



**INSTITUT DE
CARDIOLOGIE
DE MONTRÉAL**

APPLIÉE
Université 
de Montréal

**Press release
For immediate release**

Minimally Invasive Heart Surgery Performed for the 100th Time at the Montreal Heart Institute

Montreal, March 19, 2009 - A multidisciplinary team at the Montreal Heart Institute (MHI) recently performed its 100th endoscopic surgical procedure. This innovative technique, first used at the MHI in May 2006, requires only 5-cm mini-incisions in the right chest; through these openings are inserted the endoscopic camera and surgical instruments used by the cardiac surgeon.

This procedure has many benefits for the patient: less pain, as the chest wall remains intact, contrary to open-heart surgery; quicker recovery, that is, one month of convalescence compared to three months for the traditional surgery; and a remarkable aesthetic result given the length of the incisions required in endoscopic surgery.

In commenting on this key moment, Dr. Michel Pellerin, Head of the Department of Surgery at the MHI, said, “The success of a procedure of this kind depends on effective communication, a dynamic team and concerted action by all players in applying the new work methods. I want to thank all the professionals in the operating theatre and other activity sectors of the Institute; their expertise is invaluable, making us a national leader in complex valve surgery.”

The Montreal Heart Institute performs more valve surgeries in a year than any other centre in Québec. Its mitral reconstructive surgery program is one of the most impressive in the country, and its excellent clinical results are recognized by the medical community across the nation.

About the Montreal Heart Institute

Founded in 1954 by Dr. Paul David, the Montreal Heart Institute constantly aims for the highest standards of excellence in the cardiovascular field through its leadership in prevention, ultra-specialized care, training of professionals, clinical and fundamental research, and assessment of new technologies. It is affiliated with the Université de Montréal and its clinical outcomes are among the best in the world. To learn more about the Institute, please visit our website at www.icm-mhi.org.

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