief of Staff for Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital site.

"We always want to provide the best and safest care for our patients," says Dr. Robin Walker, Integrated Vice President, Medical Affairs & Medical Education, London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Health Care London. "HUGO will transform how we do our work. HUGO will support continuous quality improvement through automated technology and simplified work processes."

We are forging this new path in care with hospital partners in the region, including Alexandra Hospital in Ingersoll, Listowel/ Wingham Hospitals Alliance, St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital and Woodstock Hospital.