

**NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release

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***A Solution for Chronic Sinus Problems Comes to  
Clearview Regional Medical Center***

**MONROE, GA – (April 22, 2012)** As kids, we learn balloons are fun. But it turns out they're also cutting edge—at least when it comes to sinus surgery.

The latest treatment for sinusitis is now available at Clearview Regional Medical Center. With Balloon Sinuplasty™, surgeons can open inflamed sinuses in the same way heart surgeons open up blocked arteries during balloon angioplasty.

“Balloon Sinuplasty is less invasive than traditional sinus surgery, and it is highly effective at relieving the symptoms of chronic sinusitis, such as recurrent sinus infections and facial pain or pressure,” said Douglas C. Miller, D.O., FAOCO, a board-certified otolaryngologist (ear, nose and throat physician/surgeon) with Clearview Ear, Nose & Throat Specialists in Monroe.

Dr. Miller will be performing the breakthrough procedure in the state-of-the-art surgical suites at the new Clearview Regional Medical Center. Experienced in sinus surgery including traditional techniques, Dr. Miller has performed Balloon Sinuplasty procedures at Walton Regional Medical Center since 2010. Most recently, he attended the international Sinus Forum in New York City for additional medical education in the latest surgical techniques. Due to his training and experience, Dr. Miller is uniquely qualified to perform Balloon Sinuplasty surgery.

**Cutting-Edge Surgery with No Cutting Involved**

“Balloon Sinuplasty uses a small, flexible, balloon catheter to open up blocked sinus passageways and facilitate drainage of the mucus that builds up in patients suffering from chronic sinusitis,” Dr. Miller explained. “When the sinus balloon is inflated, it restructures and widens the walls of the sinus passageway while maintaining the integrity of the sinus lining.”

Unlike traditional sinus surgery, Balloon Sinuplasty requires no cutting or removal of any bone or tissue from the nose. Benefits include less bleeding, less pain, and a reduced need for uncomfortable nasal packing.

Normally, the body produces mucus to lubricate the nasal passages. But colds, allergies and non-allergic rhinitis (unexplained chronic sneezing or drippy nose) can all lead to inflammation. Swelling prevents the passages from draining; and once the sinuses constrict, painful symptoms are likely to follow. “The ultimate goal of Balloon Sinuplasty is healthy sinuses that drain properly,” Dr. Miller said.

**Safe, Fast, Effective**

Balloon Sinuplasty is typically performed under general anesthesia. Depending on how many sinuses are being dilated, the procedure takes 30 to 45 minutes. Many patients return to normal activities within 24 hours.

According to Dr. Miller, more than 150,000 patients have undergone Balloon Sinuplasty since the Food and Drug Administration approved its use in 2005. It is a safe and effective solution for chronic sinusitis patients who are not responding well to medications, and are seeking relief from uncomfortable and painful sinusitis symptoms.

“Living with the headaches, pressure, fatigue and other symptoms of sinusitis can have a serious impact on quality of life,” Dr. Miller said. “We are happy to offer this innovative treatment option, which allows patients to return to normal activities quickly.”

To learn more, call **877-933-2762** or visit **[www.ClearviewRegionalMedicalCenter.com](http://www.ClearviewRegionalMedicalCenter.com)**.