



**KEEP
GETTING
BETTER**

Hackensack Meridian *Health* 2019 Annual Report

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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Hackensack
Meridian *Health*



LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



In February 2020, we launched our new brand promise for Hackensack Meridian *Health*, “Keep Getting Better”. Less than a month later, we were knocked down by COVID-19: a mysterious virus that crippled the world in so many ways. Our emergency departments filled with patients battling severe complications from COVID-19. There were many times when ‘getting better’ seemed impossible.

But what happened next proved to me that no matter how hard things get, the team at Hackensack Meridian *Health* will never stop getting better.

Everyone mobilized quickly to battle this pandemic. Command Centers stood up overnight and collaboration happened immediately to ensure that things like ventilators and masks were distributed across our network where they were needed most. Team members who normally work behind a desk volunteered to help on the frontlines. Nurses drove from Southern Ocean to Hackensack to lend an extra hand when the North experienced a surge. Physicians from Hackensack Meridian Medical Group practices suited up to provide care in busy inpatient units. Patient Experience team members held the hands of critically ill patients when their families could not. Many worked countless hours, seven days a week, to fight the COVID-19 war. The result: thousands of COVID-19 patients were discharged from our facilities, ready to live life with their loved ones.

Although the purpose of this Annual Report is to look back at Hackensack Meridian *Health*’s accomplishments in 2019, we must pause to recognize the massive effort and everyone who came together in the fight against COVID-19. By no means is this war over yet, but I am confident that we have the best soldiers out there.

In the pages that follow, I invite you to take a journey with us, through many proud Hackensack Meridian *Health* moments that have happened last year, as well as a behind-the-scenes look at what it was like to face the pandemic in early 2020. You will see how we are tirelessly pursuing new ways to improve medicine and the way it’s delivered. Most importantly, you will see the beautiful people who inspire our brand promise every day.


For them, and the community at large, we will Keep Getting Better.

Thank you.

Robert C. Garrett, FACHE
CEO
Hackensack Meridian *Health*



LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



I am extremely honored to serve as Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Hackensack Meridian *Health*. Since the network formed in 2016, we have experienced advancements and leading breakthroughs in the range of health care services we provide to our communities. Each step in this journey as one health network gives patients better access to the care they need to live healthier lives.

Although I have been a member of the Hackensack Meridian *Health* Board of Trustees for a number of years, I have never been prouder to be a part of this organization. 2019 was a true milestone year where many firsts in health care took place right here in New Jersey.

I am amazed at how many people travel far and wide to get care at Hackensack Meridian *Health*. Many cross county and state lines to see the nation's top experts who offer unique and highly advanced treatment options. Check out page 8 to see a few examples of inspirational patient stories.

The Hackensack Meridian *Health* team achieved a new level of compassion, courage, creativity and collaboration as the COVID-19 pandemic raged through the state. As one of the hardest hit locations early on in the pandemic, our team handled the crisis with grace, taking swift action and working around the clock to do everything humanly possible to protect their patients and one another. Although the pandemic is far from over, I am extremely confident in Hackensack Meridian *Health*'s ability to overcome the continued challenges.

The strength of this network is evident, our executive leadership, health care providers and administration personnel teams are outstanding and our organization's new brand promise says it all. Hackensack Meridian *Health* does not stop at 'good', we are always striving to Keep Getting Better.

Thank you.

Frank L. Fekete, CPA
Chairman
Hackensack Meridian *Health*
Board of Trustees



MISSION VISION AND BELIEFS

Mission

Transform health care and be recognized as the leader of positive change.

Vision

Innovation is in our DNA, compelling us to create a world where: the highest quality care is human-centered, accessible and affordable; we deliver outcomes that matter most; and excellence is the standard.

Beliefs

Creative ... I will do my part to make things better.

Courageous ... I will do the right thing.

Compassionate ... I am the human experience.

Collaborative ... I embrace teamwork.





489
MEDICAL
RESIDENTS
& FELLOWS



36,278
TEAM
MEMBERS



181,341
PATIENT
ADMISSIONS



MORE THAN 7,000
PHYSICIANS



342
EMPLOYED PHYSICIAN
PRACTICE LOCATIONS

HACKENSACK
MERIDIAN
HEALTH
BY THE
NUMBERS



692,875
EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENT
VISITS



17,200
BIRTHS



2,084,313
OUTPATIENT
VISITS

\$5.9B
IN REVENUE

These numbers reflect data as of December 2019.



**PATIENT CARE
KEEPS
GETTING
BETTER**

So many incredible people walk through the doors of Hackensack Meridian *Health* facilities each day. These pages highlight a small snapshot of the magic that can happen between patients and their team of caregivers. From the extremely complex case that felt hopeless, to the genetic test that prevented disease from ever occurring, advancements in medicine means patient care keeps getting better.

To read the full stories, visit [HMHforU.org](https://www.hmhforu.org).



A Chance for Survival for Newborn

Baby Lucas was born with his brain growing outside of his skull. Thanks to the team at Hackensack Meridian Children's Health, he was given the medical care he needed and turned 1 in March. Learn how doctors convened a team of experts to perform a miracle six-hour surgery that had never been done before.



Family Support Through a Heart Attack

After Legrand Castro suffered his fourth heart attack, innovative care, family support and a new baby grandson got him through it. Learn more about how the Impella5.0® heart pump, a ventricular assist device, and his daughter's pregnancy helped save his life.



Hope After Stroke

Amy had little mobility in her arms and hands after suffering a stroke at age 35. See why the Massachusetts resident travels to JFK Medical Center regularly to participate in a clinical trial aimed at determining if stem cells injected into a damaged brain can help restore function in those who have an ongoing disability due to a stroke.



Genetic Testing Saves Lives

Sue Barbour’s genetic testing showed she had a rare gene that meant she was at increased risk for thyroid cancer. Discover how genetic testing for cancer risk saved Sue Barbour’s life—and the lives of at least 10 family members.



Sarcoma Slam Dunk

Sherman Edmond drives over two hours to see Francis Patterson, M.D., chief of orthopedic oncology at John Theurer Cancer Center for his rare form of cancer. Hear from Sherman about why he won’t trust his care to anyone else.



Breathing Again After Spinal Cord Injury

Fighter pilot William Marshall became paralyzed and unable to breath on his own after a car accident. Learn why William and others from across the globe are choosing Jersey Shore University Medical Center for a groundbreaking phrenic nerve procedure done by Matt Kaufman, M.D., to help them breathe on their own again.



Tracy Morgan Nurse Award at Count Basie

Tracy Morgan continues to heal and grow from a debilitating accident he had six years ago. Gina Domingo was among the nurses who cared for Tracy following his crash and has worked on the Brain Trauma Unit at JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute since 1990. See the moment when Gina was presented the Tracy Morgan Award for Excellence in Rehabilitation Nursing after a local show.



Her Spinal Answer

Gina Petillo had pain in her ribs and back and became paralyzed while being evaluated at Riverview Medical Center. Thanks to the quick action of the team, they identified an infection that was compressing her spine. See how the team came together to perform an emergency surgery to save her nerve function.



PARTNERSHIPS

KEEP

GETTING

BETTER

AMONG THE BEST IN THE NATION

NEW COLLABORATION.
NEW DISCOVERIES.
NEW
CURES

1 of only 16 cancer center consortia in the U.S.
approved by the National Cancer Institute

Hackensack Meridian Health | John Theurer Cancer Center
Consortium Member of

Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center | NCI Comprehensive Cancer Center
A Cancer Center Designated by the National Cancer Institute

In 2019, The National Cancer Institute (NCI) approved John Theurer Cancer Center at Hackensack University Medical Center as a member of the Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center Consortium – one of just 16 cancer collaboratives based at the nation’s most prestigious institutions including Harvard University, Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center; Cleveland Clinic, part of the NCI-designated Case Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center.

Our partnership with NCI-designated Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center is at the center of this incredible achievement. It enables both organizations to continue their research at the highest level to deliver tomorrow’s breakthroughs in cancer cures today. We have worked together since 2013 with a common mission to prevent, treat and cure cancers by linking scientific discovery, expert and compassionate patient care, quality education and partnership with the community. The NCI’s approval of the consortium represents the culmination of integrated research and collective talent and resources of two cancer centers. Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center Consortium serves patients in the New York, New Jersey and Washington, D.C. metro areas. The Consortium’s strategic objectives are to advance transformative cancer research; reduce the impact of cancer and diminish disparities in our catchment area; lead high-impact clinical research; ensure long-term growth, vibrancy and stability of the research enterprise; and develop the next generation of cancer scientists, clinicians and educators. Our organizations have united to advance innovation in research, treatment and advocacy in the fight against cancer in the United States.

John Theurer Cancer Center supports one of the largest bone marrow transplant (BMT) programs in the Northeast, performing well over 400 transplants annually. In 2014, John Theurer established a BMT program at Georgetown Lombardi, expanding access to this life-saving treatment in the Washington, D.C. area. Together, the two centers have also expanded the ability to bring CAR T-cell therapy, a revolutionary customized immunotherapy, to more people and invest in studies to assess other potential uses of this immunotherapy. John Theurer’s multiple myeloma program brings a new expertise to Georgetown Lombardi and to their patients who can benefit from advances in treatment.

Combined with Georgetown Lombardi’s substantial research base, John Theurer Cancer Center is working to solve some of the biggest challenges in cancer today.

Helena Theurer’s generous contribution to John Theurer Cancer Center, named in loving memory of her husband, has been influential in caring for patients in need. The Theurer name will forever be woven into the DNA of Hackensack University Medical Center.



Stuart Goldberg, M.D., Hematologist and Oncologist, Hackensack Meridian John Theurer Cancer Center and Serena Wong, M.D., Medical Oncologist and Medical Site Director, Memorial Sloan Kettering Monmouth present Precision Medicine: Innovation in Tailored Cancer Care.

COMMITTED TO MAKING AN **IMPACT**

This important partnership between Memorial Sloan Kettering, the world's first cancer hospital, and Hackensack Meridian Health, New Jersey's premier hospital system, exists to bring together expertise and scale to find more cures faster. With deep local roots, we share a unique ability to accelerate discoveries, advance the continuum of care and create new hope.

The partnership continues to provide the community with cancer education resources

and moderated discussions through its Cancer Science Today series. These seminars included topics on understanding inherited gene mutations and their cancer risk, the value of genetic testing and counseling and treatment innovation and breakthroughs in precision medicine.

Recently, the two organizations have formed an Immunology Research Collaboration. Through this joint initiative, researchers can apply for funding to support innovative

investigations to explore the power of the immune system and ways it may be harnessed to fight cancer.

Today, we have aligned on following the most informed standards of care for many cancer types, including breast, lung, colon, prostate and non-Hodgkin lymphoma. Tomorrow, there will be even more to come as we continue to grow our partnership.



CREATING A MUCH NEEDED PARTNERSHIP

On January 3, 2019, Hackensack Meridian Health announced that Carrier Clinic, a leader in behavioral health with a 100-year history in the state, officially joined the network.

The merger – a rare partnership in the U.S. of a behavioral health provider and a multi-hospital network – enhances care in several ways:

- New addiction treatment centers will open in New Jersey, including the first one in Mahwah this fall.
- Urgent care centers will offer behavioral health services on site – a first in New Jersey happened in Neptune in September 2019.
- A \$25 million investment will update Carrier’s Belle Mead campus.

- A multi-disciplinary team of experts, including primary care physicians, psychiatrists and advanced practice nurses closely coordinate all needs – addiction treatment, routine care, mental health issues – to provide optimal treatment throughout the 17-hospital network.

- The merger enhances research to improve behavioral health care and provides additional opportunities for the network’s growing psychiatry residency programs, including the creation of a child adolescent psychiatry fellowship.

The joining of Hackensack Meridian Health and Carrier Clinic provides greater access and choice to New Jersey residents who often seek treatment out of state, away from their family and support network.

“We are writing a new chapter for the treatment of mental illness and substance use disorder as we integrate Carrier’s proven services into our network’s robust behavioral health care,” said Robert C. Garrett, CEO of Hackensack Meridian Health. “We must truly integrate behavioral health into health care and expand treatment options as our state battles a heroin epidemic that has claimed too many lives and devastated so many families.”



