



InFlight

Winter 2020

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE
FOR FRIENDS OF HEALTHNET
AEROMEDICAL SERVICES, INC.



2019 A Year in Review



On the Cover

Our Moundsville, WV based EC-135 stirs up the snow as it lands in Weirton, WV.

Photo Courtesy of Adam Peveich



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Customer Profile



**GREENBRIER VALLEY
MEDICAL CENTER**

Greenbrier Valley Medical Center is located in the beautiful Greenbrier Valley in the southeastern corner of West Virginia on the Virginia line. Originally known as Greenbrier Valley Hospital, it has a long history for providing high quality care to the region. It moved to its current location in Ronceverte, WV in 1974 and has remained a strong healthcare and business leader in the community. The 122-bed facility is fully accredited by the HFAP (Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program) with a medical staff of more than 115 providers of multiple specialties and over 500 employees and contract workers.

The facility is among a select number of hospitals in the region that carries Chest Pain Center accreditation with inpatient and outpatient care, 24/7 emergency services, surgical care, and diagnostic services. GVMC is a teaching facility for the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and offers Family Medicine and Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine residency programs with over 20 residents and interns annually. The hospital has sustained a CMS 4-Star Quality and Safety Rating and continues to make strides in leading the state in quality metrics.

Specialty services include Cardiology, Critical Care, Pediatric Dentistry, Emergency Medicine, General Surgery, Hospital Medicine, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, ENT/Otolaryngology, Pediatrics, Podiatry, Pulmonology, Radiology, Sleep Medicine, and Urology.

HealthNet Aeromedical Services is honored to partner with a facility which values providing compassionate, quality care for their community.

For more information about Greenbrier Valley Medical Center and its services please visit www.gvmc.com. *



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For more information, contact Robbie Bailey: robert.bailey@wvesc.org
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Greenbrier Valley Medical Center is a leading facility serving the community in quality healthcare.

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HealthNet Aeromedical Services is fully accredited by





A Message From Our President/CEO

There are many measures used to gauge success. Certainly in business throughout the world leaders must develop metrics to assess progress in meeting goals and calculating ways to improve and serve. However, in rural healthcare the measures are a bit different than that which one would see in the traditional, profit driven business community.

In HealthNet Aeromedical Services' non-profit world, 2019 was a record-setting year. We served more patients than ever before in our 33 year history. Our total transport volume increased by 26% from the previous year.

While in some cases numbers are important, within our program these numbers represent people. People who are touched by our teams on what may prove to be the most challenging day of their lives. These touches truly matter.

The touch may be a premature infant clinging to life in a rural hospital. Excellent care and rapid transport to a neonatal center can affect that infant for life. The touch may be an otherwise vibrant senior who is experiencing a stroke. Safely transporting him or her to a stroke center can save their life. The touch may be a young trauma patient clinging to life in a small Appalachian community. Rapid helicopter transport to a trauma center can make the difference in patient outcome.

The list goes on but in these touches and more – HealthNet Aeromedical Services' teams are there. That's exactly why the increase in the number of patients transported is so vital. Each one is a touch and each touch gives us an opportunity to impact a life.

Our program is so fortunate to be cooperatively supported by West Virginia's three leading health systems. Each stands behind us offering counsel, support and encouragement. It's a true partnership built on the

premise that above all, helicopters save lives. And in our mountainous region, that matters.

We can serve our patients because you serve them first. Without those of you on the frontlines of healthcare across Appalachia who trust our teams with your patients, our organization would simply not exist. On behalf of our owner health systems, board of directors and over 500 professionals across our vast system, thank you. *

Clinton V. Burley
HealthNet Aeromedical Services, Inc.
President/CEO



Proudly serving in partnership with



In 2019, our flight teams traveled 754,000 miles

2019: A Year in Review

754,000 miles
= 30.2 times
around the world!

Program Milestones



HealthNet Aeromedical Services received the honor of Air Medical Program of the Year by the Association of Air Medical Services.



Agreement signed for new EC145e helicopter which will be delivered to the Beckley, WV base this summer.

Education

- 307 total courses delivered in Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia
- 158 internal courses
- 148 external courses
- 3,000+ students served

6,855 hours in flight
= 285 days in the air



CAMC: Providing Quality Care Today, Training Tomorrow's Providers

By Dale Witte
Marketing & Public Affairs
Charleston Area Medical Center

For nearly 50 years, Charleston Area Medical Center has been committed to a mission of education, training thousands of physicians, nurses, pharmacists and other advanced practice professionals. On any given day, there are about 800 learners in CAMC's facilities.

In fact, teaching and training medical students and physician residents was one of the main reasons for the 1972 merger of Memorial Hospital and General Hospital to create CAMC.

