

# SCOPE

SPRING 2021

**CHH Adds Mazor X Stealth™  
Edition Robotic Guidance  
Spinal Surgery Platform**

**SMMC Regional  
Heart Institute offers  
first-of-its-kind treatment  
for heart disease**

**CHH Only Hospital in the  
State to be Recognized  
Among Top 250 Best  
Hospitals in America**



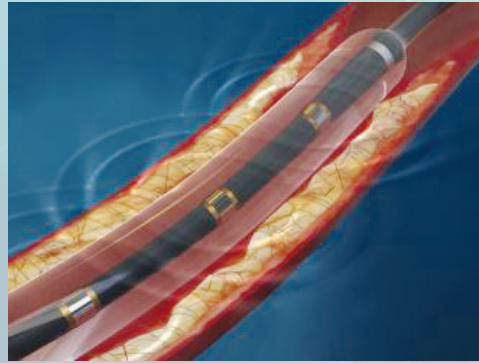
# St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute offers first-of-its-kind treatment for heart disease

St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute, a Mountain Health Network Center of Excellence, announced a new treatment option for patients with advanced coronary artery disease, or severe build-up of calcified plaque within the walls of the coronary arteries.

Shockwave Medical's intravascular lithotripsy (IVL) is a novel application of lithotripsy, an approach that uses sonic pressure waves to safely break up kidney stones. Through this new technology, lithotripsy is now available to treat problematic calcium in the coronary arteries that can reduce blood flow in the heart.



"This innovative technology is a safe and effective way to treat calcified lesions in a simple fashion," said Daniel Snavelly, MD, interventional cardiologist with HIMG Cardiology, an outpatient



department of St. Mary's Medical Center. "It can make a significant difference in the quality of patient's lives and we're excited about it."

As people with heart disease, specifically coronary artery disease, grow older and their disease progresses, plaque in the arteries evolves into calcium deposits, which can narrow arteries. Physicians often use stents to open an artery, but calcium makes the artery rigid and more difficult to reopen with conventional treatments. Those treatments include balloons, which attempt

to crack the calcium when inflated to high pressure, and atherectomies, which drills through the calcium to open the artery. The new IVL technology allows physicians to fracture the problematic calcium using sonic pressure waves. This allows the artery to be safely expanded and blood flow restored with the placement of a stent without unnecessary complications.

"This is just one of the many cardiovascular innovations St. Mary's has brought to the Tri-State area," Dr. Snavelly said.

St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute was named a MHN Center of Excellence in October 2019. To be named a MHN Center of Excellence, 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.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women, taking 600,000 lives in the United States each year.

## St. Mary's Neurophysiology moving to new location

St. Mary's Neurophysiology, which includes St. Mary's Regional Sleep Center, has relocated to 2801 South Staunton Road in Huntington, formerly the location of St. Mary's Hospitality House.

All sleep and neurophysiology services will be performed at the newly renovated location. This includes sleep testing, sleep clinic visits, outpatient electroencephalography (EEG) and electromyography (EMG), nerve conduction testing (NCV), and other related services.

"We are pleased to be able to provide these services in a new environment that will feel a little more like home for our patients," said Kathy Johnson, R.EEG/EP T, RPSGT, FASET, manager, St. Mary's Regional Sleep Center and Neurophysiology. "The new location also provides our patients with improved



access, including reserved parking." The facility increases the number of sleep clinic beds from six to 12 and adds several hotel-like patient amenities.

St. Mary's Regional Sleep Center is accredited by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) for sleep testing, both in the lab and at home. The medical director for the Sleep Clinic

is William Beam, MD, pulmonologist, HIMG. Also on staff are Imran Khawaja, MD, pulmonologist, Marshall Health, and professor and section chief, pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine, Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine; and Lisa Collins, APRN.

**For more information, please call 304.526.1880**

# New Marshall University clinical trial to evaluate impact of activated charcoal regimen on COVID-19 symptoms



Marshall University researchers have initiated a new study to determine whether an open label, activated charcoal regimen impacts the severity of symptoms in COVID-19 positive patients.

The study, administered by the Marshall Clinical Research Center at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine (JCESOM), will monitor the symptoms of participants over a two-week period. Study participants will take the medication provided as instructed and report symptoms to study administrators during weekly calls.



