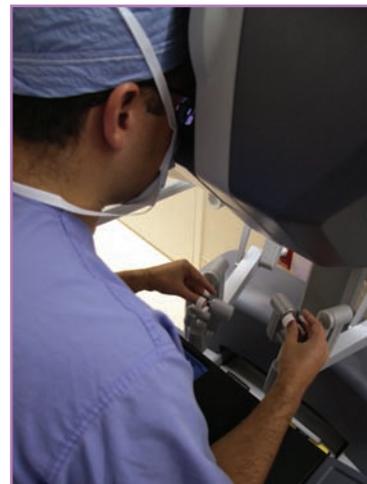


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First robotic surgery at The Hospital of Central Connecticut. The Hospital of Central Connecticut (HCC) performed its first cases of robotic surgery in October. Joshua Stein, M.D., a urologist, performed a robotic-assisted laparoscopic radical prostatectomy Oct. 27, using HCC's new da Vinci® robot system on a man, who is in his 50s. During another robotic procedure that same day, lymph nodes were removed on a woman in her 60s who previously underwent a hysterectomy after being diagnosed with cancer. Clare Zhou, M.D., a gynecologic oncologist, performed that procedure. Robotic surgery to remove cancerous prostate glands in men may result in significantly less pain, less blood loss, fewer complications and less scarring, in addition to a shorter hospital stay and faster return to normal daily activities. Women who undergo da Vinci procedures for gynecological cancers may have smaller incisions, less pain, and quicker recoveries. HCC surgeons will also use the robot in treatment of additional gynecological disorders, including endometriosis and other disorders that previously may have required open surgery.



Dr. Joshua Stein performs robotic surgery.

Hospital opens diabetes, weight-loss offices in Farmington. HCC recently moved its Center for Bariatric Surgery and Weigh Your Options Clinical Weight Loss Center to 11 South Road, Suite 130, Farmington, and opened a Joslin Diabetes Center Affiliate office at that location.

Weigh Your Options' non-surgical weight-loss programs are provided in Farmington. For bariatric surgery patients, physician consultations, classes, support groups and other services are provided in Farmington. Surgeries are performed at the New Britain General campus. Bariatric surgeons Carlos A. Barba, M.D., FRCSC, FACS, medical director, bariatric program, and Nissin C. Nahmias, M.D., are joined by Thomas Lane, M.D., medical director, Weigh Your Options Clinical Weight Loss Center. For information, call 1-866-668-5070 or visit www.thocc.org/services/weigh.

The Joslin Diabetes Center Affiliate office in Farmington offers care for diabetes and other endocrine conditions, a comprehensive diabetes education program and individual appointments with a diabetes educator on Fridays. Endocrinologists Manmeet Kaur, M.D., and Priya Phulwani, M.D., see patients by physician referral and appointment. Two other Joslin locations are the primary office at New Britain General campus and an office at Bradley Memorial campus. For information, call 1-888-4Joslin (1-888-456-7546), or visit www.thocc.org/services/diabetes.

For patients: A new way to keep in touch with loved ones. The Hospital of Central Connecticut has partnered with CaringBridge, a free, online service that allows patients (or family members or close friends) to create free, personal, private websites to share information about a patient's health journey and receive messages of love and support. CaringBridge (<http://www.recommendcaringbridge.org/>) centralizes communication, which eases the burden of updating family and friends and can ease demand on healthcare professionals to provide patient updates. For more information, contact Nancy Martin at nancy.martin@thocc.org, or 860-224-5900, X4366.

New CT scanner offers faster exams. HCC's New Britain General campus recently installed a new 16-slice CT scanner that offers patients greater comfort, quicker exams and exceptional accuracy. Because of the scanner's high speed, patients don't have to hold their breath as long, which makes scans more comfortable.

The new scanner, which replaced an older one, is also more ergonomically friendly. CT (computerized tomography) scans provide X-ray images from varied angles and can be used to evaluate areas throughout the body. HCC interventional radiologists are also using the new 16-slice scanner to provide visual guidance during minimally invasive biopsies of the lungs, abdominal organs and extremities. For more information on CT scanning and other HCC radiology services, visit www.thocc.org/services/radiology.

Hospital's new technology creates 3-D X-ray images during spinal fusion surgery. HCC is the first in the area with new, portable technology that creates precise three-dimensional (3-D) X-rays during spinal fusion surgery, making the



The C-arm rotates 190 degrees around the patient during spinal fusion surgery.

procedure safer for patients. The 3D X-ray images of the surgical area allow for definitive implant placement. The device, Siemens Siremobil ISO C-arm, rotates 190 degrees around the patient during surgery, allowing visualization of the spine without having to reposition the patient for images.

