



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Clearview Regional Medical Center on the Cutting-Edge of New Technology

MONROE, GA – (April 2, 2012) Residents of Walton and surrounding counties won't have to drive long distances any longer to find state-of-the-art healthcare. Now they have it in their own backyard.

When Clearview Regional Medical Center opens its doors on April 22, patients and families will experience an exceptional level of medical care, provided by many of the same physicians and staff they have come to know and trust at Walton Regional Medical Center. The new 110,000-square-foot hospital was designed to include the most sophisticated diagnostic, treatment and monitoring technology. On Sunday, visitors had a chance to tour the \$20.5 million facility during a public open house.

"This state-of-the-art facility was designed to serve as a healing environment for generations to come," said JT Barnhart, Chief Executive Officer of Clearview Regional Medical Center. "In addition to beautiful furnishings, it is equipped with the same ground-breaking technology you will find at the nation's top medical centers.

"Walton Regional Medical Center was built in 1925 and was starting to show its age," Barnhart said. "For us, it made perfect sense to invest in this new facility. We now have the best technology in the hands of the finest doctors and associates."

The high-tech medical center features:

Careview™ Patient Monitoring System

Every patient room is equipped with CareView, the next generation of patient care monitoring. The CareView system features a secure, real-time video monitoring system that connects the patient to the nursing station for continual observation by the nursing staff.

According to Terry S. Chongulia, M.D., a Board-Certified Obstetrician/Gynecologist with Women's Health Associates of Walton and Chief of Staff at Clearview Regional Medical Center, CareView is designed to enhance patient satisfaction and comfort, increase nurse-to-patient communication, and create a safer, more productive environment for patients, families and staff.

"CareView not only provides physicians and nurses with the ability to 'see' into the patient's room, but also allows the ability to view recorded observations should that become necessary," Dr. Chongulia said. "A second look can be the difference between good care and great care."

The HIPAA-compliant video record can be part of the patient's medical file and serve as additional documentation of the care and procedures performed. The CareView monitor can also be used by the patient to watch first-run movies, search the Internet, and videoconference with family and friends.

The da Vinci® Surgical System

At the new Clearview Regional Medical Center, a space-age surgical robot will be lending a hand –actually four hands – to treat prostate and gynecology cases.

Not meant to replace a surgeon, the da Vinci system virtually extends the surgeon's eyes and hands into the surgical field—allowing for complex dissection or reconstruction in a minimally invasive environment. This robotic technology is designed to scale, filter and seamlessly translate the surgeon's hand movements into the precise movements of the robotic arms and instruments.

“Robotic-assisted surgery has been shown to be safe and effective for a number of medical procedures including prostatectomy and hysterectomy,” said Catherine E. Schwender, M.D., a Board-Certified Urologist with Urology Group of Athens. Dr. Schwender has received specialized training in robotic-assisted surgery.

“Using just five to six small incisions, robotic-assisted surgery has all the benefits of minimally invasive surgery including shorter hospital stays, less blood loss, less scarring, faster recovery and a quicker return to normal activities,” Dr. Schwender said. “In prostate cancer surgery, the greater precision through the use of the robotics helps to achieve excellent outcomes in cancer control, potency and urinary function.”

Smart Operating Rooms

A surgical robot isn't the only cutting-edge tool you will find in the operating room at Clearview Regional Medical Center. With four surgical suites and two endoscopy procedure rooms, the facility is home to a genuinely “Smart” OR.

Smart operating rooms use state-of-the-art equipment that is digitally integrated so the patient's information is right at the surgeons' fingertips. They can access patient images during surgery and transmit images from the operating room to specialists for real-time consultation.

“Smart OR's allow for 3-D image-guided surgery, which helps surgeons navigate the path of surgery at every point and verify the success of the procedure,” Barnhart said. “A Smart OR ensures the highest quality of care with optimal patient safety, surgical precision, patient comfort and the best outcome.”

3-Dimensional Imaging

Clearview Regional Medical Center's Radiology Department, located near the Emergency Department and Operating Room, will be home to advanced technology including a new 64-slice CT scanner, digital mammography, a new 1.5 tesla MRI unit and nuclear stress testing. All scans will be processed digitally, allowing physicians to obtain their patients' images immediately and remotely.

“We are combining innovative technology with the latest concepts in patient care to create a hospital like no other in our community,” Barnhart said. “From our infant security system to our surgical robot to 3-D imaging, we have thoughtfully designed a hospital-of-the-future for patients, families, physicians and staff.”

Clearview Regional Medical Center is located on 67 acres at 2151 West Spring Street, Monroe. For more information, call **877-933-2762** or visit **www.ClearviewRegionalMedicalCenter.com**.