“As the spread of COVID-19 continues, our patients in West Virginia and the Tri-State area, because of pre-existing conditions such as obesity, are particularly at risk for COVID’s most severe outcome, the overwhelming inflammation, or so-called cytokine storm, in the lungs,” said Uma Sundaram, MD, vice dean of research and graduate education at

the JCESOM and the study’s main investigator. “We think activated charcoal can reduce the formation of chemicals made in the intestine by bacteria which are capable of worsening the lung disease. But, I want to very strongly emphasize that prevention, by wearing masks, social distancing and regular hand washing is still our best course of action to contain this pandemic.”

The study will conduct a comparative analysis based on age and gender of patients who elect to receive this treatment with those who do not. The goal is to determine if activated charcoal, by reducing the substances made in the colon, can blunt the severity of the lung diseases caused by COVID. The study will seek to determine if activated charcoal can reduce shortness of breath or the need for oxygen therapy; lessen or eliminate hospitalization; and, if hospitalized, reduce or avoid the serious consequences including intensive care unit stays and mechanical ventilation. Approximately 250 patients will be enrolled in each part of the trial.

The medication will be shipped overnight directly to patients by Marshall Pharmacy to avoid any unnecessary risks of exposure. The medication is provided free of charge. Study participants will not receive compensation for participation.

## Martin appointed COO for Cabell Huntington Hospital



Tim Martin, MBA, RT(R), ARRT, ASRT, has accepted the position of Chief Operating Officer (COO) for Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH).

In the COO position, Tim will lead the operational activities of CHH and serve on the Mountain Health Network (MHN) senior team. Tim will work with the Academic Medical Center; help drive the operational goals for CHH; ensure compliance with regulatory agencies and accrediting bodies is maintained; oversee hospital properties and construction; collaborate with staff, medical and dental staff and the community; and work with Mountain Health and St. Mary’s leadership to advance the Mission and Vision of MHN.

“While I have appreciated Tim’s organization, attention to detail and project management skills, I am especially pleased to hear from his peers, physicians and many members of the organization Tim’s vision, engagement and servant leadership philosophy. He is truly committed to CHH and its future,” stated Mike Mullins, FACHE, President and CEO, MHN.

Tim has held a number of leadership roles with CHH over his nearly 14-year tenure. He began with CHH as the Director of Radiology from 2005 – 2010, then he returned to CHH in 2012 and served as the Executive Director of Ancillary & Support Services and as Director of Radiology. In 2013, Tim was named Vice President of Ancillary & Support Services then assumed additional responsibilities as the Vice President of Hospital Operations and the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center in 2017.

Tim grew up in Prestonsburg, KY, received his associate degree in radiology from Morehead State University, his bachelor’s degree in health administration from Grand Canyon College and his master of business administration degree from the University of Charleston. Tim is a member of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists and the American College of Healthcare Executives. He and his wife, Leslie, have two sons: Brady and Ian.

## New parking garage now open

A new parking garage is now open on Marshall University's health sciences campus.

The new garage is located along 15th Street between Charleston and Columbia avenues directly across from the Erma Ora Byrd Clinical Center. It provides 706 new parking spaces for Marshall University faculty, staff, students and resident physicians at the schools of medicine and pharmacy, along with designated Marshall Health and Cabell Huntington Hospital employees.



"As our health sciences campus has continued to grow, we have worked to prioritize convenient parking options for patients, employees and students," said Beth L. Hammers, chief executive officer at Marshall Health. "The new garage will help ensure that the parking closest to Byrd Clinical Center remains open for patients and visitors while minimizing the use of street parking."

Marshall Health purchased the land from Cabell Huntington Hospital in November 2019. Construction began in March 2020.

"Sufficient and safe parking is a primary feature for an academic medical center like Marshall University," said Jerome A. Gilbert, PhD, president of Marshall University. "I'd like to commend the Marshall Health team for its work in making this parking structure a reality."

To help ensure public safety, enhanced security measures are in place, including an onsite security office. A parking permit is required in order to park in the facility.

## Morabito Jr. first in area to perform new surgical method for renal cell cancer treatment



Rocco A. Morabito Jr., MD, FACS, a urologist with St. Mary's Urology, is the first physician in the Tri-State region to perform a successful retroperitoneal robotic-assisted partial nephrectomy to treat renal cell cancer.

A partial nephrectomy consists of removing a portion of the kidney while preserving the majority of it in order to mitigate the future need for dialysis. The retroperitoneal approach refers to the area behind the peritoneum, the layer that lines the abdominal wall and covers most of the organs in the abdomen.

"The majority of robotic urological surgery is performed through a transabdominal approach," Dr. Morabito Jr. said. "The retroperitoneal approach is more challenging and confined to a smaller working space, minimizing the risks of post-operative bowel dysfunction."