Pictured left to right: Taylor Krueger, assistant administrator Mountainside Medical Center; Stuart Goldberg, M.D.; Donna McNamara, M.D.; Tim O'Brien, CEO Mountainside Medical Center; John Fromhold, former CEO Mountainside Medical Center; Brett E Lewis, M.D., Ph.D., DABR®, Rosemarie J. Sorce, vice chair, HMM Hospitals Corporation Board, Robert C. Garrett, FACHE, CEO Hackensack Meridian Health; Andre Goy, M.D., chair, John Theurer Cancer Center; John Conti, M.D., medical director Oncology Services, Mountainside Medical Center; Andrew Pecora, M.D.; Ihor Sawczuk, M.D., regional president of the Northern Market, Hackensack Meridian Health; and Dell Oliver, CNO, Mountainside Medical Center

STRONG CANCER CONNECTIONS

Announced October 22, 2019, Mountainside Medical Center established an affiliate agreement with John Theurer Cancer Center. This agreement augments Mountainside Medical Center's multidisciplinary program by bringing oncology sub-specialists to the hospital, elevating cancer services available to Montclair and the surrounding communities. John Theurer Cancer Center will be managing both outpatient and inpatient oncology at Mountainside Medical Center and will ensure the same level of quality patients have come to expect at John Theurer Cancer Center. With this agreement, patients have access to all clinical trials conducted by John Theurer Cancer Center.

The extensive scope of activities covered under this agreement includes weekly tumor board case reviews; medical education for physicians and nurses including grand rounds; the development of protocols, policies and procedures; strategic planning; and staff performance assessment and hiring.

Initial projects to be undertaken will focus on the development of a pain assessment and care plan; reducing inpatient admissions; clinical trial screening processes; and, hospice and palliative care. John A. Conti, M.D., continues to serve as the division chief of Oncology and co-medical director. Donna McNamara, M.D., and Lori A. Leslie, M.D., join Dr. Conti as co-medical

directors, providing support for this John Theurer Cancer Center affiliation and Brett E Lewis, M.D., Ph.D., DABR®, will serve as medical director of Radiation Oncology.

In addition to establishing a partnership with the state's largest, most prestigious cancer center, Mountainside Medical Center recently acquired cutting edge Truebeam® technology that benefits patients who require radiation therapy with fewer, shorter treatment visits and less risk of side effects.



STRATEGICALLY JOINED

In September 2019, Hackensack Meridian *Health* and St. Joseph's Health announced the formation of a clinical and strategic partnership which deepens our commitment to delivering innovative, high-quality and cost-effective care throughout Bergen and Passaic counties.

This partnership builds upon the existing collaboration between the two organizations. In 2017, Hackensack Meridian *Health* and St. Joseph's Health formed the Visiting Health Services of New Jersey, a jointly owned home health services agency and hospice services agency.

The new clinical and strategic partnership increases the region's access to a wide-range of health care services and expands the network of aligned physicians to better serve the community. It also enables the two networks to continue to advance medical education for the next generation of health care providers, and work together to support population health management and effectively transition to value-based care. The partnership also expands state-of-the-art oncology services, featuring a comprehensive cancer center with multiple locations throughout Passaic County including in Paterson, Wayne and Totowa.



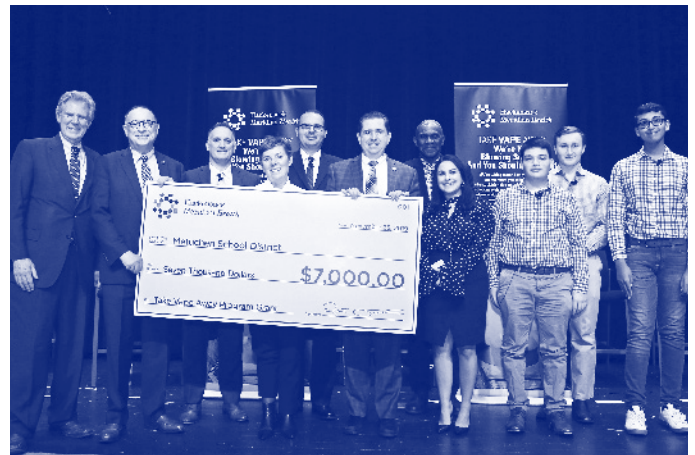
In November, Hackensack Meridian Health hosted a “Take Vape Away Town Hall”, featuring Congressman Frank Pallone, at Metuchen High School. A panel discussion, moderated by Regina Foley, PhD, MBA, RN, included Eric Costanzo, D.O., a pulmonologist, Dr. Kenan Osmanovic, M.D., assistant medical director in Child Psychiatry at the Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Harry Carson, a former New York Giants Team Captain and Super Bowl Champion, and Samantha Rubin, the student assistance coordinator at Metuchen High School. Daniel Shleif, Joshua Bhujbal, Justin Derector, students from Metuchen High School, also joined the panel, providing a view point of students.



TAKE VAPE AWAY

On October 10, 2019, Hackensack Meridian Health announced the **Take Vape Away** campaign, a sweeping \$1 million strategy to address the vaping epidemic, which includes grants to school districts and community groups to launch buy-back programs, educational outreach and other strategies to combat vaping among middle school and high school students. The comprehensive strategy includes the following:

- A \$300,000 grant program that includes up to \$7,000 for local school districts and community organizations to institute measures to combat vaping, which includes launching buy-back programs or developing new programs. Horizon generously donated \$100,000 to this part of the program, on top of Hackensack Meridian Health’s commitment of \$200,000
- Training 50 nurses to reach students at 100 schools to alert them of the perils of e-cigarettes, an investment of \$50,000
- Working with the New Jersey Mental Health and Addiction Agencies to educate youth about the perils of vaping
- Launching a public health study conducted by the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine to identify the health impact from vaping and identifying best practices to combat the epidemic at a cost of \$750,000



\$295,000
in grants

In February 2020, Hackensack Meridian Health issued **\$295,000 in grants** to schools and community organizations to implement programs to address youth vaping

The awards went to more than **60 different grant recipients**



60 grant recipients



33 educational programs

31 Hackensack Meridian Health trained nurses hosted **33 educational programs** and educated **8,267 students and adults** (unfortunately several scheduled events were cancelled in early 2020 due to COVID-19)



FACILITIES

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Hackensack Meridian Health launched the nation's first urgent care center with behavioral health services in Neptune, NJ. Former U.S. Rep. Patrick Kennedy and elected officials joined in the opening of the center. The center will ease the burden on emergency services and enhance care options.

NATION'S FIRST: URGENT CARE WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

On September 20, 2019, Hackensack Meridian Health launched the first medically integrated urgent care center with behavioral health in the country, a major part of a comprehensive strategy to improve access, better coordinate care and innovate treatment for people struggling with mental health issues and addiction.

Patients who use this new urgent care center have access to a behavioral health team including mental health technicians, licensed clinical social workers, advance practice nurses and, if required, a psychiatrist via telemedicine. These new behavioral health services improve treatment in the following ways:

- Increase access to treatment for behavioral health patients in an appropriate setting.
- Provide more timely care for people who may have to wait to see a specialist.
- Reduce the burden on already stressed hospital emergency departments.
- Provide more coordinated and comprehensive care to improve patient outcomes.
- Address the stigma associated with mental health by affording patients a safe and confidential place to access the care they need.
- Provide immediate access to more intensive care if necessary.

“This first-of-a-kind concept will help us transform behavioral health care in New Jersey and beyond,” said Robert C. Garrett, CEO of Hackensack Meridian Health. “It is so important that we give patients options for high-quality, convenient and affordable health care outside the walls of hospitals.”



GROUNDBREAKING! STATE-OF-THE-ART HELENA THEURER PAVILION

On September 13, 2019, Hackensack University Medical Center broke ground on the state-of-the-art, 530,000-square-foot Helena Theurer Pavilion, launching New Jersey’s largest health care expansion project.

Through its forward-looking design and leading-edge technology, the pavilion aims to provide residents of the surrounding communities with access to world-class acute care. The nine-story pavilion, which has been designed by lead architect RSC Architects of Hackensack in partnership with EYP Architecture & Engineering of Houston, Texas, will feature:

- **Three floors of private patient rooms**, including a 50-bed Intensive Care Unit (ICU) with a dedicated CT scanner and a 150-bed medical-surgical unit with 50 dedicated beds for orthopedic patients.
- **Twenty-four new operating rooms** equipped with interoperative MRI technology, including six housing robotic surgical equipment.
- **“Green” building design** with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification, ensuring that the facility is environmentally efficient.

After the pavilion opens, the semi-private rooms at the current Hackensack University Medical Center hospital will be converted to private rooms, with the goal of providing private rooms for all inpatients during the next decade.

We’d like to thank Helena Theurer and George Leipsner, M.D., a dedicated physician for over fifty years, for their generous support in setting the foundation for Hackensack Meridian Health to provide enhanced experiences for patients and their families.

“The new pavilion reflects our commitment to providing an enhanced patient experience, expanded offerings of highly specialized health care services, and access to the latest technology,” said Mark D. Sparta, FACHE, president and chief hospital executive of Hackensack University Medical Center. “This facility will allow our providers to meet our community’s health care needs and make a positive impact on public health for years to come.”





PROVIDING PATIENTS ADVANCED CARDIAC CARE **TECHNOLOGY**

Jersey Shore University Medical Center cardiologists are now performing complex, lifesaving cardiac procedures in an ideal environment with the openings of a new Hybrid OR and EP Lab. These procedure rooms are equipped with GE Healthcare's Discovery™ IGS 7, allowing physicians and nurses to see extremely detailed, real-time images of a patient's cardiac anatomy. These laser-guided, robotic imaging systems utilize 3D image fusion and are the first of their kind in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

Structural heart procedures are performed in the Hybrid OR; transcatheter aortic valve replacement

(TAVR, see page 33 for details), percutaneous mitral valve repair (implantation of a mitral valve clip) and cardiac catheterization/percutaneous coronary intervention (diagnosis and treatment of the arteries supplying the heart with blood).

Procedures completed in the EP Lab focus on the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of conditions involving the heart's electrical system, controlling the heart's rhythm and rate, known as Cardiac Electrophysiology. An array of treatments are provided for irregular heart rate, cardiac syncope, as well as radiofrequency ablation, implantation of pacemakers and implantable

cardioverter defibrillators (ICD) and laser-assisted lead extraction of chronic infected or nonfunctional devices.

Since both rooms meet the quality standard of an operating room environment and include the technology providing exacting precision and essential visualization, procedures can become 'open' or operative as needed for emergent care. Physicians can move from a diagnostic examination to treatment or repair for patients in the same location, providing great flexibility and an added layer of safety.



WORLD-CLASS CARE FOR MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS PATIENTS

Focused on providing patients with advanced care to improve symptoms, reduce pain and enhance quality of life, Jersey Shore University Medical Center opened a Multiple Sclerosis Center (MS Center) in 2019.

The MS Center's integrated, multidisciplinary clinical team, led by MS certified specialist David Duncan, M.D., provides comprehensive services for patients. These include a wide variety of treatments, such as physical, occupational, swallowing and speech therapies as well as those addressing other problems frequently associated with MS, including; headaches, sleep disorders, vision problems, bladder and bowel issues, sexual complications, spasticity, pain, psychological well-being and more. The center's director, Dr. Duncan, has provided MS patients with evidence-based, compassionate care for more than 20 years.

MS and other neurological diseases affect multiple areas of the patient's health to varying degrees; this can include mobility, vision, reasoning, memory, pain, mood, among others and leads to significant challenges. The center's multiple specialists address each area of concern individually for the patient, whether it's physical, cognitive, or emotional in nature. Patients have access to complete diagnostic testing, emerging therapies available through clinical trials and receive assistance scheduling appointments, allowing for multiple consultations in one visit.

As part of Hackensack Meridian Health's Neuroscience Care Transformation Service, the MS Center is the cornerstone of the developing Neuroscience Institute at the academic medical center, which will focus on other neurological illnesses such as epilepsy, movement disorders such as Parkinson's Disease, Alzheimer's Disease and dementia, headaches and ALS.



(At Center) Anthony J. Passannante Jr., M.D., FACC, president and chief hospital executive of Palisades Medical Center, and North Bergen Mayor Nicholas J. Sacco cut the ceremonial ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of a new multi-specialty medical office suite and breast center on the waterfront campus of Palisades Medical Center. Also pictured are (left to right) Aaron A. Stein, M.D., chief medical officer; Gail E. Starr, M.D., M.S.Ed, clinical director of the Breast Center; Patricia Carroll, FACHE, chief operating officer; Desiree M. Mitchell, MHA, director, Special Projects & Multispecialty Practice; Gayza Gastell, director, Physician Business Development; Julio Marengo, North Bergen Finance and Revenue Commissioner; and Kevin O'Connor, Board member and director, External Affairs of SUEZ.

NEW LEVEL OF CARE

Palisades Medical Center opened a new state-of-the-art, multi-specialty medical office suite and Breast Care Center at its waterfront campus in North Bergen, New Jersey. The facility marks an expansion of the existing Palisades Medical Center campus, which includes a 206-bed hospital and The Harborage, a 245-bed nursing home and rehabilitation center.