Hospital's Echocardiography Laboratory awarded accreditation. The Hospital of Central Connecticut Echocardiography Laboratory, located at the New Britain General campus, was awarded a three-year accreditation by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories. Echocardiographic testing is useful in detecting and managing many types of heart disease. Accreditation recognizes the laboratory for its commitment to high quality patient care and provision of quality diagnostic testing. It signifies HCC's echocardiography laboratory was reviewed by an independent agency, which recognizes the laboratory's commitment to quality testing for heart disease diagnosis. Accreditation process participation is voluntary.

Comprehensive breast program earns accreditation. HCC's comprehensive breast program was granted a three-year, full accreditation designation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC). Accreditation signifies that HCC's breast program demonstrates compliance with the NAPBC's treatment standards for women diagnosed with diseases of the breast, including breast cancer. HCC's breast cancer program includes two breast nurse navigators, weekly breast conference meetings and educational initiatives. Accreditation by the NAPBC, administered by the American College of Surgeons, involved a rigorous, voluntary evaluation process and performance review. For breast cancer program information, please contact Nurse Navigator Donna Boehm, R.N., M.S.N., M.P.H., at 860-224-5900, X6307 or visit <http://www.thocc.org/services/breast/nurse.aspx>.

Walk with a Doc on Dec. 11, Walnut Hill Park. The Hospital of Central Connecticut's third Walk with a Doc event will be Saturday, Dec. 11 at Walnut Hill Park, New Britain (behind pavilion). Just before the walk, cardiologist Robert Borkowski, M.D., will talk about ways to prevent heart disease. The walk will begin at 9 a.m., with registration at 8:30 a.m. Nearly 60 walkers participated in the Nov. 6 walk at Farmington River Trail, Unionville. Endocrinologist Latha Dulipsingh, M.D. (pictured second from right), discussed risk factors for diabetes before the walk. Walk participants receive a free T-shirt, hat, pedometer and water bottle. Sponsors are Anthem and Pepsi Beverages Company. Walks will resume in April after the December walk. To register, or for more information, please visit www.thocc.org/walk-with-a-doc/ or call 1-877-914-WALK.



Check out the practice managers' webpage! A webpage for practice managers is at thocc.org under For Physicians at www.thocc.org/practice-managers/. Included are key departmental and contact information for Health Information Management, Admitting, Laboratory and Payor Relations; as well as hospital news and upcoming events. The site includes a Practice Managers' Directory with practice managers' names and contact information, and Q&A section; both sites accessible via password. For the password or more information, please contact Kimberly Gensicki at 860-224-5900 X6507 or kgensicki@thocc.org.

New Medical Staff appointments announced. Laurie Bevelock, M.D., Internal Medicine, The Hospital of Central Connecticut Kensington Primary Care, 320 New Britain Road, Kensington, 860-828-3361. Lorraine T. Binns-Grear, M.D., Internal Medicine, The Hospital of Central Connecticut Plainville Primary Care, 36 Whiting St., Plainville, 860-747-4377. Shovendra Gautam, M.D., Hospitalist, The Hospital of Central Connecticut. Anthony Hordos, M.D., Hospitalist, The Hospital of Central Connecticut. Wylie Hosmer, M.D., Medical Oncology/Hematology, Cancer Center of Central Connecticut, 40 Hart St., Building A, New Britain, 860-224-4408; and 55 Meriden Ave., Suite 1-A, Southington, 860-621-9316. Kendra Lawrence, M.D., Internal Medicine, The Hospital of Central Connecticut Plainville Primary Care, 36 Whiting St., Plainville, 860-747-4377 (relocating to Unionville office in spring 2011). Susan F. Levine, M.D., M.P.H., Internal Medicine, The Hospital of Central Connecticut Kensington Primary Care, 320 New Britain Road, Kensington, 860-828-3361 (relocating to Unionville office in spring 2011). Kellie A. Motschmann, M.D., Obstetrics/Gynecology, Grove Hill Medical Center, 184 East St., Plainville, 860-747-0730. Rupal N. Panchal, M.D., Hospitalist, The Hospital of Central Connecticut. Vivian Teixeira Pugh, M.D., Chief resident, The Hospital of Central Connecticut, 860-224-5661.

Next Practice Managers' Munch & Learn Wednesday, March 9, 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., Lecture Room 2. Invitations with agenda will be mailed.

PM Link is produced quarterly by The Hospital of Central Connecticut Corporate Communications Department. For more information about the Practice Managers' Munch & Learn lunch series or this newsletter, contact Kimberly Gensicki, senior marketing communications specialist, at (860) 224-5900 x6507 or kgensicki@thocc.org.