The minimally invasive retroperitoneal approach is ideal for tumors that are located on the back side of the kidney. This approach is beneficial to patients with significant abdominal adhesions in which the transabdominal approach would be challenging. Open partial nephrectomies typically involve a large incision in the flank area and may require partial removal of a rib, which can leave the patient with chronic pain.



"Using the retroperitoneal approach can help reduce the length of stay in the hospital along with reducing the amount of post-operative pain for the patient," Dr. Morabito Jr. said. "The patient had minimal blood loss and was discharged on hospital day one without any complications. She was ultimately cured of renal cancer."

Minimally invasive surgery leads to an overall decrease in surgical blood loss and hospital stay while preserving equivalent oncological results compared to open surgery. The surgery was performed using the *da Vinci® Xi™ Surgical System*, which can be used across a spectrum of minimally invasive surgical procedures. Dr. Morabito Jr. has been using the *da Vinci* surgical system since 2011 to perform prostatectomies, radical nephrectomies, partial nephrectomies, pyleoplasties, ureteral surgery and bladder surgery.

**For more information about Dr. Morabito, Jr. and St. Mary's Urology, visit [www.st-marys.org](http://www.st-marys.org).**

# St. Mary's now offers minimally invasive procedure for patients requiring hemodialysis



St. Mary's Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeons now offer the WavelinQ™ 4F EndoAVF System, a minimally invasive option for patients with End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) requiring hemodialysis.

Patients with ESRD require hemodialysis to filter their body's blood. The most effective way to provide the treatment is through the creation of an arteriovenous fistula (AVF), a connection between an artery and a vein. The WavelinQ system creates the

connection by inserting two thin devices into the artery and the vein through small needle punctures in the forearm. Magnets align the devices to make the connection between the vein and the artery and then the devices are removed.



"People living with ESRD often have limited treatment options available to them," said Richard Heuer, MD, cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon at St. Mary's Medical Center. "WavelinQ gives us an additional tool that enables the flexibility needed to support AVF creation for our patients and improve their quality of life."

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The benefits of WavelinQ include:

- Faster healing of the patient's arm with no stitches and little to no scarring
- Lower risk of infection and complications
- Less blood loss
- Lesser need for wound care following the procedure
- Two additional AVF location options

Dr. Heuer and interventional radiologists Lee Haikal, MD, Michael Corona, MD, and James Reynolds, MD, from Radiology, Inc., have been specially trained to perform the WavelinQ procedure at St. Mary's Medical Center.

**For more information, contact St. Mary's Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeons at 304.399.7530.**

## JUMP

Joining Users from Multiple Platforms



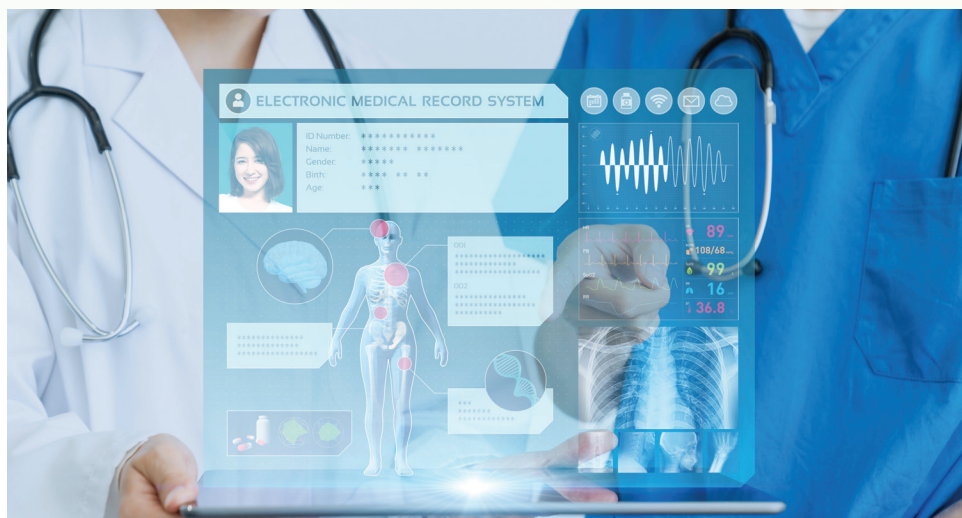
## Project Jump set to expand to St. Mary's Medical Center and HIMG

By Eduardo Pino, chief medical information officer for Mountain Health Network

With the recent implementation of a uniform Electronic Health Record (EHR) at Marshall Health and Cabell Huntington Hospital not that far in the rear view mirror, plans are underway to expand Project Jump to St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC) and Huntington Internal Medicine Group (HIMG).