The world-class medical office facility offers comprehensive specialty care and serves a population of nearly 450,000 Bergen County residents. Specialty care services provided at the new facility include:

- Breast Care Center
- Cardiology
- General Surgery
- Orthopedics
- Pulmonary
- Urology
- Vascular
- Endocrinology
- Bariatric – Weight Loss
- Plastic Surgery

“Hackensack Meridian Health has made a strong commitment to our community by making investments that will give local residents convenient access to the highest quality specialty care,” said Anthony J. Passannante Jr., M.D., FACC, president and chief hospital executive of Palisades Medical Center. **“The opening of our new multi-specialty medical office suite and breast center will improve the health and wellness of our patients and our community by providing local access to renowned, high-quality specialized services and the latest in health care technologies. Simply put, our local residents and families will no longer have to travel outside of our community for these services.”**



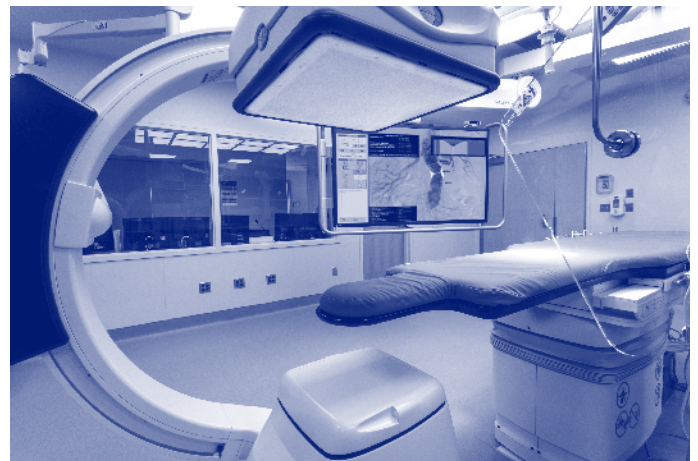
TRANSFORMING VASCULAR CARE

Southern Ocean Medical Center bolstered its cardiac care and vascular services with the investment of a \$1.5M GE Innova IGS 540 angiography suite. Designed to expand interventional procedures such as minimally invasive peripheral vascular and endovascular procedures and aortic aneurysm repair, this major improvement will have a transformational impact on cardiovascular health and disease for patients in the Southern Ocean community.

As heart disease, stroke and other vascular diseases continue to grow in the country and throughout the southern region, vascular surgeon and vice chairman of the department of Surgery, Arthur DeMarsico, D.O., FACOS, RPVI of the Vein and Vascular Center of Southern Ocean Medical Center, rallied to obtain the most advanced technology to diagnose and treat more patients in the community.

With this latest cutting-edge technology, the diagnosis of heart, artery and valve disease and, the evaluation for interventional procedures, are now accessible to achieve the best patient outcomes. By providing a unique combination of superior image clarity and reduced radiation, surgeons, interventional radiologists and cardiologists, have the best tools and equipment necessary to provide numerous state-of-the art interventional procedures in a safe environment.

Long-time donor and community member, Michael Armellino, proudly supported the work of Dr. DeMarsico by underwriting the project with a remarkable gift toward the medical center's expansion that will have a major impact on the community for years to come.



SEEING THE FUTURE WITH 2021 VISION



Thomas G. Shanahan, chief hospital executive and William DiStanislaio, VP, Operations & executive site director look over plans for the new Emergency Department at Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge



Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge

In October 2019, Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge broke ground on its new emergency department expansion, a \$39 million investment that will encompass 24,000 square feet—more than doubling the hospital's current footprint. The expansion will allow Raritan Bay Old Bridge to serve more patients with cardiac issues, stroke and other emergency medical needs.

With 25,000 visits annually, the new state-of-the-art emergency department will provide safer, faster arrivals by adding additional ambulance bays, newly designed pediatric rooms and new on-site technology with equipment that will provide more accurate diagnostics and treatment. Additionally, it will include greater privacy, comfort and immediate patient triage.

When completed, the expansion will connect the three medical buildings at Raritan Bay Old Bridge through a new main lobby and concourse, allowing patients and team members to move easily throughout. The redesign will serve all physicians, medical staff, patients and visitors. It will also include a new waiting room/reception area, main lobby and concourse space and a retail pharmacy.

Construction is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2021.

Bayshore Medical Center

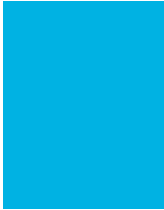
Construction of the new Dr. Robert H. Harris Emergency Care Center at Bayshore Medical Center is now underway. This project will expand emergency service capabilities to the community, enhancing access to advanced medical care, and repositioning the campus to better meet the needs of our patients. The new 32,000 square foot facility will include 35 private patient bays, allowing us to care for more patients in a shorter period of time.

It will be home to the latest technology, including imaging equipment dedicated to the emergency department, which provides the ability to treat approximately 55,000 people annually. This project will also allow for vertical expansion above the Emergency Care Center, should we need the additional space for inpatient care in years to come. This project will reposition the campus, creating a new Main Entrance on the east side. This change allows for easier, more convenient and direct access to many of our outpatient services.

We are very excited about progress being made at Bayshore Medical Center with the construction of the Dr. Robert H. Harris Emergency Care Center and our campus reposition project, scheduled to open at the end of 2021. Turn to page 62 to learn about the wonderful gift from the Golden Dome Foundation that made this expansion possible.



Raritan Bay Medical Center Perth Amboy team member relaxes in the Renewal Room



The Integrative Medicine team gathers together in the brand new Renewal Room at Raritan Bay Medical Center Perth Amboy

RECHARGE, REJUVENATE AND RENEW

State-of-the-art health care is evolving, fusing the latest medical advances with complementary therapies. Called integrative health, this approach introduces broader possibilities for healing and nurturing the body, mind and spirit of both the patient and caregiver.

Raritan Bay Medical Center Perth Amboy has integrated such wellness and prevention approaches into its culture by creating a “renewal room” for team members to take a few minutes away from stressful situations. These small sanctuaries are designated

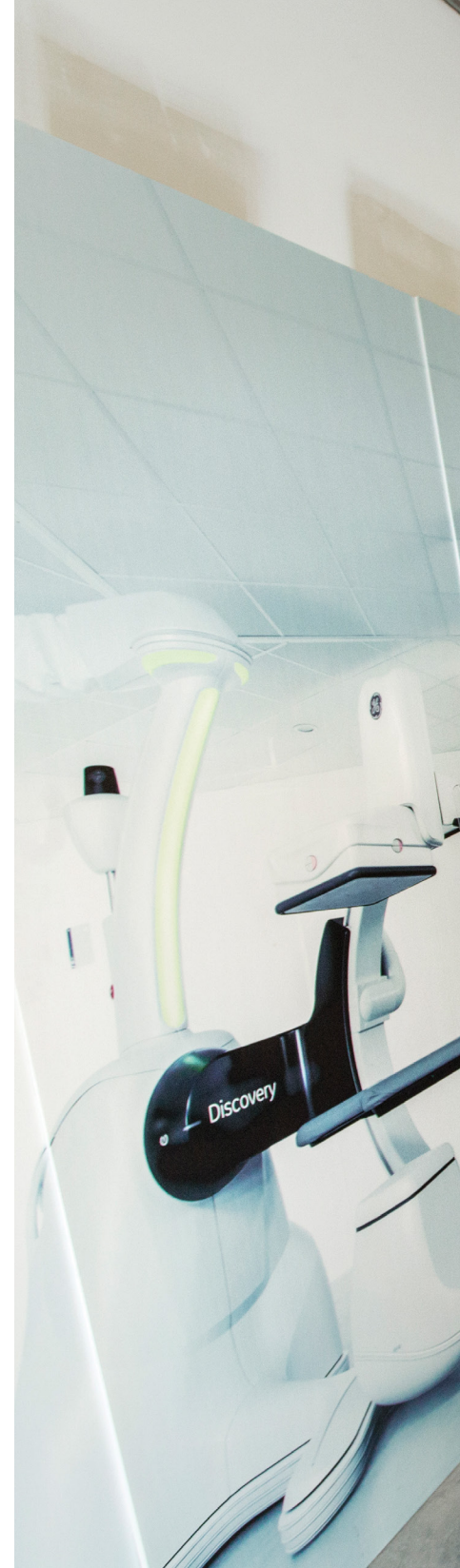
relaxing spaces with calm, cool colors, soft lighting, massage chairs, essential oils and additional soothing features to help reduce stress and anxiety.

The private space allows individuals to process and refocus their emotions before returning to patient bedsides or family members receiving care. Having a designated space to take time to renew, rejuvenate and recharge, even for a few minutes, can improve one’s emotional state, mood and outlook—key factors that promote health and healing.

The Hackensack Meridian Integrative Health and Medicine team is committed to supporting team members throughout the network. Recently, the team developed a Caring for Self series which consists of live, virtual meditation, mindful movement, nutrition and distant Reiki sessions. There is also a robust library of recorded self-care videos that can be accessed 24/7 and weekly Wellness Wednesday webinars that cover a new Integrative Health and Medicine topic each week.



A 'SUITE' **NEW** HEART & VASCULAR CENTER



Ocean Medical Center prides itself on doing things innovatively and effectively. As cardiac and vascular procedures have grown more than 28 percent over the past three years, chief of cardiology, Ali Moosvi, M.D., and vascular surgeon, Frank Sharp, M.D., of the Jersey Coast Vascular Institute, worked with their teams to combine cardiac and vascular services into one unified, comprehensive and innovative suite.

The \$19.5 million investment of the new Heart and Vascular Center will encompass 17,750 square feet above the Hirair and Anna Hovnanian Emergency Care Center to provide advanced expertise for diagnosis of cardiac and vascular conditions and offer immediate minimally invasive or complex surgical procedures if necessary, which will provide higher efficiency and improve patient outcomes.



The new Heart and Vascular Center will provide three multi-purpose catheterization/vascular labs and hybrid OR that allow for diagnosis and treatment of heart and vascular conditions in an advanced environment that fosters collaborative treatment planning and options for optimal patient outcomes. Two labs will be fully equipped hybrid rooms, plus a shell space for a third lab will allow for growth, and ten dedicated prep and recovery rooms will complete the space.

This is another example of how Ocean Medical Center is transforming the delivery of high-quality care by creating real change in patients' lives with a cutting-edge cardiovascular suite to provide exceptional care and a great patient experience.

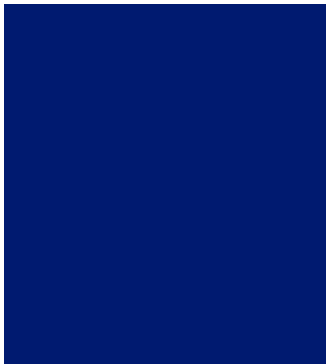
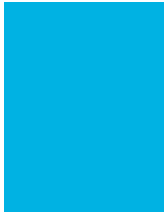


TECHNOLOGY

KEEPS

GETTING

BETTER



IT'S A FIRST: **ADVANCES** IN KIDNEY TRANSPLANTS

Hackensack University Medical Center's transplant surgeons became the first in New Jersey to perform a kidney transplant with a kidney preserved at the facility's Organ Preservation Center using the LifePort Kidney Transporter. LifePort uses ex vivo hypothermic technology to preserve the kidney after it is removed from the donor's body, which increases the kidney's viability and lifespan and leads to improved patient outcomes.

The procedure was performed by Michael J. Goldstein, M.D., FACS, director of Organ Transplantation, director of Kidney & Pancreas Transplantation at the Division of Organ Transplantation at Hackensack University Medical Center.

“We are thrilled to become the first hospital in New Jersey to offer this life-saving kidney preservation technology as part of routine transplant care. This technology expands the window of time in which a kidney is viable and further reduces the time it takes to receive a kidney transplant,” said Dr. Goldstein. “This will help us improve patient outcomes and save more lives.”

Additionally, the Organ Transplantation Division at Hackensack University Medical Center recently marked a significant milestone in 2019, performing 113 successful transplants. Hackensack University Medical Center's renowned transplant program is the second-largest transplant program in New Jersey. The Kidney Transplant Program has the shortest wait time for deceased donor kidneys when compared to wait times at other area transplant centers, as well as transplant success rates that are as good as, or better than, national averages.



