Beebe Advances Cardiology Service by Offering First-of-its-kind Fully Dissolving Heart Stent

Recently approved by the FDA, Absorb™ bioresorbable vascular scaffold opens clogged arteries to restore blood flow, then gradually dissolves in the body—reducing the risk of future blockages that can occur with metal stents.

The Interventional Cardiology Team at Beebe recently became the first on the Delmarva Peninsula to offer patients with coronary artery disease a new treatment option that literally disappears over time.

Dr. Ehtasham Qureshi, Board Certified interventional cardiologist, performed the first implant at Beebe in February. The Absorb bioresorbable vascular scaffold is the world’s first FDA-approved dissolving stent, signaling a major advance in the treatment of coronary artery disease, which affects 15 million people in the United States and remains a leading cause of death worldwide despite decades of therapeutic advances.

While stents are traditionally made of metal, Abbott’s Absorb stent is made of a naturally dissolving material, similar to dissolving sutures. Absorb starts to dissolve after implantation in a blocked artery and disappears completely in about three years, after it has done its job of keeping a clogged artery open and promoting healing of the treated artery segment. By contrast, metal stents are permanent implants.

“The Absorb bioresorbable scaffold represents a breakthrough in the way we treat blocked arteries,” says Dr. Qureshi, who completed the procedure via a novel wrist approach. “Patients now have the advantage of stent See inside for more information.

Nurse Navigators: Liaisons Between Community and Beebe Services

Beebe Healthcare created the Nurse Navigator program to make sure community members and regional physicians have an easy access point to Beebe Healthcare’s services. This past year, the Nurse Navigator program expanded with the hiring of Carrie Snyder, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC. Carrie serves as the Navigator for Women’s Health, Orthopaedic Services, Cardiac & Vascular Services, and Surgical Services. She joins the existing Navigator Team of Kathy Cook, MSN, RN, Breast Health Navigator, and Debbie Campbell, RN, Cancer Screening Nurse Navigator—both based at Tunnell Cancer Center.

The Navigators are here to help you connect with Beebe services, find available physicians and specialists, and inform patients of the services offered at Beebe.

Breast Health Nurse Navigator: (302) 645-3630 or email breastnursenavigator@beebehealthcare.org
Cancer Screening Nurse Navigator: (302) 645-3160 or email cancerscreeningnavigator@beebehealthcare.org
Cardiac & Vascular Services Nurse Navigator: (844) 316-3334 or email cardiacnavigator@beebehealthcare.org
Orthopaedic Services Nurse Navigator: (844) 316-3332 or email ortho@beebehealthcare.org
Women’s Health Nurse Navigator: (844) 316-3330 or email womenshealth@beebehealthcare.org
Bariatric Classes Now Available

Beebe is now offering a Bariatric Support Group. The group meets the second Saturday of the month in Beebe’s South Conference room at the Lewes campus from 10 a.m. to noon. This group is for all those who have had bariatric surgery, no matter where they had their surgery, and for those considering bariatric surgery.

In addition, Beebe’s Bariatric Surgery Team will be offering a Pre-Op Education Class on the fourth Saturday of the month in Beebe’s South Conference Room at the Lewes campus from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This is a second location for these classes, which are also held in Salisbury. This class is for those who are scheduled to have bariatric surgery at Beebe.

Beebe offers two procedures for weight loss through its Bariatric Surgery program—gastric bypass and sleeve gastrectomy. Both can help patients lose weight and keep it off. For more information, call (302) 645-3010, ext. 5410, or go to www.beebehealthcare.org.

Beebe Advances Cardiology Service

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Beebe is one of America’s 100 Best Hospitals for Coronary Intervention Procedures™ in 2017, according to Healthgrades®. Beebe is the only hospital on Delmarva to receive this recognition and is among the Top 5 percent of hospitals in the nation for coronary intervention procedures. These procedures include the lifesaving balloon angioplasties with stent insertions that open coronary arteries blocked during a heart attack.

For more information about Beebe’s Cardiac & Vascular Services, go to www.beebehealthcare.org/cardiac-vascular-services or call the Cardiac & Vascular Nurse Navigator at (844) 316-3334.

Beebe Offers EEG Testing for Adults and Children

An electroencephalogram (EEG) is a test that detects electrical activity in the brain. An EEG is one of the main diagnostic tests for epilepsy but also can play a role in diagnosing other brain disorders.

During a routine EEG, brain waves are measured through small button electrodes that are placed on the scalp, similar to the EKG leads placed on the chest. It is not painful and usually takes 30 minutes to an hour.

In some cases, a 24-hour ambulatory EEG can be used to try to determine if a specific event that occurs frequently is a seizure. It can also be used to evaluate a typical night of sleep. This test can be completed at home.

Beebe’s EEG Department is made up of a dedicated team of health professionals working together to diagnose a variety of neurological disorders and improve the health outcomes of our patients.

In addition to adults, Beebe is able to care for pediatric patients with epilepsy, headaches, tics, autism, concussion, developmental delay, and other neurological conditions.

The EEG Department provides the following high-quality services:

Outpatient Services

- Outpatient routine EEG for neonatal, infant, pediatric, adult, and geriatric patients
- 24 hour ambulatory EEG recordings for neonatal, infant, and pediatric patients

Inpatient Services

- Inpatient routine EEG recordings for adult and geriatric patients.

