

Independent Living Simulation (ILS) suites see first patients

The new, state-of-the-art ILS suites opens its doors this month



Brian Dimmel and Susan Reid are among the first patients to access the new Independent Living Simulation (ILS) suites at the QEII's rehabilitation centre.

When recovering from an accident or brain injury, the little things often become the big things – like getting out of bed, preparing meals, and showering like you once did.

Brian Dimmel is one of the first patients to access the QEII's newly renovated ILS suites, which were funded completely by generous people like you.

ILS suites help patients regain their ability to do everyday tasks, like turning down the lights or adjusting the volume, with the help of advanced technology.

Brian regain their independence by giving them the confidence and skills to return home.

Your thoughtfulness helps people like

"[It's] one of the parts that causes depression – you can't do what you think that you can do. Like being able to go to the sink and wash your dishes," he says.

"When I came here I had such good rehab. They showed me what to do and how to handle my situation," says Brian, who has returned to work.

Epilepsy patients no longer travel to Montreal thanks to donors

eSAM (Etomidate Speech & Memory) test is changing lives at the QEII

Through the kind support of people like you, Atlantic Canadians facing epilepsy are now able to access a speech and memory test known as eSAM at the QEII. Previously, patients like Ryan MacKenzie of Dominion, Nova Scotia would have to travel to Montreal to receive this testing.

Our brains are as unique as each of us. Speech and memory are usually located in a particular side of the brain, though in some people, these functions present themselves differently.

eSAM testing enables doctors to locate these areas in order to determine the best method of treatment.



A new speech and memory test at the QEII has identified Ryan MacKenzie as a candidate for brain surgery that could alleviate his epileptic seizures.

Thanks to your compassion, Ryan will have the chance to live free of his seizures. His eSAM test indicated Ryan was a great candidate for brain surgery, and, recently, he had the surgery – bringing Ryan and his family hope.