The initial Project Jump brought together two organizations with separate EHRs. This created one EHR allowing for the seamless transfer of information between the worlds of inpatient and outpatient medicine. This access to information not only improves workflow for the provider (all the information is at one source), but it also impacts other (lab, radiology, registration, etc.) aspects of healthcare delivery, as well as the patient's experience due to improved communication and coordination of care.

As Mountain Health Network grows, so will the EHR's role in providing that continuity



of information. Adding SMMC and HIMG to the electronic fold will highlight the efficiencies that can be achieved with a single EHR. In addition, a single EHR will make it easier to track the massive data necessary for population health, an important cog for our Accountable Health Organization (ACO).

Preliminary meetings have been held with teams from Cerner, Care Connect, SMMC

and HIMG. These sessions are to review current state and identify gaps as well as opportunities and to determine the scope of the individual projects

While the entire process will take over a year, we know how quickly time passes. Watch for updates in SCOPE as well as in your inboxes and section meetings.

# Cabell Huntington Hospital Only Hospital in the State to be Recognized Among Top 250 Best Hospitals in America



Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH), a member of Mountain Health Network, is the only hospital in West Virginia to be named to America's 250 Best Hospitals by Healthgrades. This is the third year in a row CHH has received this honor.

Healthgrades, the leading online resource for information about physicians and hospitals, released the recipients this week of the America's 250 Best Hospitals Awards™ which represent the top hospitals in the nation. These hospitals demonstrate superior clinical outcomes across the majority of common inpatient conditions and procedures. This award recognizes the top 5% of 5,000 hospitals in the nation for clinical excellence.



"I am proud of our entire team's passion and dedication to the highest levels of patient care. This is evident in their performance,

commitment and excellence," said Hoyt Burdick, chief medical officer for Mountain Health Network. "This award validates our hospital's continued mission to provide quality outcomes and clinical excellence to those we are privileged to serve."

CHH has also been recognized as one of Healthgrades 2021 America's 100 Best Hospitals for Orthopedic Surgery and among America's 100 Best Hospitals for Joint Replacement for the 10<sup>th</sup> year in a row as well as six additional excellence awards.

Not only does CHH's recognition as one of America's 250 Best Hospitals demonstrate superior clinical outcomes and sustained performance, but it also highlights the prioritization of collaboration across the organization

**For a complete listing of Healthgrades awards presented to Cabell Huntington Hospital, visit us on the web at [www.cabellhuntington.org](http://www.cabellhuntington.org).**



Cabell Huntington  
Hospital

# Marshall University welcomes inaugural cohort to physician assistant program

Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine welcomed its inaugural class of physician assistant (PA) students during a virtual orientation. The students were selected from an applicant pool of nearly 600 to fill a complete student cohort of 25. Other interesting statistics about the class include:

- 72% are females; 28% are males
- 52% are from West Virginia
- 20% hold a bachelor's degree from Marshall University

"Our faculty and staff are excited to begin working with this diverse group of students as they become a collaborative

group," said Ginger Boles, MS, PA-C, founding director of the physician assistant program.

The PA program at Marshall, housed in the Robert W. Coon Education Building on the campus of the Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Medical Center in Huntington, includes both didactic and clinical components and takes 28 months to complete. According to the American Academy of Physician Assistants, 75% of physician assistants receive multiple job offers upon graduation.

"Despite the necessary adjustments due to COVID-19, we are confident that



curriculum delivery this first semester will be solid," Boles said. "Our first cohort of students will be ready to advance through the program and toward their careers as physician assistants."

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) granted accreditation-provisional status to the new Physician Assistant program in July 2020.

## Treating the toughest diagnosis – congestive heart failure

Learning you have congestive heart failure (CHF) can be a frightening diagnosis. But Carlos Rueda, MD, the region's only board-certified, fellowship-trained advanced heart failure specialist, is leading the way in providing treatment for all stages of the disease.