Call Beebe Central Scheduling at (302) 645-3278 to register.
Beebe’s Accredited Breast Health Program Offers Two New Services

Caring for more than 150 breast patients each year, the Beebe Healthcare Breast Health Program is the first program in Delaware to be accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC®), a program administered by the American College of Surgeons. Due to the increase in the incidence of breast cancer cases observed during the recent reaccreditation, Beebe’s Breast Health Program is adding two new services.

A weekly Breast Cancer Tumor Conference, dedicated to the discussion of all breast cases, will be held to support multidisciplinary healthcare for all new breast cases. The Breast Cancer Tumor Conference is NAPBC mandated and takes place from noon to 12:30 p.m., immediately followed by the general Tumor Conference held from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

In addition, we are launching a Breast Ultrasound-guided Biopsy Clinic.

The clinic allows Beebe radiologists and mid-level team members to meet with patients for clinical review and education on abnormal ultrasound findings, preparing them for the biopsy procedure. Patients are seen at the clinic again, after the biopsy, to discuss results. If further intervention or treatment is needed, the clinic’s team works with the Breast Health Navigator to ensure follow-up for patients.

This time-saving program reduces the wait time for women and eases their anxiety. It also allows practitioners to get faster answers about mammography and ultrasound results. In addition, the clinic paves the way for Beebe to establish a future high-risk breast clinic, which will provide further innovations in the care of women.

For more information on the Breast Health Program, call (302) 645-3630.

Beebe Partners to Reduce Hospital-acquired Infections through Whole-room Disinfection Technology

Beebe Healthcare, a renowned Delaware-based health system, recently partnered with Halosil International, a leader in whole-room disinfection and infection control, to disinfect its patient and operating rooms using the Halo Disinfection System®.

For Beebe, the adoption of Halosil’s whole-room disinfection system marks a new pinnacle in the fight against hospital-acquired infections (HAIs). The Halo Disinfection System is proven to kill even the most resistant HAIs and reaches those HAI-causing spores that are beyond the reach of manual and UV disinfection methods. In fact, the system is EPA-validated to kill 99.9999 percent of C. difficile spores in the healthcare environment.

“Our adoption of the Halo Disinfection System is a continuation of our commitment to delivering high-quality healthcare. Whole-room disinfection is integral to keeping the healthcare environment safe for patients, visitors, and employees,” says Kathi Fryling, Director of Support Services at Beebe Healthcare.
Beebe’s Advanced Care Clinic offers comprehensive services for patients after a hospital stay, including follow-up care, coordination of community resources, behavioral health services, and palliative care consultation. The Advanced Care Clinic can bridge the gap between hospitalization and primary care by making sure all healthcare needs are being met and follow-up is coordinated.

**WHAT WE DO**

**Discharge Care Program**

The Advanced Care Clinic at Beebe’s Long Neck location provides care for patients transitioning out of the Medical Center (inpatient), short-term observation hospital units, or the Emergency Department.

Clinic providers work with patients to provide quick follow-up with a medical team after they leave the hospital, connecting patients with medical care after their hospital stay and often before they are able to be seen by a primary care provider. Research has shown that clinics such as this one help reduce continued illnesses, prevent patients from being readmitted to the hospital, and improve outcomes.

**Community Resources Coordination**

Beebe’s care coordinators work with healthcare providers and organizations in the community to help connect our patients with community and social services to improve patient outcomes and quality of life.

**Behavioral Health Services**

Hospitalization often causes a tremendous amount of stress for patients and their loved ones. Research shows that mental health not only influences how people cope with stress, it can directly affect physiologic outcomes as well. Beebe’s Advanced Care Clinic offers a variety of behavioral health services to teach, encourage, coach, and support patients to make healthy choices, to cope more effectively, and to become active members of their treatment team.

**Palliative Care Consultation**

Palliative Care is patient- and family-centered care that optimizes quality of life by anticipating, preventing, and treating physical, intellectual, social, emotional, and spiritual needs associated with serious or chronic disease. Ambulatory Palliative Care allows patients and families to plan for their future with a team connected to the hospital. The team helps facilitate meetings between the family and medical providers and works to clarify goals of care, improving quality of life.

**HOW IT WORKS**

The Advanced Care Clinic is for patients who have been discharged from Beebe Medical Center, inpatient units, or the Emergency Department in the past 30 days. Following a hospital stay at Beebe Medical Center, patients are typically advised to see their primary care provider within three to seven days. In some cases, this presents a challenge.

If you have a question about our services or about a patient who was seen at the Advanced Care Clinic following discharge from the hospital, please call us at (302) 645-3150.

**Audiologist Offers Hearing Aid Evaluations**

Jean Davison, AuD, with Beebe Medical Group’s ENT & Facial Plastic Surgery practice, can evaluate hearing issues. Seeing both adults and children, Davison, brings with her more than 25 years of experience in audiology. She offers evaluations, customized ear plugs for swimming, noise protection, and assistive technology. In addition, the team tests for balance disorders, tinnitus, vertigo, and other hearing impairments. Hearing aid evaluations, custom fitting and repair, as well as replacement batteries are also services that are provided. For more information, call (302) 645-4801.