FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – (June 6, 2009)

Mount St. John’s Medical Centre (MSJMC) Hosts First Epilepsy Symposium

ST. JOHN’S, Antigua, June 6, 2009 - Mount St. John’s Medical Centre hosted its first Epilepsy Symposium on Saturday, June 6th. The event featured presentations from distinguished physicians from the region and beyond.

Topics discussed included;

- **The Proposed Future Direction of Epilepsy Care in the Region** presented by Dr. Amza Ali, Senior Consultant Neurologist, Kingston Public Hospital and Associate Lecturer of Neurology, University of the West Indies
- **Epilepsy Care in the French West Indies** presented by Dr. Remi Bellance, Consultant Neurologist, University Hospital Centre, Martinique and
- **The Diagnosis and Management of Childhood Epilepsy** presented by Dr. Dave Clarke, Assistant Professor of Pediatric Neurology and Director of Epilepsy Monitoring Unit & Neurodiagnostics, University of Tennessee Health Science Centre

Following the symposium presenters discussed some interesting cases with the participants.

“Once you’ve seen a child with epilepsy, you never forget it,” says Linda Lovell-Roberts, MD, and the Medical Director at MSJMC. “We had the benefit with this symposium of bringing together a large group of professionals to discuss ways in which we can help to improve the quality of life for these patients.”

Epilepsy is a brain disorder in which clusters of nerve cells, or neurons, in the brain sometimes signal abnormally. Neurons normally generate electrochemical impulses that act on other neurons, glands, and muscles to produce human thoughts, feelings, and actions. In epilepsy, the normal pattern of neuronal activity becomes disturbed, causing strange sensations, emotions, and behavior, or sometimes convulsions, muscle spasms, and loss of consciousness.

The Epilepsy Symposium was held under the auspices of the International League Against Epilepsy. Sponsors included Jolly Beach Resort & Spa, Heritage Hotel, LIAT, AS Brydens Ltd., and Caribbean Pharmaceutical Supplies.

**Note to Editor:**

Photo attached; from left to right: Dr. Amza Ali, Dr. Sharon Cordner-Georges, Dr. Jacklyn Bird, Dr. Dave Clarke, Dr. Linda Lovell-Roberts and Dr. Remi Bellance.

**About Mount St. John’s Medical Centre**
Mount St. John’s Medical Centre (MSJMC) is a 185-bed modern medical complex which provides full inpatient, diagnostic and physician services to meet international standards.

Services include an Adult and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Pediatrics, GYN, Labour and Delivery, Nursery, and a comprehensive Emergency and Trauma Centre. At MSJMC there is an integrated out-patient Physician Clinic with same day and scheduled appointments.

Some Out-patient services include: Out-Patient Surgery, Chemotherapy & Oncology, Cardiology, Dialysis, Rehabilitation, Radiology, including CT scan and MRI services, Clinical Laboratory and Endoscopy.
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