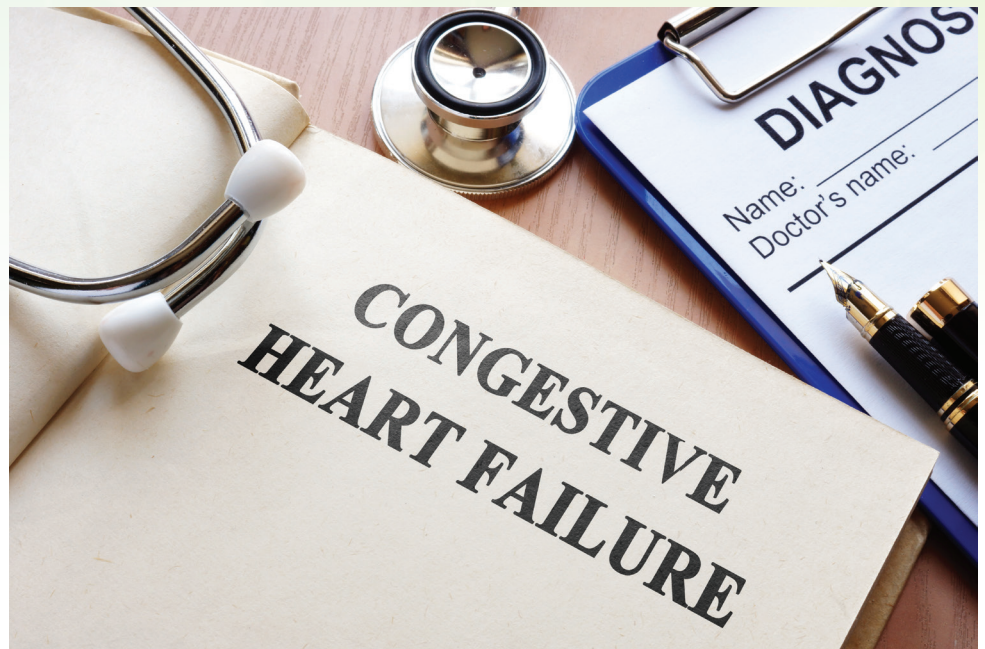


"There are four stages of heart failure," explained Dr. Rueda, medical director of the heart failure program at St. Mary's Medical Center

and assistant professor of cardiovascular services at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. "The stages range from high risk of developing heart failure to advanced heart failure. Each stage can have varying treatment options to help provide relief from the symptoms of CHF."

Some of the most common symptoms of heart failure are:

- Shortness of breath
- Decreased functional capacity
- Leg swelling
- Waking up during the night gasping for air



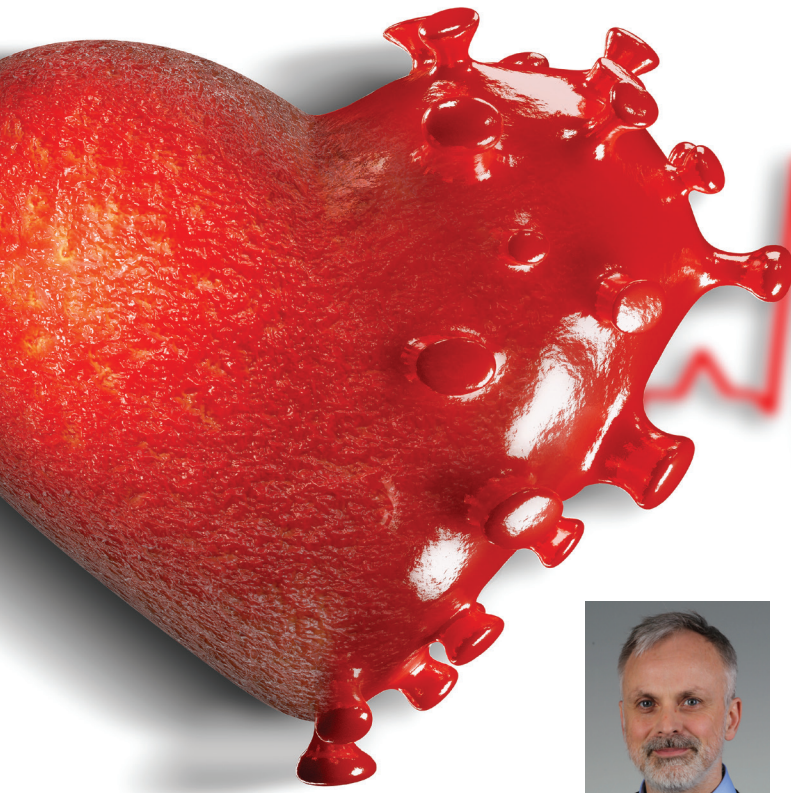
"Tests can be ordered to determine if a visit to a cardiologist is needed," he said. "Earlier is better to prevent hospitalization, manage the disease and extend quality of life for heart failure patients."

Treatments can range from self-care changes that include eating less salt and limiting fluid intake, to taking prescription medications. In some severe cases a defibrillator or pacemaker may be

implanted to help the heart pump in a regular pattern.

St. Mary's Medical Center was recognized as a High Performing Hospital 2020-21 for heart failure care by U.S. News and World Report.

