

## **New Minimally Invasive Surgical Suite Provides State of the Art Advantages**

When Hahnemann's new minimally invasive surgical suite opened in July 2007, surgeons immediately began lining up to schedule it for laparoscopic and robotic procedures . . . and it's been in demand ever since.

"This is the minimally invasive suite of the future and Hahnemann has it now," says Kathleen Donnelly, Senior Director, Perioperative Services. The suite features state of the art equipment such as the da Vinci® Surgical System for robot-assisted procedures, new enhanced video equipment, multiple monitors including a 42" flat screen, and a PAC system for viewing radiology studies and case documentation.

Surgeons who use the new suite enjoy many advantages. One of the most significant is better visualization during procedures because the video monitors can easily be moved to different positions as needed. "Better visualization allows surgeons to perform the procedures with less manipulation inside the patient," notes Jamison Jaffe, D.O., director of minimally invasive urologic surgery at Hahnemann. "Less manipulation usually results in less post-operative pain and quicker recovery for the patient." Dr. Jaffe uses the suite to perform minimally invasive procedures for bladder, kidney and prostate cancer and ureteral pelvic junction obstruction.

Having the monitors suspended from the ceiling instead of situated on towers on the floor reduces clutter and improves the room's ergonomics, according to Andres Castellanos, M.D., advanced laparoscopic surgeon at Hahnemann and assistant professor of surgery, Drexel University College of Medicine. "This results in better flow of the procedure and less fatigue for the surgeon, which ultimately benefits the patient," says Dr. Castellanos who performs bariatric surgery, reflux surgery, hernia surgery and complex biliary procedures in the new suite.

“Having more floor space available also enables surgeons to bring in other essential technology, such as cryosurgery equipment, without overcrowding the room,” observes Dr. Jaffe.

The suite’s advanced video equipment enhances medical education as well as patient care. “Students and residents get a much better view of the procedure with the large flat screen monitor and video equipment that produces high definition images,” notes Michael Marcucci, M.D., Hahnemann general surgeon and assistant professor of surgery, Drexel University College of Medicine. He performs laparoscopic cholecystectomies and colectomies in the suite.

“With monitors in many locations, we have the potential to reach many more residents and students at once without the need for them to scrub in,” adds Dr. Castellanos. Surgical procedures can be filmed for simulcast to students and residents at remote locations.

“One of the greatest advantages of the suite is reduced turnover time between patients because the equipment is permanently mounted from the ceiling and no set up is required,” says Dr. Marcucci.

“The new suite shows the depth of Hahnemann’s commitment to supporting minimally invasive surgery across disciplines,” emphasizes Dr. Jaffe. “This is an invaluable asset as an increasing number of procedures are performed with minimally invasive techniques.”