LEADING-EDGE CARDIAC TREATMENT BECOMES ROUTINE

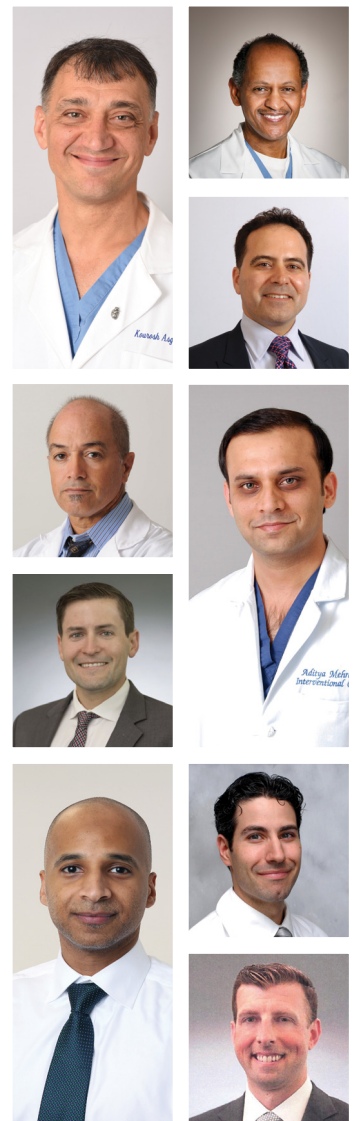
Only a few years ago, older adults with severe heart valve disease, known as aortic stenosis, were considered too high risk to receive potentially life-saving open heart surgery to treat their disease. The onset of a procedure known as transcatheter aortic valve replacement – or TAVR – enabled treatment of these patients minimally invasively. Jersey Shore University Medical Center has provided patients with TAVR since 2012. In 2019, Kourosh Asgarian, D.O., and Nelson LaMarche, M.D., completed the academic medical center’s 1,000th TAVR procedure in the facility’s new Hybrid OR.

Aortic stenosis usually occurs in people age 70 and older. The disease causes the heart’s aortic valve to narrow making it difficult for the heart to pump blood to the rest of the body. This causes fatigue, breathlessness, chest pain, and, without valve replacement, is fatal.

TAVR is typically performed through an arterial puncture in the groin. Catheters and a delivery system are used to position and deploy a new heart valve in the aortic position, enabling the heart to pump blood more effectively to the body. The procedure is now performed in the Hybrid OR utilizing GE Healthcare’s state-of-the-art Discovery™ IGS 7 imaging system.

In addition to Drs. Asgarian and LaMarche, TAVR is performed at the academic medical center by Renato Apolito, M.D.; Brook A. DeJene, M.D.; Aditya C. Mehra, M.D.; Matthew D. Saybolt, M.D.; Shaddy K. Younan, M.D.; Daniel Kiss, M.D.; and Alaeddin Eltom, M.D.

Hackensack Meridian Health has nationally acclaimed heart surgery teams at both Jersey Shore and Hackensack University Medical Center who have the expertise to perform a variety of minimally invasive and open valve surgeries. Procedures such as TAVR and other advanced valve surgeries combine the expertise of leading heart surgeons, cardiologists, interventional cardiologists and other heart and vascular specialists to offer comprehensive care and innovative techniques that aren’t widely available in the region.





ROBOTIC SURGERY SOARS

At Hackensack Meridian Health, our surgeons have access to some of the world's most innovative robotic surgical technology. These robotic surgical systems allow our surgeons to perform advanced minimally invasive surgical procedures, which may lead to a lower risk of complications, faster recovery and reduced discomfort for patients.

Robotic surgical technology acquired in 2019 includes:

ROSA the Knee Robot

Hackensack University Medical Center is the first site in New Jersey and the third site in the United States to utilize the Zimmer Biomet Knee Robot called the Robotic Surgical Assistant (ROSA). ROSA was developed by Hackensack University Medical Center orthopedic surgeons Harlan Levine, M.D., and Gregg Klein, M.D., On April 29 and 30, 2019, Drs. Levine and Klein successfully performed New Jersey's first cases of robotic-assisted total knee arthroplasty using the Zimmer Biomet ROSA Knee robot.

Zimmer Biomet's new robotic knee system has been developed to assist surgeons in optimizing their accuracy and efficiency when planning and performing total knee replacement procedures. The technology allows surgeons to formulate a personalized surgical plan before surgery based on each patient's unique anatomy.

Using 2D pre-operative X-rays, an accurate 3D virtual image of the knee is produced and loaded into the computer. At the start of surgery, the surgeon can assess the status of the bones and soft tissues of the knee through the robotic interface. The surgeon then utilizes the program's sophisticated software to formulate a precise surgical plan which is executed during the procedure with guidance from the robotic arm.

“Surgeons at Hackensack University Medical Center are among the first of only a dozen surgeons in the world to use ROSA Knee,” said Michael Kelly, M.D., chair of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Hackensack University Medical Center. “This technology is expected to revolutionize the treatment of patients suffering from degenerative knee diseases such as osteoarthritis, the most common form of arthritis.”

Philips Azurion with FlexArm X-ray System

The Heart and Vascular Hospital at Hackensack University Medical Center is the third facility in the world and the second in the United States to install the Philips Azurion with FlexArm X-ray system.

The Philips Azurion system was installed in the hospital's newly opened hybrid operating room, which integrates all the features of a surgical operating room with the advanced imaging technology used in a catheterization lab.

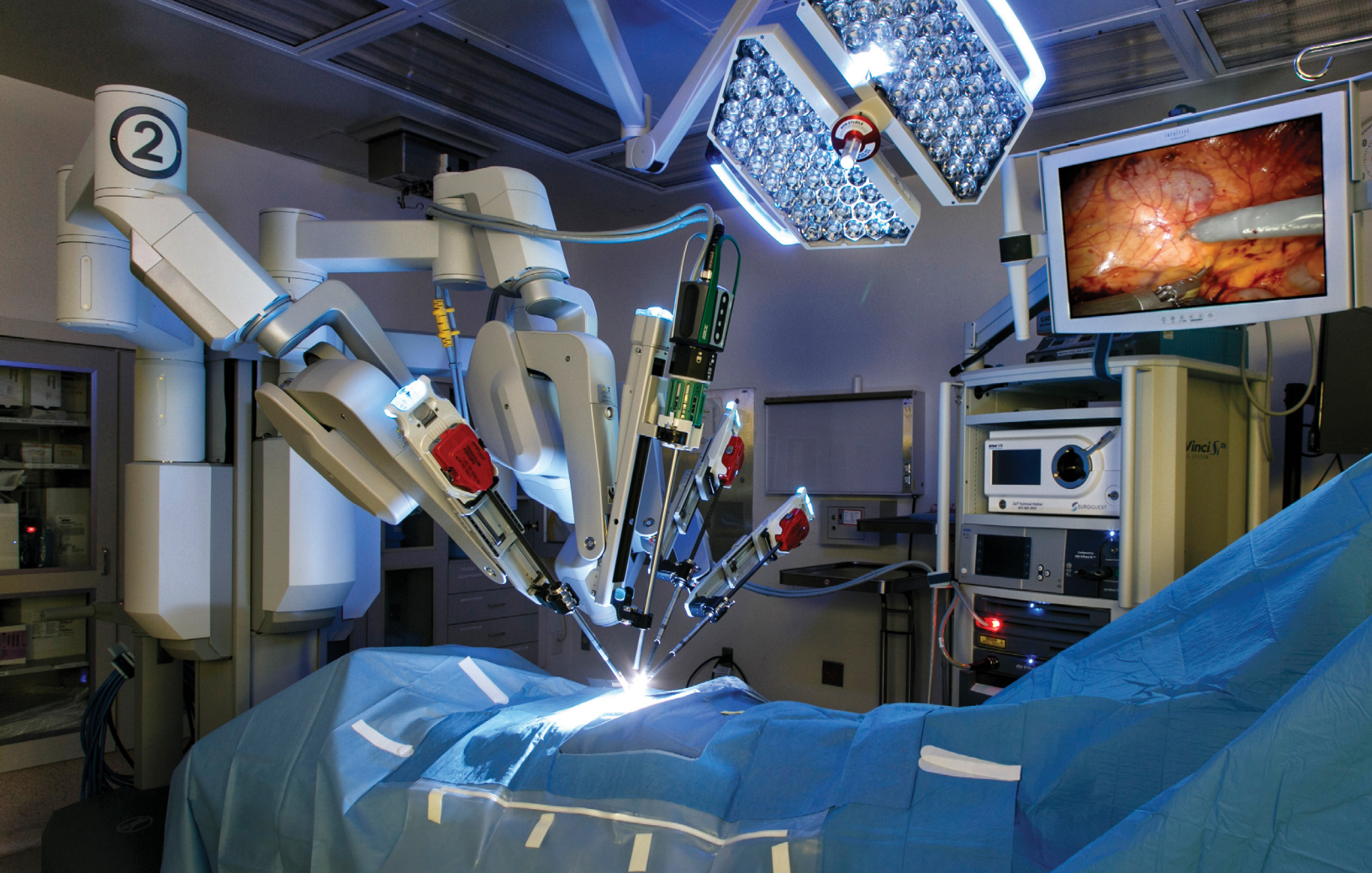
The system is designed to optimize workflow and assist surgeons in performing image-guided procedures for heart and vascular diseases. Azurion provides high-quality imaging, achieving excellent visibility at low X-ray dose levels for patients of all sizes.

Carlos E. Ruiz, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Structural and Congenital Heart Center at the Heart and Vascular Hospital at Hackensack University Medical Center, has been working with Philips to develop this technology for more than a decade.

“The FlexArm moves around the operators. It's not the operators moving around the equipment or moving the equipment,” said Dr. Ruiz. “Essentially, I can park the equipment, then when I need it, move it back into position without moving the patient. It's truly a unique system.”

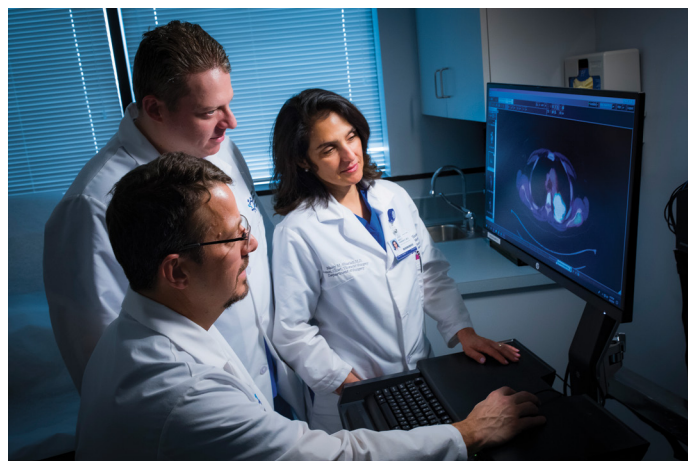
Ion Robotic-Assisted Platform

Hackensack University Medical Center is the first hospital in New Jersey to offer minimally invasive robot-assisted lung biopsy procedures using Ion technology.



Ion's robotic-assisted platform allows for a minimally invasive biopsy of the lung. The system's precision and flexibility enables optimal lung navigation and produces more accurate biopsies. Ion is used for lung cancer screening and early diagnosis because it provides improved access to small airways and hard-to-reach nodules. It is also used to treat patients who are not surgical candidates, but who need biopsies to treat lung cancer.

The Ion system will integrate seamlessly into Hackensack University Medical Center's existing technology, allowing team members to treat patients in a more targeted, precise manner while improving overall patient outcomes.



“At Hackensack University Medical Center, we are always looking for novel approaches to patient care,” said Nabil Rizk, M.D., M.S., MPH, chief, Thoracic Surgery at Hackensack University Medical Center. “Ion’s revolutionary robotic platform will help our team members evaluate patients more quickly by mapping out a path to the pulmonary nodule, navigating a precise target, performing biopsies and receiving real-time information.”

HUGE ROBOTIC MILESTONES

2,500+ Robotic Surgeries

With the addition of a second da Vinci® robot, along with new and renowned physicians, Riverview Medical Center has performed more than 2,500 robotic surgeries. Our surgeons are performing many surgical firsts at the hospital and surgical services at Riverview continue to expand. With the addition of a second da Vinci® Surgical System, our surgeons are now able to perform more minimally invasive surgeries for complex diseases and conditions in gynecology, urology, thoracic, cardiac and general surgery. We continue to focus on providing an outstanding experience that includes expert surgeons, the latest surgical options, a healing environment and an exceptional care team. With the acquisition of additional robotic systems and our teams' exceptional efforts, Riverview is emerging as a regional leader in robotic surgery.



1,000 Cases to Celebrate

JFK Medical Center recently surpassed its 1,000th robotic surgery. The first program in the region to obtain two of the most advanced da Vinci® Xi surgical robots, JFK Medical Center offers this minimally invasive approach to complex surgeries that in many cases, allows for only a single incision. This has been led by medical director, Michael Lasser, M.D.