**For more information, call SMMC's heart failure program at 304.526.8339.**



## COVID-19 Aftermath: What are the long-term effects on the heart?

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, physicians learn more each day about the virus, including prevention, treatment, and future side effects it may cause. So what do we know about the long-term effects COVID has on the heart?



"The COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging on many levels," said Sonal Bajaj, MD, infectious disease specialist, St. Mary's Infectious Disease.

"As new data and facts are discovered by national and international health agencies, the medical community must adapt and adjust health care practices as quickly and efficiently as possible. Whether it's diagnostic testing, isolation precautions, PPE guidelines, therapeutic agents and now vaccines, we have acquired an abundant volume of knowledge. But there is still much that is unknown, especially about the long-term effects from COVID-19."

Gudjon Karlsson, MD, interventional cardiologist, HIMG Cardiology, said he has seen several different ways in which COVID has affected a patient's



heart. "If you have a more serious case of COVID, you are more prone to blood clots, which can lead to heart attacks," Dr. Karlsson said. "We've seen patients with underlying heart problems, get COVID and then COVID pneumonia, which makes breathing more difficult and creates increased stress on the heart. We've even had some people with COVID pneumonia have a heart attack at the same time, which is very dire and difficult to treat."

Dr. Karlsson said he has also seen patients, sometimes young people, show signs of heart trauma weeks after they have experienced COVID. Those symptoms of heart trauma include exhaustion, and accelerated heart rate after being active. Cardiomyopathy, a disease of the heart muscle that makes it harder for the heart to pump blood to the rest of the body, has also been reported in COVID patients. "COVID is tricky because some people have minimal symptoms and some become incredibly sick," Dr. Karlsson said. "We expect some patients will continue to recover months out following COVID symptoms. I'm sure we will continue to learn more about long-term effects."

One of the biggest issues Dr. Karlsson has seen, especially in the earlier stages of the pandemic, resulted from people not seeking care. "At the beginning

of the pandemic, patients delayed care because they were more afraid to come," he said. "But time is of the essence with heart conditions and so this resulted in their heart problems becoming worse. We, unfortunately, saw some of that with patients after the initial shutdown last spring."

Though Dr. Karlsson said he has seen an improvement in patients coming to see him, there are some who are still hesitant, and he and Dr. Bajaj both caution patients not to delay care.

"Our healthcare professionals are committed to attending to the needs of our community," Dr. Bajaj said. "Individuals who experience any acute, alarming symptoms due to underlying heart disease and other conditions should not delay seeking medical attention."

"If you are having symptoms, chest pain, or you're out of breath, absolutely do not delay care," Dr. Karlsson said. "Both at HIMG and in the ER, we have a good system for keeping patients safer. Even in the most hectic weeks of the pandemic, patient care has continued to be our top priority."

**For more information about St. Mary's Infectious Disease, call 304.399.7213.**

**For more information about HIMG Cardiology, call 304.697.6000.**



# WELCOME NEW PHYSICIANS



## **Nicholas Raubitschek, MD – Family Medicine**

**Medical School:** The Medical School for International Health, Ben Gurion University in collaboration with Columbia University Medical Center, Be'er Sheva, Israel

**Residency:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



## **Zach Hansen, MD – Addiction Sciences**

**Medical School:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

**Residency:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

## **Eduardo Vidal, MD – Dermatology / Mohs Surgery**

**Medical School:** University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, Florida

**Residency:** Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland

**Fellowship:** Roger Williams Cancer Center, Providence, Rhode Island

## **Jeffrey Kim, MD – Neuroscience**

**Medical School:** Rush Medical College of Rush University, Chicago, Illinois

**Residency:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, Department of Orthopaedics

**Fellowship:** Northwestern University Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois

## **Juman Takeddin, MD – Endocrinology**

**Medical School:** Weill Cornell Medical College, Ar-Rayyan, Qatar

**Residency:** Unity Health System, Rochester, New York

**Fellowship:** Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, New Jersey

## **Soham Chaudhari, DO – Dermatology**

**Medical School:** Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, Henderson, Nevada

**Residency:** Corpus Christi Medical Center - Dermatology, Corpus Christi, Texas

## **Pediatric Specialty Care Expanded**



Marshall Health, Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and Hoops Family Children's Hospital at Cabell Huntington Hospital are adding multiple board-certified, fellowship-trained specialists to their pediatric teams of providers.



Pediatric nephrologist **Rose Ayoob, MD**, joins Marshall Health in April and will see patients at Marshall Health – Teays Valley and Thomas Memorial Hospital in South Charleston. She previously served at West Virginia University Physicians in Charleston. Ayoob obtained her medical degree from Marshall University and her residency degree from WVU, Charleston Division School of Medicine. She completed her pediatric nephrology fellowship at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.



