

## **SUNRISE HEALTH REGION**

**MAY 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Media Release**

### **BACKGROUNDER**

- On Wednesday May 13, 2009 Sunrise Health Region was informed by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan that they had identified significant variations in the interpretation of diagnostic images by Dr. L. Darius Tsatsi, one of three radiologists with privileges at Yorkton Regional Health Centre. Dr. Tsatsi had worked in the Health Region since 2004.
- During the review 103 case files were reviewed from a period between May 28<sup>th</sup> and November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Not all of these were a problem and the majority of diagnostic exams interpreted were not of concern. It was deemed there were serious enough differences in opinion of the clinical interpretations in a number of cases to warrant concern and action.
- Sunrise Health Region was aware that Dr. Tsatsi had been attending remedial education to improve his interpretation skills but was only aware of the seriousness of the College's concern when informed by the College on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009.
- Sunrise Health Region and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health immediately committed resources to fully review all of the work of Dr. Tsatsi. The review will be coordinated by Sunrise and will involve two concurrent phases:
  - First, initial contact with the patients and physicians involved in the 103 review cases will take place. All patients will be contacted by telephone and informed of the process of review and subsequent follow-up; and
  - Second, a retrospective look at all of the work of Dr. Tsatsi during his term of contract – since 2004. Exams will be pulled and radiologists from the Region and other Regions in Saskatchewan will re-read the radiology.
- Dr. Tsatsi was notified of the review and subsequent concerns. Dr. Tsatsi voluntarily agreed to suspend his privileges in the Region on May 14<sup>th</sup> 2009 and until the review is complete.
- During the on-site review by the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons, the quality of the testing equipment and the work of the other diagnostic staff in Yorkton was found to be very good and not in question.