Since then, one-third of the medical students at West Virginia University in Morgantown have come to WVU's Charleston Division and CAMC for their third and fourth years of medical school. The students spend those two years here, and often longer if they continue their residency at CAMC. This affiliation created the oldest regional medical education campus in the United States. There are 85 WVU medical students assigned to CAMC facilities for the 2019-2020 academic year.

CAMC also provides a regional campus site for the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) in Lewisburg, training more than 40 third and fourth year students on-site. CAMC and WVSOM recently signed an expanded affiliation agreement to host even more students at CAMC locations for the 2020-2021 year. Half of the physicians on CAMC's medical staff received training here.

"Training tomorrow's workforce is a critical part of our mission," said CAMC President and CEO David Ramsey. "That means training nurses, physicians, pharmacists, radiology and lab technicians, and dozens of other key clinical positions that are needed to operate a comprehensive academic center."

CAMC also features the CAMC School of Anesthesia (affiliated with Marshall University) and a clinical psychology internship. The CAMC Health Education and Research Institute provides continuing medical education, outreach education and research support to physicians, allied medical professionals as well as patient and consumer health service projects in West Virginia and the region.

Because of CAMC's expansive clinical opportunities, other West Virginia/regional residency programs are affiliated with CAMC for a part of their training experiences, including residents/fellows from WVU and Marshall University.



Medical students and residents practice surgery skills during a vascular surgery simulation workshop at the CAMC Vascular Center of Excellence.

"The teaching programs (residents, fellows and teaching faculty) provide a lot of patient care at CAMC," said Sharon Hall, president of the CAMC Health Education and Research Institute. "Under supervision, residents are working in our clinics and operating rooms. These physicians in training are an important part of our care team at CAMC. They help us care for patients 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The academic mission also provides health care providers for the region with approximately one-third of graduates annually remaining in West Virginia to practice or to continue training.

"CAMC's teaching mission adds a learning focus to our entire hospital culture," Hall said. "The learning that goes on between the faculty and the students and residents, along with the research they are conducting, create an environment of constant improvement and learning."

CAMC also serves as the clinical teaching site for numerous health professionals, helping them to obtain the clinical experiences they need to learn to care for patients. In the academic year ending in 2019, CAMC served as a clinical training site for 1,537 learners through 148 educational affiliations with West Virginia and regional colleges and universities. ■

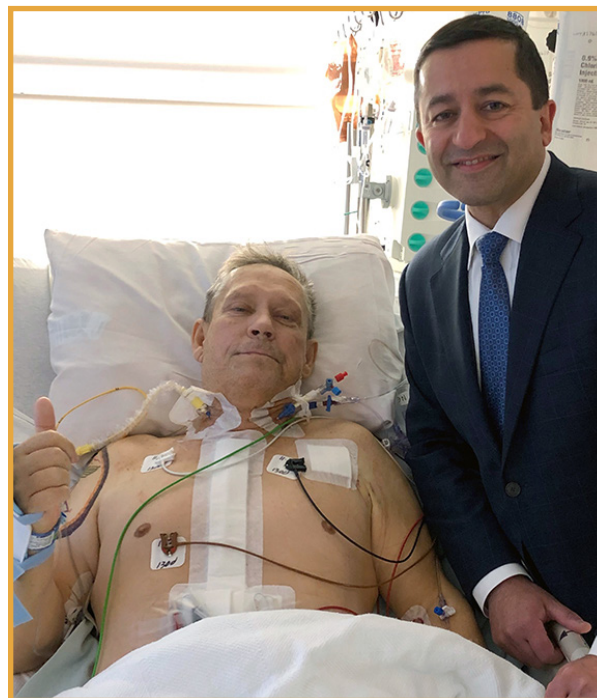


WVU Medicine Performs State's First Heart Transplant

By Angela Jones-Knopf
Manager of Media Relations, Marketing and Communications
West Virginia University Medicine



Vinay Badhwar, M.D. (left), and Muhammad Salman, M.D., perform the state's first heart transplant on Saturday, Nov. 2.



Robert Parsons and Vinay Badhwar, M.D., pose for a photo four hours after Dr. Badhwar transplanted a new heart into Parsons.

On November 2, 2019, Robert Parsons, a 61-year-old male from Chesapeake, Ohio, got a new lease on life when surgeons at the West Virginia University Heart and Vascular Institute and the WVU Medicine Transplant Alliance performed West Virginia's first heart transplant.

"Today marks a new chapter for transplantation in West Virginia," Michael Shullo, Pharm.D., associate vice president of transplant services for WVU Medicine and leader of the WVU Medicine Transplant Alliance, said. "This is the culmination of a tremendous team effort to support access to organ transplantation for all West Virginians and patients from our surrounding regions."

The operation took a total of six hours and concluded at noon. By 4 p.m., Parsons was stable and taken off the ventilator. He was sitting up and visiting with his siblings from Huntington.