Pediatric endocrinologist **Amanda Dye, MD**, also joins Marshall Health in April and will see patients at Marshall Health – Teays Valley. She previously served at West Virginia University Physicians in Charleston, West Virginia. Dye obtained her medical degree from West Virginia University School of Medicine and completed her residency and fellowship at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

Pediatric nephrologist **Edward Nehus, MD**, will join Marshall Health in May and see patients at the Marshall University Medical Center. He previously served at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. Nehus obtained his medical degree from the Medical University of Ohio in Toledo, Ohio, and completed his fellowship at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Additional specialists in infectious disease and neonatology will join the pediatrics team later this year.

# Statewide partnerships lead to identification of SARS-CoV-2 variants in West Virginia

Working together comes naturally for West Virginians; the pandemic has brought that sense of cooperation to light in many ways. This is true for scientists at Marshall University, West Virginia University and the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources as they work together to identify variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Utilizing an automated system and whole genome sequencing, the team – led by Peter Stoilov, PhD, Peter Perrotta, MD and Ryan Percifield, M Sc, at WVU and Jim Denvir, PhD, and Don Primerano, PhD, at Marshall – is set to analyze hundreds of samples per week from across the state in their genomic core facilities.

Denvir developed the analytic pipeline for calling the virus genetic variants based on whole genome sequence data derived from SARS-CoV-2 positive cases.

“Ongoing surveillance and focused efforts to characterize the virus in areas of outbreak will identify the SARS-CoV-2 variants that may impact the future of the COVID-19 pandemic in West Virginia,” said Laura Gibson, PhD, senior associate vice president of Research and Graduate Education, WVU Health Sciences. “And it will detect new variants that arrive from



outside or emerge in the state.” The three cases confirmed thus far are of the variant B.1.1.7, originally detected in the United Kingdom and more commonly referred to as the ‘UK Variant.’ In the lab of WVU Virologist Ivan Martinez, PhD, researchers are working to better understand how COVID-19 variants evolve and to potentially lead to the development of therapeutics or vaccines.

“As the task force sequences samples in West Virginia, I would not be surprised if we found a West Virginia variant with one

or two mutations,” Martinez said. “That’s normal. It’s a natural competition. It’s just pure biology.”

“Every new COVID positive case has the potential to generate a virus that is more virulent or more transmissible,” said Primerano, professor and vice chair of biomedical sciences at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. “Proactively monitoring and testing positive patients for known or novel variants can help improve therapies and mitigate outbreaks.”

## Vidal Offering Mohs Micrographic Surgery

Mohs micrographic surgery service is now available at Marshall Health’s department of dermatology. With the addition this month of board-certified dermatologist and fellowship-trained Mohs surgeon Eduardo Vidal, MD, local access to skin cancer treatment with a nearly 100 percent cure rate is closer to home.

“Mohs surgery is a terrific option for patients with skin cancer, because it is precise, nearly painless and highly effective,” said Charles L. Yarbrough, MD, professor and chair of the department of dermatology at Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. “We are thrilled Dr. Vidal has joined our team of providers at

Marshall Dermatology and the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center at Cabell Huntington Hospital and as an assistant professor at the School of Medicine.”

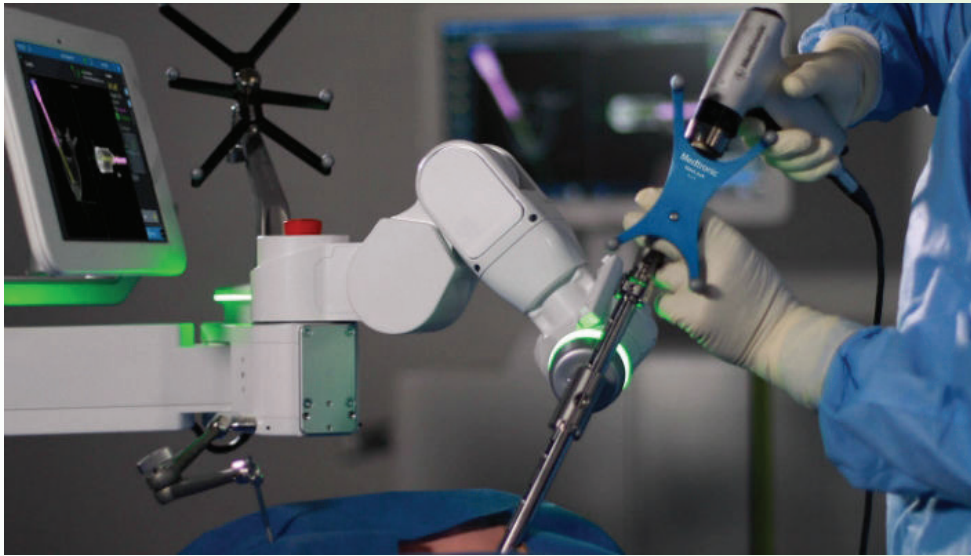
Vidal earned his medical degree from the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in Miami, Florida. He completed his dermatology residency at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland and a Mohs micrographic surgery and cutaneous oncology fellowship at Roger Williams Cancer Center in Providence, Rhode Island. He has more than seven years of experience in dermatologic surgery and Mohs, most recently as a