Using the state-of-the-art da Vinci® Surgical System, JFK surgeons are able to use the small incisions associated with traditional laparoscopic surgery, but with greatly improved visualization and range of motion. Using robotic surgery, our team can perform delicate and complex procedures that were difficult or impossible via other methods.



First in Pediatrics

In April 2019, it was discovered that a 12-year-old patient at K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital had a lesion on his spleen. It's very rare to have a mass on the spleen, and rarer to find one in children. During a multidisciplinary tumor board meeting, a team of physicians from various specialties, including pediatric hematologists-oncologists, pediatric surgeons, robotic surgery experts and radiologists, decided to recommend surgery to remove the lesion. The team also wanted to avoid a traditional open surgical procedure, which requires a larger incision, a lengthier recovery and a higher risk of complications. Victoriya Staab, M.D., a pediatric surgeon and medical director of pediatric trauma at K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital, consulted with Seth Kipnis, M.D., FACS, director of robotic surgery at Jersey Shore University Medical Center, to find out if it would be possible to perform a partial splenectomy using robotic surgical technology. This marked the first time robotic surgery was performed on a pediatric patient at K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital. In September, the successful, two-hour procedure took place and a few days later, the 12-year-old patient went home and was feeling great.



AN EPIC ROLL-OUT

The IT Division completed the rollout of the Epic Electronic Health Records system of nine hospitals in 14 months, an incredible accomplishment in such a brief time.

In June 2019, JFK Medical Center, Riverview Medical Center and Bayshore Medical Center went live, followed in October by Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Ocean Medical Center and Southern Ocean Medical Center.

Thousands of team members and leaders from across Hackensack Meridian *Health* were involved in the roll outs.

The medical records of our patients are now easily accessible across the network no matter which hospital they go to.

The Epic Interoperability Exchange enables clinicians to access the most up-to-date and accurate records of our

patients whether they are seeking care in New Jersey, or on vacation across the country. In 2019, that included 6,289,867 patient records – almost double the amount from 2018 - passing through the exchange to:

- Organizations in all 50 states;
- 1,937 hospitals;
- 1,690 emergency departments; and
- 40,451 clinics.

Having the entire network on Epic fosters consistency for ease of use and training for our clinicians and is expected to provide additional functionality benefiting patients and improving efficiency.



RESEARCH &
INNOVATION
KEEPS
GETTING
BETTER



BRING IT TO THE BEAR'S DEN

In 2018, Hackensack Meridian *Health* launched the Bear's Den, a \$25 million investment in innovation to bring breakthroughs in health care delivery to market. In 2019, Hackensack Meridian *Health* expanded the successful innovation program to all hospitals, encouraging all team members to bring forth their best ideas to improve care delivery and enhance patient satisfaction. By creating designated space in the network's 17 hospitals, staff members from Bear's Den will meet team members on site to discuss their ideas. Additionally, entrepreneurs will periodically visit the hospital locations and share their inspiring stories with team members to encourage them

to innovate. In addition to expanding Bear's Den locations to hospitals network-wide, the Bear's Den also funded the following companies and innovations in 2019:

- **EpiBone, Inc.**, a biotechnology company focused on growing bone and cartilage grafts using stem cell and 3D imaging technologies.
- **Adaptive Phage Therapeutics**, a clinical-stage biotechnology company that is taking aim at the toughest multi-drug resistant "superbugs" using precision-targeted, genomically-screened and highly purified viruses known as bacteriophages, or "phages."
- A garment, developed by patient **Charles Thomas**, that helps create easy access for dialysis or chemotherapy while enabling patients to remain in their warmer attire.



The Bear's Den is seeing great success in engaging front line team members in developing innovative modalities that will improve the care provided by Hackensack Meridian *Health*. Combining internal ideas with innovative pitches from external sources will help progress medicine and the patient experience at Hackensack Meridian *Health* and beyond.

BREAKTHROUGHS AT THE CDI

In May 2019, Hackensack Meridian Health announced the opening of the Center for Discovery and Innovation (CDI). This state-of-the-art facility offers renowned researchers the support to develop novel therapies for some of the world's most difficult diseases – cancer, diabetes, dementia, antibiotic-resistant infection and auto-immune disorders. The new center is located next to the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine and both are located on the former site of the Hoffmann-La Roche Institute of Molecular Biology, which was a leading global center for innovative medical research from the 1960s through the 1990s.

The CDI is organized into three institutes:

- Institute for Cancer and Infectious Diseases
- Institute for Multiple Myeloma and Lymphoma
- Institute for Restorative Health

CDI Leadership and Expertise

One of the key researchers is David S. Perlin, Ph.D., chief scientific officer and senior vice president, CDI. Dr. Perlin is the former director of the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School's Public Health Research Institute and former director of the Rutgers Regional Biocontainment Laboratory, one of 13

NIH-designated national centers for pathogen research.

Sol J. Barer, Ph.D., the founder of Celgene and chair of the Board of Directors of Teva Pharmaceuticals, serves as founding chair of the CDI Board of Trustees.

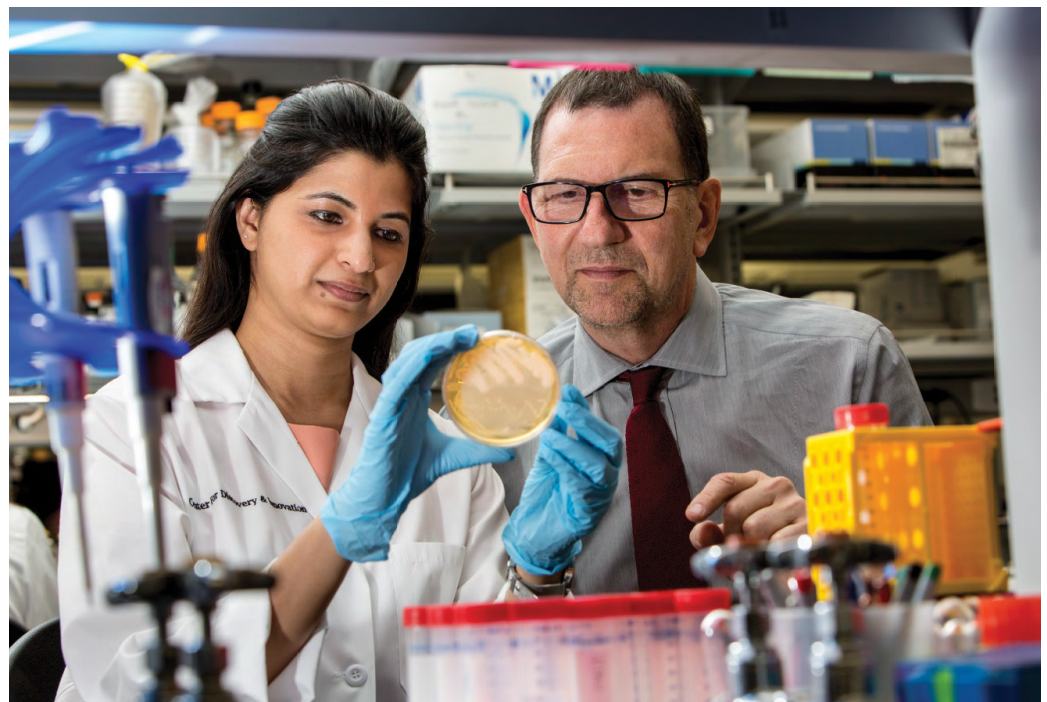
This academic-based entrepreneurial center is comprised of accomplished faculty members who have been recruited from leading academic centers, including Weill Cornell Medicine, Columbia University, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Boston University, Rutgers University, University of Iowa and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. In total, the inaugural faculty have published more than 1,500 peer-reviewed papers in leading journals such as *Science and Nature*, *New England Journal of*

Medicine, *mBio* and *Lancet*. In addition, they bring to the CDI more than 90 grants and contracts, 20 NIH and other government grants, as well as numerous contracts with foundations, Pharma and biotech companies with research commitments exceeding \$80 million.

Off to an Incredible Start

CDI science is guided by unmet medical need and is intended to address clinical urgency. There has been no greater challenge posed to patient and community health than COVID-19, which struck less than a year into the CDI's existence. The scientists and staff members, including experts in global infectious diseases, embraced this unprecedented challenge. They have played a critical role in impacting clinical care through development of novel diagnostics, improved antiviral therapy and support of numerous clinical trial regimens.

CDI scientists are also studying the biology of the virus, host factors that impact disease progression and discovery and development of novel drug candidates. The work was covered variously by *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*, among other major media outlets. The CDI was featured on CBS' *60 Minutes* in May 2020. The show profiled the convalescent plasma program that was developed by the CDI and Hackensack University Medical Center to treat patients with COVID-19. Among those featured were David Perlin, Ph.D., and his counterpart Michele Donato, M.D., FACP, CPE, chief of stem cell transplantation and cellular therapy at John Theurer Cancer Center. The feature segment highlighted the promising results of the trial thus far.





RESHAPING THE FUTURE OF STROKE RECOVERY



Sara Cuccurullo, M.D., and Talya Fleming, M.D., of JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute collaborate on stroke recovery trials and research.

The JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute Stroke-HEART Trials set out to determine if cardiac conditioning — similar to what’s offered to people recovering from cardiac disease — could improve death rates for survivors of serious strokes. The research began in 2015 and has enrolled nearly 800 participants. In the study group, stroke patients took part in 36 sessions of medically monitored interval cardiovascular training—as well as follow-up visits with a physical medicine and rehabilitation physician, psychological, nutritional, educational support and risk factor management.

This is in addition to traditional physical, occupational and speech therapy.

In contrast, patients in the control group received the traditional standard of care, which included physical, occupational and speech therapy, and follow-up with their community physician.

One-year, post-stroke follow-up has revealed that stroke survivors can substantially reduce their chances of dying within the year by completing a comprehensive program of cardiac conditioning and lifestyle counseling. In fact, those who completed the JFK Johnson Stroke Recovery

Program improved on every one of the measures followed: mortality, cardiac performance and overall function.

The Association of Academic Physiatrists (AAP) recognized Co-Principal Investigators Sara Cuccurullo, M.D., and Talya Fleming, M.D., at an international conference in Orlando, Fla. in March 2020 for this outstanding work. Dr. Cuccurullo is vice president and medical director of the JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute and Dr. Fleming is director of the JFK Johnson Aftercare and Stroke Recovery Programs.

Welcome to
**JFK
Medical
Center**



Hackensack
Meridian Health
JFK Medical Center



FIRST IN NJ: HEARTCARE

JFK Medical Center became the first hospital in New Jersey to become a HeartCARE Center: National Distinction of Excellence program from The American College of Cardiology (ACC). The designation recognizes the hospital for its commitment to a comprehensive, high-quality cardiac culture.

JFK's collaborative care model combines all heart and vascular services, ensuring each patient has access to the most state-of-the-art medical and surgical procedures. This team approach ensures that patients are seen by expert specialists who are at the forefront of their fields in research and clinical care. The decision-making and treatment planning for each patient is done collaboratively. Every treatment option is explored to find the right care plan for each patient, given his or her specific cardiovascular diagnosis.

The JFK Medical Center Cardiovascular Center prides itself on maintaining strong lines of communication with its patients' primary care physicians and our community-based specialists. The center collaborates closely with these individuals in formulating expeditious plans for cardiac intervention and in providing thorough follow-up.



EDUCATION

KEEPS

GETTING

BETTER



WELCOMING THE SECOND CLASS

In July 2019, Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine, the first private medical school in decades, welcomed its second class of medical students. 91 students were selected from nearly 5,000 applicants to follow the innovative curriculum that includes a three-year path to residency, making a medical education more affordable.

The curriculum also includes partnering students with patients in underserved communities, so they better understand the social determinants of health and interdisciplinary learning so that graduates are prepared to provide team-based care which research shows improves outcomes.

The newest class is half female, and 58 students are from New Jersey. Nine have advanced degrees in law, public health, bioethics and other fields. The class also speaks 23 languages, an asset in New Jersey, one of the most diverse states in the nation.

The Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine first opened in 2018, in partnership with Seton Hall University. Just three years later, the school was established as an independent medical school, a major milestone for Hackensack Meridian Health.

EDUCATING THE **FUTURE**

Hackensack Meridian Health has several, robust educational programs to help teach the future health care work force. We are proud to educate the next generation of clinicians that will care for our community.

Scholarships, fellowships and endowments supported by generous donors are transformational in shaping the next generation of physicians, as they are uniquely prepared to practice medicine in a new state of health care.

HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH'S RESIDENCY AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS*:

RESIDENTS

NEUROLOGY	14
PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION	12
ANESTHESIOLOGY	4
EMERGENCY MEDICINE	36
OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY	20
INTERNAL MEDICINE	144
PEDIATRICS	44
SURGERY	40
UROLOGY	3
TRANSITIONAL YEAR	18
DERMATOLOGY	9
FAMILY MEDICINE	40
PODIATRY	12
PSYCHIATRY	20
DENTISTRY	23
PHARMACY	8
PHARMACY - EMERGENCY MEDICINE	1
ACTIVE ORTHOPEDICS & SPORTS MEDICINE	1

FELLOWS

CLINICAL NEUROPHYSIOLOGY	1
SLEEP MEDICINE	2
BRAIN INJURY MEDICINE	1
PAIN MEDICINE	1
VASCULAR NEUROLOGY	2
NEUROCRITICAL CARE (NON ACGME)	2
ENDOUROLOGY	1
ENDOVASCULAR NEUROINTERVENTIONAL	1
FEMALE PELVIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY	1
HEART FAILURE	2
MINIMALLY INVASIVE	2
ONCOPLASTIC	1
PEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY	1
ROBOTIC SURGERY	1
STRUCTURAL & CONGENITAL HEART	2
GASTROENTEROLOGY	6
PEDIATRIC HOSPITALIST	1
CARDIOLOGY	6
CRITICAL CARE	2
PULMONOLOGY	2
NEPHROLOGY	1
ENDOCRINOLOGY	1

*These numbers reflect data as of December 2019.



COMMUNITY
OUTREACH
KEEPS
GETTING
BETTER

HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY.

Whether we are providing important health screenings, educational programs or charity care, or doing our part to connect human health with environmental health, we are proud to meet the needs of our community.

HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH'S COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS TOTAL MORE THAN **\$525 MILLION**



UNDERSTANDING **COMMUNITY** NEEDS

In 2019, Hackensack Meridian Health completed an in-depth, network-wide Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The assessment, which includes a data-driven approach to understanding the health status, behaviors and needs of residents in our service areas, studied people living all the way up in Bergen County, down to Ocean County.

Without the support and participation of community leaders and representatives, this important work would not be possible.

 **2,425** community residents provided input through a telephone survey.

 **225** key informants participated in an online survey. Key informants included physicians, health care providers, public health experts, faith-based leaders, teachers, community and business leaders, social service providers and government officials.

The results of the CHNA enable Hackensack Meridian Health and its 17 hospitals to set priorities, develop interventions and direct resources to improve the health of people living in our communities throughout New Jersey.

Hackensack Meridian Health's CNHA's and improvement plans can be found online at HackensackMeridianHealth.org/CHNA.

*These numbers reflect community benefit contributions made by Hackensack Meridian Health in 2018, the most recent year of available data. This section always only features Hackensack Meridian Health's not-for-profit hospitals and health ventures.

More than **56,000** preventive health screenings provided, including:

- Blood Pressure
- Body Mass Index (BMI)
- Glucose
- Total Cholesterol
- Stroke Risk Assessment
- Skin Cancer
- Colorectal Cancer
- And more

9,822 individuals had out-of-range results and were referred for follow up.



4,845 children educated on the importance of bike helmets

733 colorectal cancer screening kits distributed

21 positive results referred for follow-up



88 healthy cooking demonstrations where **1,311** community members were educated

21 potential cancers identified and patients referred for follow up care and treatment



1,325 lectures were given by health care providers to **80,836** community members focused on disease prevention, chronic disease management, nutrition, healthy living and more

6,666 individuals given the knowledge and tools to manage their diseases through **20** different Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs

HEALTH SCREENINGS & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

30 Smoking Cessation and Smoking Hypnosis classes provided

155 smokers equipped with the knowledge and tools to overcome their tobacco addiction



6,659 students trained in CPR & AED use



10,900+ children educated on how to eat right, stay fit, be safe and act responsibly

1,030+ Narcan kits provided to law enforcement and first responders, free-of-charge.

Narcan is a life-saving medication that reverses opioid overdoses.



5,501 community members, patients and caregivers participated in support groups



50,365 community members engaged through **131** Health Fairs

1,895 community members received an AngioScreen™

How did participants improve their health based on the results?

36.8% altered their diet

26.3% lost weight

1.8% quit smoking



CLINICAL RESEARCH

Through unique collaborations with organizations such as large pharmaceutical companies headquartered in New Jersey – Hackensack Meridian Health offers studies of novel agents that are not available elsewhere, from promising targeted therapies to immunotherapies. Patients can receive the latest evidence-based treatments closer to where they live and work, across the entire Hackensack Meridian Health network.

1,233 active research studies
(oncology and non-oncology)



Nearly 600 clinical trials in oncology available for our patients

Many offering the latest innovations in diagnosis, treatment and prevention through our Phase I Clinical Trial Unit, Multiple Myeloma, Lymphoma, Leukemia and Bone Marrow Transplant Research Programs



All patients are routinely prescreened for clinical trial eligibility

2,100+ patients participating in oncology trials

About 1/3 of new oncology patients are enrolled

George and Vita Kolber Family Health Center

The George and Vita Kolber Family Health Center in Red Bank offers high quality medical care for families in our community. Within the Family Health Center, there are the following clinics: Surgical, Gynecology, Medical, Pain, Podiatry, Pediatric, Prenatal and Infectious Disease.



The Family Health Center saw **3,975** patients in 2019.



There were **1,308** pediatric visits, 639 vaccine visits and 114 depression screenings (ages 12-18) with 16 referred to providers for further care.

Jane H. Booker Family Health Center

The Jane H. Booker Family Health Center provides comprehensive primary and specialty care to our community and surrounding areas, from the prenatal period, through childhood, adulthood and into their elderly years. The Family Health Center provides services for all patients to meet their physical needs as well as their social, nutritional, financial and mental health needs that compose the whole person.



The Family Health Center saw **24,000** patient visits in 2019



An additional **5,000** visits at the Center for Dentistry



1,185 nutritionist consultations



Social workers had over **3,000** contacts



Educator provided **881** women with prenatal education

The integration of behavioral health into primary care continues to be one of the most important aspects to treating



the whole person. The team consists of a behavioral health consultant and a behavioral health specialist who are there to intervene with patients who may have issues such as anxiety, depression, or suicidal thoughts.



Over **2,244** patients were screened for depression, and 21% had positive responses that required immediate, on-the-spot intervention. This is an invaluable and life-saving service.

JFK Medical Center Dental Clinic

JFK Medical Center's Dental Clinic welcomes everyone, from children to elderly patients, regardless of their insurance coverage, specialized needs, or ability to pay. The program is run by caring, compassionate members of the hospital's dental staff who generously volunteer their time, as well as dentists enrolled in JFK's one-year General Dentistry Residency Program.



The Dental Clinic saw **3,245** patients in 2019.

A grant from Delta Dental funded two programs for our underserved senior citizens.

We provided **\$10,600** worth of dentures and were able to purchase a mobile dental cart to provide exams/cleanings at the JFK Adult Day Care Center.



We provided **\$8,354** in dental services for the Give Kids A Smile event (x-rays, exams, cleanings, fluoride, restorations, extractions). This national program is for children who do not have dental insurance/access to care.

By partnering with Family Medicine's Centering Pregnancy program, we provided education to the expectant mothers about the effects of pregnancy on the oral cavity and the care of their teeth and the baby's teeth/gums. Exams, cleanings and an electric toothbrush are also provided to the program's participants at no cost.

Social Determinants of Health

Social determinants of health are the conditions in which people live, grow, work and age, as well as complex social and economic structures that influence our health. Social determinants of health are linked to a lack of resources and opportunity to maintain and improve our well-being. These factors contribute greatly to the unfair and avoidable differences in health status seen in various populations.



Economic Stability



Education



Health and Health Care



Neighborhood and Built Environment



Social and Community Context

COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT

Hackensack *Meridian Health* is committed to creating effective programs that address the social determinants of health to improve the overall health of our population. Below are a few examples.

Hackensack *Meridian Health* Partners with Interfaith Neighbors, Inc.

A partnership between Hackensack *Meridian Health* and Interfaith Neighbors, Inc. was strengthened to address food insecurities / access to healthy food, as well as workforce development. The program supported Farm Without Borders, Kula Café and Green Thumbs.

Financial Support from Hackensack *Meridian Health* Provided:

- 3,000 pounds of fresh produce free to the community
- 800+ hours of employment for individuals participating in the Kula Farm Experience Program, and an additional 1,500 hours of employment for seasonal workers from the local community
- Training / education for community members on starting home-based seasonal gardens, also known as “satellite gardens”
- A Green Thumbs Program for students that included lessons in science, protecting the environment and healthy eating
- Healthy recipes from Hackensack *Meridian Health* (culturally relevant and tied to harvest schedule of farm), available free to community members

Plainfield Health Connections

Plainfield Health Connections (PHC) is a JFK Medical Center population health initiative. The program's mission is to improve the health and wellness of chronically ill, uninsured and underinsured residents in all communities served by JFK, thereby helping to reduce the cost of the delivery of health care. Since PHC was initiated in June 2014, more than 500 participants and their families have benefited from the care coordination services, disease-specific education and social support it provides.

In 2019, PHC served 100 participants and their families. Enrollment was ongoing, and activities were scheduled year-round to address the complex medical and social needs of participants.

Activities included:

- Two, six-week diabetes/prediabetes workshops
- Weekly nutrition and fitness classes
- Educational grocery tours
- Fitness Day event

By addressing the underlying socioeconomic determinants of health, Plainfield Health Connections helps participants overcome barriers that keep them from meeting their health goals.

Vocational Rehab

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department at JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute provides an opportunity for people with disabilities to assess career options and improve their personal skills and practices that will enable them to find employment, work effectively and live independently.

The department offers:

- Short term on-the-job work experience to explore potential career options
- Training options for both adults and high school age students (15 – 21-years-old) with disabilities
- Career mentoring provided by professionals in their respective fields



Below are a few program highlights:

Harriet P. Findlay Career Development Program

As the cornerstone of the JFK Vocational Rehabilitation Program, this career development curriculum provides high school students in transition with the skills needed to achieve their goals.

In 2019, we served 40 students from 14 different school districts in four NJ Counties

- 22 full-time students
- 17 part-time students
- 20 extended school year students

60% of 2019's graduating class was already employed upon graduation.

Career Development Program for Adults

Adults with disabilities are offered the opportunity to try different work situations in a real work environment within JFK Medical Center and with nearby community organizations and businesses.

In 2019, there were 41 program participants in the Adult Career Development Program.

Laboratory Assistant Training Program

In 2019, there were two, 15-week long classes held with a total of nine students.

Six of the nine students – or 67% – have been hired between Jersey Shore University Medical Center and LabCorp in Raritan.

SUSTAINABILITY HIGHLIGHTS



Hackensack Meridian *Health* is proud to embrace the connection between human health and a healthy environment. From reducing energy and water consumption, to safer use of chemicals, healthier foods and practices and reduced waste, we are continually finding new ways to deepen our commitment to a sustainable future.



Sustainability Highlights from Hackensack Meridian Health:

- We are committed to blue wrap reduction. Over 10,000 bags made from recycled sterilization wrap and hospital operating room plastics were purchased and are being utilized.
- More than 90,000 pounds of waste was diverted from the landfill.
- Our hospitals continued to transition to LED Surgical Lights, with Hackensack University Medical Center meeting 100% with all 34 Operating Rooms having LED Surgical Lights.
- Hackensack Meridian Health has a commitment to having one of the best Sustainable Food programs in the country- with a system-wide goal of 100% antibiotic-free.

812,791 pounds of antibiotic-free meat were purchased at our hospitals.
- In 2019, we installed 20 new electric vehicle charging stations, bringing the total to 82 across our network.

Carrier Clinic – New to Hackensack Meridian Health, but Not New to Sustainability

In addition to Carrier Clinic’s high quality of care, the hospital’s great reverence for nature sets them apart. Carrier Clinic is on 350 acres in the Sourland Mountains and has dozens of therapy animals—turkeys, peacocks, guinea hens, goats, donkeys—and two Andalusian horses that were once owned by the Rockefeller family and rescued from a carriage accident in which they suffered broken legs. These animals interact with patients as part of Carrier Clinic’s animal-assisted therapy program.

The campus has a 14-acre solar farm—one of the country’s largest owned by a hospital—producing nearly 60% of the site’s power. The hospital also replaced 3,000 light fixtures with LED lights.

