

## Fellowship-Trained Surgeon Performs Cancer Surgery Close to Home

Beebe Healthcare's Surgical Oncology Department offers an advanced program in which fellowship-trained surgical oncologists perform both traditional open surgeries and minimally invasive procedures. **Fellowship-trained surgeons have additional years of advanced study and experience in their specialty fields and have participated in expanded clinical, educational, and research programs.**



**James E. Spellman, Jr., MD**, is a Fellowship-trained surgical oncologist. He is Board Certified in General Surgery. He is an accomplished surgeon, researcher and author of professional articles in medical journals and books. He is the Delaware State Chair of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC) Cancer Liaison Program and a Fellow of The American College of Surgeons and of The Society of Surgical Oncology. He is also a member of the Executive Board of Directors, Delaware Cancer Consortium.

Prior to coming to Delaware, Dr. Spellman was a member of the Department of Surgical Oncology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute under the direction of Nicholas Petrelli, MD. Dr. Spellman earned his medical degree at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He completed his residency at Stamford Hospital and his fellowship at the Pritzker School of Medicine, University of Chicago.

## Beebe Receives Designation as a HIPEC Center

### Cytoreductive Surgery (CS) and Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC)

CS/HIPEC is an advanced procedure provided in an operating room by a team of highly skilled surgeons. It is considered as an option when cancer has spread into the abdomen, such as in the cases of advanced colon, ovarian and appendiceal cancers. It is a long procedure that starts with cytoreductive surgery, which is an operation to remove any visible cancer. Then, the heated chemotherapy drug was infused into the abdominal cavity, and circulated for as long as two hours. The HIPEC procedure is designed to destroy any remaining cancer cells directly, and allows for minimal exposure to the rest of the body and fewer side effects.

Beebe is proud to provide this advanced cancer treatment. The HIPEC team at Beebe is available to provide information to any physician wishing to refer a patient for this procedure and facilitate referrals for patients that may benefit.

**For more information, visit our website:** [www.beebehealthcare.org/forms/beebe-healthcare-hipec-center](http://www.beebehealthcare.org/forms/beebe-healthcare-hipec-center)

### Surgical treatments offered for:

- Thyroid cancer
- Grave's disease refractory or contraindicated to medical management
- Primary hyperparathyroidism
- Breast tumors
- Primary lung cancer or metastatic tumor to the lung
- Esophageal cancer
- Gastric cancer
- Small bowel tumor
- Pancreatic tumor
- Biliary cancer
- Primary hepatic tumor or metastatic tumor to the liver
- Colorectal tumor
- Soft tissue tumors in extremity or retroperitoneum
- Melanoma or other cutaneous cancer
- Carcinomatosis from GI or GYN primary

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## Minimally Invasive Surgical Techniques Offer an Alternative

The surgical oncologists evaluate each patient to determine whether he or she is a candidate for minimally invasive surgery (MIS). The minimally invasive techniques generally lead to:

- Less pain and faster recovery for the patient
- Lower infection rates
- Less blood loss
- Earlier ability to digest solid food
- Quicker hospital discharge
- Faster recovery time

Research is showing that outcomes between traditional, open surgeries and minimally invasive surgeries are comparable. MIS may not lend itself to an advanced cancer as the tumor may be too large to pass through a small incision.

MIS surgeries offered at Beebe include:

- Minimally invasive radioguided parathyroidectomy (MIRP)
- Video assisted thoracic surgery (VATS)
- Laparoscopic colon/small bowel surgery

### Minimally Invasive Radio-Guided Parathyroidectomy (MIRP)

Minimally invasive radioguided parathyroidectomy (MIRP) is a surgical procedure used to treat patients diagnosed with primary hyperparathyroidism. MIRP can usually be performed through a small incision in the neck.

### Video Assisted Thoracic Surgery (VATS)

Video-assisted thoracic surgery (VATS), also called thoracoscopy or thoracoscopic surgery, is surgery of the chest that is performed with a thoracoscope (small videoscope) using small incisions and special instruments to minimize trauma.

VATS allows surgical oncologists to see the inside of the chest cavity and to remove masses close to the outside edges of the lung.

### Laparoscopic Colon/Small Bowel Surgery

Laparoscopic surgery can be used for colon or rectal cancer in its early stages. The laparoscopic approach offers unobstructed views inside the colon and bowel for the surgical team.

## Breast Health Program Provides Pathway to Cancer Surgery

Beebe's Breast Health Program provides a supportive pathway for breast cancer patients. A nurse navigator guides your patients through the process from diagnosis through surgery and treatment, while taking into account the patient's psychosocial needs. Channels of communication remain open between the Program team and the patient's physicians.

Beebe's Breast Health Program is the first in Delaware to be accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast



Centers (NAPBC), a program administered by the American College of Surgeons. Beebe is 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 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 Program, call (302) 645-3630.

### Multidisciplinary Care

Beebe has added a weekly Breast Cancer Tumor Conference, which is 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 mandated through the accreditation and takes place immediately after the Breast Conference every Thursday, with the Breast Conference held from noon to 12:30 p.m., and the Breast Tumor Conference held from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.