Mohs surgeon at the Florida Dermatology and Skin Cancer Centers in Inverness, Florida. He is board certified by the American Academy of Dermatology.

**Vidal is accepting patients by physician referrals. Please call 304.691.6718 to schedule appointments.**

# Cabell Huntington Hospital Adds Mazor X Stealth™ Edition Robotic Guidance Spinal Surgery Platform



Mazor X Stealth™ Edition Robotic Guidance Platform, is the latest extension of the Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) Back and Spine Center. CHH is the first in the Tri-State to offer this state-of-the-art technology for spine surgery.

Acquiring the platform is part of a continuous commitment to delivering the highest quality care for patients, ensuring that they receive the best treatment possible.

The platform integrates and streamlines three complex processes:

- image-based 3D planning of surgery,
- intra-operative precision of robotic guidance,
- and quality visualization with Stealth Navigation.

Before entering the operating room, surgeons use the 3D function to plan an optimal surgery in a CT-based 3D

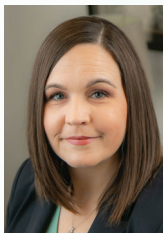
simulation of the patient's spine. In addition, computer analytics provide the surgeon with pre-operative data for procedure planning and intra-operative guidance during the procedure. Using these technologies, the surgeon can operate with precision, efficiency and confidence.

"This ground-breaking technology allows us to see exactly where the patient requires surgery before making the first incision," said Nicolas Phan, MD, neurosurgeon at CHH and associate professor in the Department of Neurosurgery at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. "This platform enables us with both accuracy and minimally-invasive approaches for spine procedures."

The platform allows surgeons pre-operative assessment and intra-operative precision to enable better patient outcomes.

**For more information, call the CHH Back and Spine Center at 304.526.2613 or 866.982.3131.**

## Mielcarek named Executive Director of Cardiovascular Services



St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC), a member of Mountain Health Network (MHN), has named Melissa P. Mielcarek executive director of the St. Mary's Cardiovascular Center of Excellence.

Mielcarek is responsible for providing the overall direction to key clinical and operational matters for St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute. She is also responsible for setting the Heart Institute's goals and working to enhance the patient care experience. The Heart Institute includes cardiac rehabilitation, invasive and non-invasive cardiac services, vascular lab service and cardiovascular and thoracic surgery. "Melissa's extensive experience with

cardiovascular service line growth will help us advance our Cardiovascular Center of Excellence at St. Mary's into a regional healthcare destination," said Todd Campbell, chief operating officer, SMMC and MHN. "I look forward to working with her as we take our already outstanding cardiovascular services to a new level."

With more than 18 years of experience in healthcare administration, Mielcarek previously served as the executive director of the cardiovascular service line at CaroMont Regional Medical Center in Gastonia, North Carolina. She has also served as the service line administrator and administrative director of hospital operations/business development at Memorial Hermann Southwest in Houston, Texas.

Mielcarek received her master of science in health administration and her master of business administration from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She received her bachelor of science in biomedical science from Texas A&M University.

St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute was named a MHN Center of Excellence in October 2019. To be named an MHN Center of Excellence, 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.



Cabell Huntington Hospital | St. Mary's Medical Center

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**M**aybe. It's not a word you'll find in our vocabulary. We know maybe won't sustain the momentum that's brought us to where we are today. We are pushing boundaries further than ever before. Pioneering interventions that change lives, while remaining true to our calling and answering every call for help. We're transforming medicine so it works better for you and the people you care for. None of that happens with maybe. It happens with will. We will advance. We will innovate. We will respond. Together, we will change the definition of medicine and at the same time, we will be there for you. Always. Mountain Health Network. We will.

Esam Baryun, MD  
SMMC Cardiac Electrophysiology



We will **RESPOND**