Carrier Clinic has recycled old buildings using:

- windows as pallets for the “Windows to the Future” project for local artists and patients
- over 8,000 bricks for signs, fence posts, small paths and special features
- ground concrete used as underlayment below new roads

In short, Carrier Clinic has healed the campus and turned it into an element of the healing process for our patients.



PHILANTHROPY

KEEPS

GETTING

BETTER

2019

PHILANTHROPIC SUMMARY

Hackensack Meridian *Health* is incredibly grateful for the philanthropic support of our donors. Every gift, big and small, can help transform the care provided to our community.

MORE THAN **\$102M** RAISED

THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF
26,464 DONORS

MORE THAN **\$40M** WAS
TRANSFERRED BACK TO
HACKENSACK MERIDIAN *HEALTH*
AND ITS HOSPITALS TO HELP FUND
IMPORTANT INITIATIVES, INCLUDING:

- Riverview Medical Center Foundation funding supported the development of 23 new and beautiful private patient rooms at Riverview Medical Center, as well as an oversized family waiting room and a centrally located nursing station with enhanced technology to maximize communication capabilities.
- Research and innovation at the Center for Discovery and Innovation, and scholarships and other initiatives at Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine were also supported through funding from Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation.

The following summarizes just a few of the many philanthropic highlights from 2019.

LARGEST SINGLE DONATION IN MEDICAL CENTER'S HISTORY

Helena Theurer, longtime benefactor and friend, generously donated \$25 million in 2019 to advance cancer research and transform clinical care at John Theurer Cancer Center. Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation honored Mrs. Theurer in a special celebration for her lifetime giving of \$35 million.

Mrs. Theurer's 2010 leadership gift of \$10 million established John Theurer Cancer Center, named in tribute of her late husband. In honor of her generous philanthropy, the medical center has dedicated and named its newest building, the *Helena Theurer Pavilion*.

The addition of the *Helena Theurer Pavilion*, one of the largest and most comprehensive health care construction projects in the country, is the centerpiece in the transformation of the Hackensack University Medical Center campus. Hackensack University Medical Center broke ground on the *Helena Theurer Pavilion* in September 2019. It is expected to be completed in the fall of 2022 (find more details about the Pavilion on page 21).

Mrs. Theurer, a successful businesswoman of distinguished achievement, has enriched the lives of many through her commitment to service and philanthropy. Helena, with her late husband John, were industry leaders in the truck trailer business. Their business entrepreneurship also included an extensive real estate portfolio and the construction of floating hotel suites in the Florida Keys.



Following Mr. Theurer's passing in 1994, Mrs. Theurer continued to build a booming enterprise using the skills learned through her years of experience in various industries. A former member of the Hackensack University Medical Center Board of Trustees and Board of Governors, she provided valuable guidance and shared her knowledge by serving in key leadership positions on various committees including Human Resources, Strategic Events, and the Cancer Advisory Board.

John Theurer Cancer Center has also been internationally recognized as one of the leading cancer centers in the country. Today, more than 1,200 team members, including physicians, clinical support and researchers, collaborate under one roof to deliver the best possible cancer care for patients in the Theurer name.

"I am truly amazed at how far John Theurer Cancer Center has come," said Helena Theurer. "As a young woman, a cancer diagnosis was considered a death sentence. Today, many cancers are not only treatable, but curable. My gift reflects my commitment to the cancer program at Hackensack Meridian Health. I am so proud to have John's name, and now mine, forever associated with excellence, innovation, and this visionary mission."

A PHILANTHROPIC MILESTONE

Hackensack Meridian *Health* continues its fight against pediatric cancer, always seeking innovative treatments and researching cures for this dreadful disease. Since its inception five years ago, Tackle Kids Cancer has raised over \$10 million for these efforts. When combined with other philanthropic initiatives for pediatric cancer research and patient care, the fundraising total climbs to over \$11.5 million.

The remarkable dedication of our pediatric team members along with the generosity of our dedicated supporters helped the Joseph M. Sanzari Children's Hospital and K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital rank among the top 50 best in the nation for pediatric cancer according to *U.S. News & World Report*. We offer patients and their families a multidisciplinary approach encompassing all types of pediatric cancer and blood diseases through state-of-the-art evaluations, treatments and support services.

Our network's commitment to furthering pediatric cancer research and expanding patient care programs provide our youngest patients and their families with hope. With the help of our donors, we are able to fund pioneering research, support clinical care and offer needed family support at both Joseph M. Sanzari Children's Hospital and K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital.



GROUNDBREAKING EMERGENCY CARE

Thanks to a generous donation by Mary Ellen Harris, founder and current president of the Golden Dome Foundation, Bayshore Medical Center's new, state-of-the-art Emergency Care Center (find more details on page 26) will be named in honor of the late Dr. Robert H. Harris, a prominent researcher. In addition to naming the new Emergency Care Center, a second gift from Mary Ellen Harris and the Golden Dome Foundation will be used to purchase cutting-edge technology that will be placed in several departments throughout the medical center, impacting tens of thousands of patients each year, including those in the Dr. Robert H. Harris Emergency Care Center. These two gifts will significantly enhance the care received by patients at Bayshore Medical Center and we celebrate the generosity of this Holmdel-based organization.





UNIQUE GIFT CREATES CAREER LADDER

The Grunin Foundation made a revolutionary gift that will create a first-of-its-kind program for patient care technicians throughout Hackensack Meridian Health. The foundation's substantial \$3 million contribution will establish patient care technician (PCT) preceptorship and apprenticeship programs to provide a career ladder for team members looking to move into long-term, higher paying clinical positions such as nursing, while offering growth opportunities for team members who want to build a lifelong career as a PCT, including mentorship and leadership responsibilities. The programs will also provide employment opportunities for local community members with limited education who want to begin a career in health care. PCTs are hands-on at the bedside taking care of patients every day, but turnover is high, which negatively impacts patient care and increases costs to health care systems. This gift will be a huge help in ensuring that patients continue to receive the best possible care, while creating real career opportunities for Hackensack Meridian Health team members and our community. We are very thankful to The Grunin Foundation for recognizing the value that PCTs bring to the patient care experience.

HIGH-PERFORMING FOUNDATIONS

In 2019, Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation and Meridian Health Foundation were recognized as High Performers by the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP). AHP's 2019 High Performer list recognizes organizations who represent the top 25 percent in net fundraising returns, and we are proud to have made this distinguished list.



MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR GRANTS

Several substantial grants were awarded to Hackensack Meridian Health in 2019, making a tremendous impact on our caregivers, patients and the entire community. Some highlights include:

- **A \$15.8 million grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will help improve care for at-risk youth.** At-risk children and adolescents with complex health conditions will benefit from integrated care coordination and case management, thanks to a \$15.8 million grant from the CMS. Hackensack Meridian Health, as the lead organization, is partnering with the VNA of Central Jersey (VNA), New Jersey Medicaid Agency and New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute (Quality Institute) to establish and test the New Jersey Integrated Care for Kids (InCK) Model in Monmouth and Ocean counties.
- **A \$3.4 million federal grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will fund New Jersey's first Nurse Practitioner Residency (NPR) program.** In partnership with our academic partner, Monmouth

University, Hackensack Meridian Health will create a rigorous residency program in community-based primary care practices in Atlantic, Monmouth, Ocean, Middlesex and Bergen counties. Under the guidance of trained preceptors, each year, 10 nurse practitioners will participate in a 12-month, full-time residency program, designed to fortify their clinical knowledge and advance their skills to provide primary care in community-based settings.

- **A new \$4.4 million grant from the New Jersey Department of Children and Families will support Hackensack Meridian Health's Pediatric Psychiatry Collaborate.** This statewide program provides support, evaluations and quick access to psychiatric consultations for children with behavioral and emotional health issues, while at the same time, providing education to pediatric primary care providers in 20 New Jersey counties on how to appropriately screen children for potential mental health issues.



**COVID-19
PANDEMIC
SPECIAL
SECTION**

In January 2020, the United States reported its first positive case of COVID-19. By March, the virus traveled to New Jersey, where the first patient was diagnosed at Hackensack University Medical Center. Despite everyone's efforts to contain the virus, it quickly spread across the state and the number of COVID positive patients, many falling critically ill, filled our hospitals.

Over the course of the following three months, more than 7,500 COVID positive patients were treated across Hackensack Meridian Health. Our brave health care heroes have put their lives on the line to provide compassionate, unwavering care – and our patients and their families have fought tirelessly in hopes of a joyous reunion with their loved ones. While the data doesn't tell the whole story, it does provide a level of understanding of the immense scope of the virus and the incredible magnitude of the team on the front line and behind the scenes.

THE COVID-19 CRISIS IN NUMBERS*

56,756

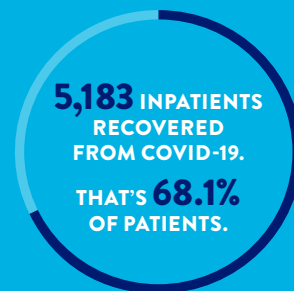
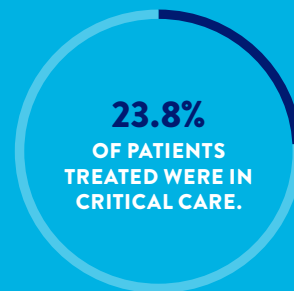
PEOPLE WERE TESTED
FOR COVID-19 AT
HACKENSACK
MERIDIAN HEALTH.

12,079

COVID-19 POSITIVE
PATIENTS WERE TREATED
ACROSS THE NETWORK.

7,631

COVID-19 POSITIVE
PATIENTS WERE TREATED
AT OUR HOSPITALS.



More than 900

ADDITIONAL TEAM
MEMBERS WERE BROUGHT
IN TO MEET DEMAND.



More than 1,000

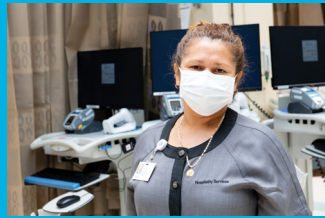
PATIENTS ENROLLED IN
COVID-19 RELATED
CLINICAL TRIALS.



More than 650

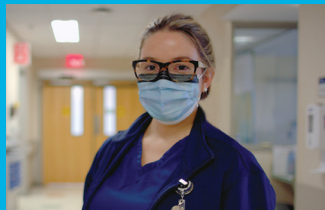
COVID-19 PATIENTS
RECEIVED PLASMA
THERAPY.

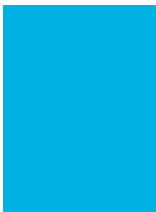
*Data from March through June 30, 2020.



WE SALUTE OUR FRONT-LINE STAFF

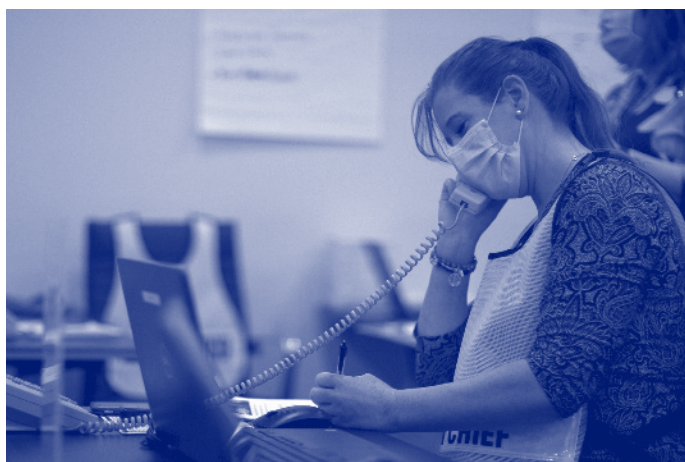
Our incredible care team members and front-line staff lead our nation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. For every step they took into the unknown, for their bravery and for each expression of empathy, we are grateful. We thank all of our health care heroes for their ultimate sacrifice and courage in caring for New Jersey and we thank the community for the incredible outpouring of support during the crisis.





BEHIND THE SCENES

While thousands of Hackensack Meridian *Health* team members battled the COVID-19 pandemic on the front-lines of patient care, thousands were behind the scenes helping to manage the crises. In early March, a Network Command Center was quickly established, as well as Command Centers at each local Hackensack Meridian *Health* hospital. The Network Command Center provided a central location to coordinate activity, share best practices and ensure each site was well equipped to tackle the myriad of challenges that appeared each day. The collaboration across the network demonstrated how valuable it is to have support from a system and share resources in times of great need.





