



Cardiac and Vascular Services

Beebe expands partnership with Jefferson Neuroscience Network

Robot communicates with stroke experts

Since 2016, Beebe Healthcare has been a member of the Thomas Jefferson Neuroscience Network. The partnership was recently expanded to include a robotic teleconferencing unit in Beebe's Emergency Department. The Jefferson Expert Teleconsulting unit, aka JET, is the region's first university-based, high-tech mobile robot system for acute stroke.

When a patient at Beebe is having a suspected stroke, the Beebe team calls the Jefferson Neuroscience Network to reach the on-call stroke neurologist. The neurologist then connects with the Beebe team via a mobile robotic system. This system allows the neurologist to speak directly to the team, the patient, and family members via secure videoconference technology in order to gather information and conduct a neurologic examination on the patient. The Jefferson neurologist can also review test results and medical history. This way, the Beebe and Jefferson medical teams are able to make decisions about the best next steps for the patient, including transport to Jefferson in Philadelphia if necessary.



"This system allows us to be more efficient when treating stroke patients," said Dr. Nick Perchiniak of Sussex Emergency Associates, the team providing care in Beebe's Emergency Department. "When it comes to stroke, time is brain, so it is very important to be able to diagnose and treat a stroke patient quickly. The Jefferson robot allows us to have quick access to their neurology experts within minutes of a patient's arrival. This is going to be especially helpful at our new South Coastal Health Campus Emergency Department."

"This takes our relationship with Jefferson to a new level," said Lynn Toth, DNP, MSN, NP-C, RN, cardiovascular medical specialist at Beebe. "It will be a great resource for both our medical teams and the community. The program gives us nearly immediate access to renowned stroke experts, which can only improve the way we care for our community."



Your IMPACT in our community

Tom Protack, President of Beebe Medical Foundation

"Let me begin with THANK YOU. This IMPACT REPORT is but a snapshot of what you have made possible for and in our community. Because of your generosity, Beebe Healthcare continues to fulfill its mission to encourage healthy living, prevent illness and restore optimal health with the people residing in, working in or visiting the communities we serve. For your past, current and future support, THANK YOU!" - Tom

*Families caring for families,
Neighbors caring for neighbors,
Creating the Next Generation of Care!*

Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) Program

Alternative to open heart surgery



Beebe Healthcare launched the first TAVR program in Sussex County.

“Aortic stenosis – a condition where when calcium builds up on the aortic valve - can interfere with daily activities as basic as walking,” said Dr. Mouhanad Freih, an interventional cardiologist affiliated with Beebe and its chief of cardiology. “It is very exciting to offer a minimally invasive procedure that can provide a solution for patients with aortic stenosis. TAVR can lengthen and greatly improve the quality of a patient’s life. Getting a patient back to enjoying life is our ultimate goal.”

“Treatment for aortic stenosis depends on how far your disease has progressed,” said Dr. Ehtasham Qureshi, an interventional cardiologist affiliated with Beebe and its chair of interventional cardiology. “If your stenosis is mild, medications may be prescribed. However, with time and progression, the only effective treatment is to replace your aortic valve.”

During the TAVR procedure, an artificial valve is implanted through a catheter, which is inserted through a large artery in the patient’s leg, eliminating the need for open-heart surgery and use of a heart-lung machine.

Transcarotid Artery Revascularization (TCAR) Procedure

Reduced risk during stent procedures

“TCAR is an innovative procedure that allows surgeons to provide better patient care. During a TCAR, we do not need to navigate catheters through the aortic arch, which can lead to stroke,” said Dr. Sean Ryan of Beebe Vascular. “In addition, any fragments of plaque released during the procedure are safely filtered out. Offering this new minimally invasive option for our patients will dramatically reduce the risk of stroke and heart attack during and after carotid interventions.”



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