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# Toronto doctor charged with sexual assault

Last Updated: Thursday, March 11, 2010 | 5:23 PM ET Comments 60 Recommend 52
CBC News



George Doodnaught, 61. (CBC)

Toronto police have charged a North York General Hospital doctor with sexual assault alleged to have occurred between August 2007 and February 2010.

George Doodnaught, 61, of Toronto, has been charged with three counts of sexual assault.

Police allege three women reported being sexually assaulted by the doctor in three separate incidents.

The three alleged assaults took place while the victims were under anesthetic and undergoing surgical procedures in hospital, police said Thursday.

The women range in age from their mid-thirties to their eighties.

Doodnaught's hospital privileges were revoked last month when the police investigation began.

Doodnaught has been an anesthesiologist since 1981, and has worked at the North York hospital for the past 28 years.

He has also worked at a number of other facilities throughout the Greater Toronto Area.

Bonnie Adamson, president and CEO of North York General Hospital, said the hospital is devastated by the news.

"I cannot imagine how painful this must be for the patients and their families who have come forward," Adamson said at a Thursday afternoon news conference.

"My heart goes out to them."

Investigators are working with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario to determine if there are more victims.

Police have asked anyone with information to contact them at 416-808-4040, Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-8477 or online at www.222tips.com.

North York General Hospital has provided a number for patient inquires: 416-756-6271.

Doodnaught is scheduled to appear in court April 1. He is out on bail, police said.

## Video



Toronto doctor accused of sex assault
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### Story comments (60)

Sort: Most recent | First to last | Agreed

**SingleMomma06** wrote:

Posted 2010/03/17 at 3:18 PM ET

deemar wrote:

"Singlemomma06" I think you should practice what you preach! You are just as curious about "juicy details" as you put it, as the rest of us are puzzled, by this story of accusations and so called sexual assaults. As for protecting the victims identity that you know so much about? What about protecting his identity and his family in the event he is innocent?? Please lose your double standards and like I said, practice what you preach, heed your own words....."retrain from making assumptions either way"

Read and comprehend much?

Where am I 'just as curious' about the 'juicy details' as everyone else? Where did I make assumptions?

I responded to questions that I read in the comments. Maybe you should go back and read it all from the very first comment posted.

I did say that his name and picture SHOULD have been withheld from the media. I also said I agreed with him being INNOCENT until PROVEN GUILTY. That he should be protected from the media and allowed to live his life outside of public scrutiny.

I just pointed out a reason why a sexual assault victim might hold off for 3 years before coming forward. This was a statement made by a poster as a reason why this woman MUST be lying! I also pointed out why the women haven't been identified (also as a response to previous comments). The same as people should be innocent until proven guilty, victims should be believed and treated as such unless evidence of a false accusation is found. I did not make assumptions. I am not convinced of this man's guilt or innocence either way and did not make any statemens to that effect. You however, seem to have already made up your mind that these women are making these "so called sexual assaults", and that this man is innocent.

Double standards? You shoud know.



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**Hoss1955** wrote:

Posted 2010/03/16 at 12:36 AM ET

So many things annoy me about this story AND many of these posts but I can sum it up in 2 points:

- 1.Show me the facts, (ie, both sides of this story)
- 2.Why are there so many posts without these facts

Here are some facts that I do know:

- 1.It is HIGHLY unlikely that any one person is left with a patient during a surgical procedure.
- 2.There are a number of drugs, (APPROVED FOR USE HERE IN CANADIAN HOSPITALS), that induce dreams / hallucinations of a sexual nature. Just do an Internet search for anaesthetics and sexual dreams and see what you come up with.
- 3.There are 100's of cases abroad of patients ALLEGING sexual assault while under anaesthesia but the allegations are dismissed after investigation due to hospital procedures protecting the Doctors and patients. So where, I ask, is this doctor's protection? He seemed

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to be thrown under the bus after 28 years of service... I certainly wouldn't want to practice as a physician at that hospital.

I hate sex offenders as much as the next guy... If he's guilty, hang him... But this story reeks of errors, omissions, and misrepresentations... And until all the facts are revealed, all the wannabe CSI posts should ease up a little. Furthermore, I'd like to see you all come back with an apology if he's indemnified.



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**canchris7** wrote:

Posted 2010/03/13 at 5:44 PM ET

If i am not mistaken, i believe that many operating rooms these days may even have cameras in them. Could there have been one in this operating room that helped the police determine that there was enough evidence to lay charges???? The last complaint came in February of this year. so they must have something.



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**Itbriar** wrote:

Posted 2010/03/13 at 4:04 PM ET

I see quite a number of people disagreed with my comment.

Apart from the under-staff issue is that when you guys assumed the scene will not be left unattended, what is left unquestioned is that he just needs to make sure the scene is unattended "for him" only, when everybody else believes it's being attended, or be not alert because everybody assumes the coworkers are of same integrity. For the other staff, his presence MEANT the place WAS attended - BY HIM, a medical profession who is most qualified to help the patient if in need. Everybody assumes as long as there is ONE medical staff (in this case, him) present, then the patient is not left unattended. He is familiar with the routine of nursing staff. All he needs to do is to wait for the right circumstances. And probably, the potential of being caught adds to his satisfaction for thrill.



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**silverbeard** wrote:

Posted 2010/03/13 at 10:23 AM ET

it was local anaesthetic  
imagine an ankle operation with a curtain at mid-torso  
all the focus is on one side of the curtain  
all the singular and malignant focus is on the other side  
"monitoring the patient"  
for a multi-hour operation there are countless opportunities to get away with stuff

now he will have countless opportunities to try and defend his innocence

hiding behind 'innocence until proven guilty' is not a boolean state of mind  
and you risk displaying your lack of humanity  
there are many women that cannot sleep at night  
traumatized as a result of a colossal breach of trust  
emotions don't wait for verdicts

i am canadian  
and on this particular day  
i detest my own apologetic nature



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