The transplant team included heart surgeons Vinay Badhwar, M.D.; Muhammad Salman, M.D., and Chris Cook, M.D.; heart failure cardiologists Christopher Bianco, D.O.; George Sokos, D.O., Marco Caccamo, D.O.; anesthesiologists Matthew Ellison, M.D., and John Bozek, M.D.; surgical assistants; transplant coordinators; nurses; pharmacists; social workers; dietitians; and perfusionists.

"On behalf of the tremendous team of your WVU Heart and Vascular Institute, it is an honor and privilege to bring access to this much-needed and precious, life-saving therapy to our patient today," said Dr. Badhwar, transplant surgeon and executive chair of the WVU Heart and Vascular Institute and the WVU Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery. "We have opened the doorway to a new future for West Virginians, who no longer have to travel out of state for heart transplantation."

The WVU Medicine program has several more patients in need currently on a waiting list for heart transplantation.

"This heart transplant was the first ever in West Virginia's 156-year history, and it marked a pivotal moment for the Institute as it continues to establish itself as one of the premier heart and vascular programs in the United States," Albert L. Wright, Jr., president and CEO of the West Virginia University Health System, said. "We are proud of the team of dedicated professionals who made this surgery a success, and we are honored to bring this critical service to the people of West Virginia and all we serve."

For more information on transplantation or to refer a potential heart transplant patient, contact the WVU Medicine Transplant Alliance at 304-974-3004. To register as an organ donor, visit www.registerme.org/wvumedicine. ■

Cabell Huntington Hospital's Growth Meets the Healthcare Needs of the Community

By Shawn Jordan, MBA, ABC
Productions & Media Relations Manager
Cabell Huntington Hospital

As 2019 came to a close, Cabell Huntington Hospital welcomed a new president and CEO of Mountain Health Network, celebrated two center of excellence designations and embarked on several new partnerships, programs and services to benefit the health and wellness of the community.

Leading a Higher Level of Care

In March 2019, Michael Mullins, FACHE, accepted the position of President and Chief Executive Officer for Mountain Health Network. Mullins assumed strategic oversight to grow the new regional health system that now includes Cabell Huntington Hospital, St. Mary's Medical Center and Pleasant Valley Hospital.

Centers of Excellence

In June 2019, Mountain Health Network (MHN) selected Hoops Family Children's Hospital at Cabell Huntington Hospital as its first Center of Excellence (COE).

In October, St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute was named the second COE, centralizing all coronary interventional cardiac catheterization services at St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute.

To be named a MHN COE, the clinical area must be recognized by the medical community, the public and accrediting bodies as providing the most expert and highest level of compassionate and innovative care.

Partnerships and Joint Ventures

HealthtrackRx®

In March, Mountain Health Network entered into a joint venture with Marshall Health and HealthtrackRx® to offer clinical and laboratory services to help healthcare providers identify and prevent opioid and controlled substance misuse. The joint venture creates a new organization focused on tackling the ongoing opioid epidemic in West Virginia and the surrounding regions.

Innovation and Technology CHH tops robotic procedures

Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) is home to the da Vinci Xi™ Surgical System, the most advanced robotic surgical system available, and surgeons at CHH perform more minimally invasive robotic procedures than any other hospital in West Virginia and the region.

Clinical trials making a difference

A clinical trial conducted at the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center (ECCC) and the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine has returned positive results in reducing the side effects of aromatase inhibitors in patients with breast cancer. A common side effect of the treatment is joint and muscle pain which, at times, can be debilitating and cause patients not to complete their treatments. The use of tart cherry juice was shown to provide relief.

Cabell Huntington Hospital strives to provide advanced medical services that are often only accessible in larger, metro areas. To learn more about the services offered at Cabell Huntington Hospital, visit cabellhuntington.org. ■



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Welcoming A New Board Member

Dr. Chris Goode Appointed to Board of Directors

Chris Goode, MD, FACEP, is the newest member of the HealthNet Aeromedical Services Board of Directors. He will be filling the board seat previously held by David McClure who is retiring from the position of Vice President of Strategic Initiatives at WVU Medicine.

Dr. Goode is the Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine for the WVU School of Medicine and Assistant Vice President of Emergency Medicine for the West Virginia University Health System. Dr. Goode has been a member of the WVU School of Medicine faculty since 2005 and has served in many leadership roles locally, statewide, and nationally.

Currently, Dr. Goode is active with the Board of the West Virginia American College of Emergency Physicians where he previously served as President for three years and serves as the Chair of the Political Action Committee. He also serves on our program's Physician Advisory Council, Harrison County Emergency Squad Board of Directors, and the City of Bridgeport Emergency Services Council.



Dr. Chris Goode