REAL-TIME INNOVATION

Finding innovative ways to improve patient care and patient outcomes didn't slow down in the wake of COVID-19. In fact, Hackensack Meridian *Health's* scientists accelerated their research and development to get to the bedside as quickly as possible. Below are just a few of many highlights where Hackensack Meridian *Health* was at the forefront of innovation in direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rapid Testing When It's Needed Most

Early on in the COVID-19 crisis, Hackensack Meridian *Health's* Center for Discovery and Innovation (CDI) created a test that dramatically reduced the time it takes to diagnose the virus. Launched in mid-March, this game-changing diagnostic tool reduced the previous testing process from days to just hours.

Lifesaving Plasma

John Theurer Cancer Center and the CDI have also created a convalescent plasma infusion program that uses plasma found in the blood of recovered COVID-19 patients to treat those



who are severely ill from the virus. The goal of transfusing the antibody-rich plasma of a recovered patient to an infected patient is for the antibodies to start fighting off the virus, preventing it from causing damage to the body.

Clinical Trials

In June 2020, Hackensack Meridian *Health* reached a significant milestone in its COVID-19 research: The 1,000th patient was administered one of the latest investigative treatments over the course of the pandemic. From antiviral drugs to immunotherapies, these patients have been treated in 10 different clinical trials, as well as through compassionate-use and expanded-use access.



HACKENSACK MERIDIAN *HEALTH* HAS MORE TOP-RANKED HOSPITALS THAN ANY SYSTEM IN NEW JERSEY; HACKENSACK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER, JERSEY SHORE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER, OCEAN MEDICAL CENTER AND RIVERVIEW MEDICAL CENTER AMONG TOP HOSPITALS IN NEW JERSEY

HACKENSACK MERIDIAN *HEALTH*, New Jersey's largest and most comprehensive health network, is proud to announce that four of its hospitals – Hackensack University Medical Center, Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Ocean Medical Center and Riverview Medical Center – are among the top hospitals in New Jersey for 2020-21, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. Additionally, the health system has more top-ranked hospitals than any system in New Jersey. The hospitals are also ranked as High Performing in the U.S. in several areas of care. The 31st annual Best Hospitals rankings recognize hospitals that excel in treating the most challenging patients.

Hackensack University Medical Center is ranked #2 in New Jersey and ranked among the top 1 percent of all hospitals in the nation – continuing to set a high bar for New Jersey hospitals. In addition to its Best Hospitals ranking, Hackensack University Medical Center is also ranked High Performing in the U.S. in the following adult specialties: cancer care, cardiology and heart surgery, gastroenterology and GI surgery, geriatrics, nephrology, neurology and neurosurgery, orthopedics, pulmonology and urology. Hackensack University Medical Center is also ranked High Performing in the U.S. in the following procedures/conditions: colon cancer surgery, lung cancer surgery, heart failure, abdominal aortic aneurysm repair, aortic valve surgery, heart bypass surgery, knee and hip replacement and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Jersey Shore University Medical Center is ranked #6 in New Jersey. Additionally, Jersey Shore University Medical Center is ranked High Performing in the U.S. in the following adult specialties: nephrology and orthopedics. Jersey Shore University Medical Center is also ranked High Performing in the U.S. in the following procedures/conditions: heart failure, aortic valve surgery, heart bypass surgery, hip replacement and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Ocean Medical Center is ranked #7 in New Jersey and is also ranked High Performing in the U.S. in the following procedures/conditions: congestive heart failure, colon cancer surgery, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, hip replacement and knee replacement.

Riverview Medical Center is ranked #12 in New Jersey and is also ranked High Performing in the U.S. in the following procedures/conditions: congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and hip replacement.

In addition, **Southern Ocean Medical Center** ranked High Performing in the U.S. in the urology adult specialty and following procedures/conditions: congestive heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

U.S. News & World Report has recognized **John Theurer Cancer Center at Hackensack University Medical Center** as the best cancer center in New Jersey. The recognition reflects the extraordinary strength of its comprehensive patient care, research and education programs.

Joseph M. Sanzari Children's Hospital at Hackensack University Medical Center, and K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital at Jersey Shore University Medical Center earned top 50 rankings in the annual *U.S. News*' 2020-21 Best Children's Hospitals report. The combined pediatric cancer care program at Joseph M. Sanzari Children's Hospital and K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital ranked 42 in the country, and is the only pediatric cancer program in New Jersey to rank in the top 50. For the sixth time, the pediatric neurology and neurosurgery program at Joseph M. Sanzari Children's Hospital ranked in the top 50 nationally. The hospitals also earned the distinction of being among *The New York Daily News*' top 5 children's hospitals in the New York Metropolitan area.



The Leapfrog Group Patient Safety Grades

Four Hackensack Meridian *Health* hospitals have received spring 2020 "A" grades: Jersey Shore University Medical Center; Ocean Medical Center; Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy; and Riverview Medical Center.

- Top Teaching Hospitals 2019 – Jersey Shore University Medical Center and Ocean Medical Center
- Top General Hospital 2019 - Riverview Medical Center



Hackensack Meridian *Health* hospitals have been Magnet-designated for more than two decades. Hackensack University Medical Center, Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Riverview Medical Center and Ocean Medical Center received the designation five times; Raritan Bay Medical Center has received the Magnet designation three times and Bayshore Medical Center and Southern Ocean Center were designated in 2017 for the first time.

- Meridian Health was the first health system in the nation to receive Magnet designation.
- Hackensack University Medical Center was the first hospital in New Jersey and the second in the country to receive this designation.



HEALTHGRADES:

- Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Ocean Medical Center, Riverview Medical Center and Bayshore Medical Center Achieve Healthgrades 2020 Patient Safety Excellence Award
- Hackensack University Medical Center was one of only five major academic medical centers in the nation to receive Healthgrades America's 50 Best Hospitals Award for five or more years in a row

Hackensack Meridian *Health* hospitals received Healthgrades Specialty Excellence Awards™ in multiple clinical categories along with five-star ratings for multiple conditions and procedures.

Eleven Hackensack Meridian *Health* hospitals received a total of 51 five-star ratings across 24 conditions and procedures. Additionally, seven hospitals were recognized among the top 10 percent of hospitals in the nation across multiple areas including Cardiac Care, Cardiac Surgery, Coronary Interventional Procedures, Stroke, Neurosciences, Vascular Surgery, Bariatric Surgery and General Surgery. Hackensack University Medical Center, Jersey Shore University Medical Center, JFK Medical Center, and Raritan Bay Medical Center received multiple Healthgrades Specialty Excellence Awards™. Hackensack University Medical Center received Five-Star awards across five cardiac conditions and procedures including Coronary Bypass Surgery, Defibrillator Procedures, Treatment of Heart Attack, Treatment of Heart Failure and Valve Surgery. In addition, five of the 11 hospitals received five-star ratings for Bariatric Surgery, including Bayshore Medical Center, Jersey Shore University Medical Center, JFK Medical Center, Mountainside Medical Center and Ocean Medical Center.

Hackensack University Medical Center and JFK Medical Center also each received the Labor and Delivery Excellence Award™ and the Obstetrics and Gynecology Excellence Award™ in 2019. In addition, four Hackensack Meridian *Health* facilities received the Healthgrades 2019 Patient Safety Excellence Award™ earlier this year – Bayshore Medical Center, JFK Medical Center, Ocean Medical Center and Riverview Medical Center.

AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION:

- Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine received AHA NOVA Award for Community Health Work (Human Dimensions Course)

NEW JERSEY HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION:

Champion Award: Gordon N. Litwin, Esq
HRET Community Outreach Award: Carrier Clinic
Health Education and Regional Trust Community Outreach Award for Behavioral Health/Resilience: Carrier Clinic

NEWSWEEK:

Best Hospitals USA: Hackensack University Medical Center (#55 of 300)

Best Maternity Hospitals: Jersey Shore University Medical Center and Ocean Medical Center

Best Nursing Homes: West Caldwell Care Center, Prospect Heights Care Center, Hackensack Meridian *Health* Nursing & Rehab in North Bergen, and Hackensack Meridian Nursing & Rehab in Holmdel

Best Addiction Treatment Centers: Blake Recovery Center at Carrier Clinic

BECKER'S

Hospital Review

BECKER'S AWARDS - 2019

Becker's 100 Academic Medical Center CEOs to Know: Robert C. Garrett

Becker's 150 Top Places to Work in Healthcare: Hackensack Meridian *Health*

Becker's 100 Hospital and Health System CIOs to Know: David Reis, Ph.D.

Becker's 32 Chief Population Health Officers to Know: Patrick Young

Becker's 100 Great Hospitals in America: Hackensack University Medical Center

Becker's 110 Physician Leaders to Know: Bonita Stanton, M.D. and Lisa Tank, M.D.

Becker's 130 ACOs to Know: HackensackAlliance ACO

BECKER'S AWARDS - 2020

Becker's 10 Health Systems with Strong Finances: Hackensack Meridian *Health*

Becker's 50 Hospitals and Health Systems CNOs to Know:

Theresa M. Brodrick, RN, Ph.D.

Becker's 70 Women Leaders in Health IT to Know :

Lauren Koniaris, M.D., Chief Medical Informatics officer of the Northern Region and Sandra Powell-Elliott, BS, MBA, vice president for Life Sciences and Innovation at Hackensack Meridian *Health*, with placement on the Becker's Hospital Review list of 70 Women Leaders in Health IT to Know.

NEW JERSEY BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

- Hackensack Meridian *Health* recognized as Nonprofit Outstanding Employer for 2020
- Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine wins New Good Neighbor Award for site redevelopment



TOP 25 ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE – HACKENSACK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER AND JERSEY SHORE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER:

- **Hackensack University Medical Center**, the network's flagship hospital, earned national recognition as a Practice Greenhealth Top 25 Green Hospital — one of only three hospitals in the U.S., and the only hospital in the tristate area to receive this recognition — for a seventh consecutive year. Through its efforts in sustainable food purchasing, Hackensack University Medical Center has helped to protect patients and team members from antibiotic resistance by purchasing meat and poultry raised without routine antibiotics since 2013. In addition, their use of safer chemicals has not only protected the environment, but it has helped shield patients and team members from unnecessary exposure to toxins. Practice Greenhealth also awarded the medical center with Circles of Excellence Awards for Leadership and healthier, more sustainable food, and the Greening the OR Recognition Award.
- **Jersey Shore University Medical Center** was also recognized for its leadership in serving fewer meat options in the cafeteria. By serving less meat, Jersey Shore University Medical Center is helping to prevent many diet-related illnesses. With dishes like buffalo cauliflower bites and falafel hash, Jersey Shore University Medical Center is creating innovative dishes that fuel patients with better food sources while, also saving the planet. The medical center was also awarded the Greening the OR Recognition Award and Making Medicine Mercury Free Award.

CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS:

Bayshore Medical Center: Emerald Award; Making Medicine Mercury Free Award

Ocean Medical Center: Emerald Award; Greening the OR Recognition Award and Making Medicine Mercury Free Award

Palisades Medical Center: Emerald Award; Circle of Excellence Award for Climate

Raritan Bay Medical Center – Old Bridge: Emerald Award; Circle of Excellence Award for Food; Making Medicine Mercury Free Award

Raritan Bay Medical Center – Perth Amboy: Emerald Award; Making Medicine Mercury Free Award

Riverview Medical Center: Emerald Award; Greening the OR Recognition Award

Southern Ocean Medical Center: Emerald Award; Making Medicine Mercury Free Award

ROI

ROI Influencers Power List 2020: Robert C. Garrett, FACHE, CEO

ROI Influencers Power List 2019: Robert C. Garrett, FACHE, CEO ranked #13

2020 ROI Influencers: Education: Bonita Stanton, M.D., Founding Dean of Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine

2020 C-Suite Recognitions:

• CEO/COO of the Year – Robert C. Garrett, FACHE, CEO

• CDO/CHRO – Nancy Corcoran-Davidoff

2019 ROI Influencers: Health Care List:

• Robert C. Garrett, CEO, Hackensack Meridian *Health*, ranked #1

• David Perlin, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer, CDI (Top 10)

• Cathy Ainora, Executive Vice President, Chief Integration Officer, Interim Central Market President

• Sara Cuccurullo, M.D., Medical Director, Vice President, Johnson Rehabilitation Institute

• Uli Diaz, Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation, Board of Trustees

• Robert Glenning, President, Financial Services Division, Chief Financial Officer

• Don Parker, President of Behavioral Health Services and Carrier Clinic

• Andrew Pecora, M.D., CEO, Outcomes Matter Innovations

• Bonita Stanton, M.D., President, Academic Enterprise, Founding



NJBIZ AWARDS - 2020

NJBIZ Power 100 List: Robert C. Garrett (#5), CEO

NJBIZ Best 50 Women in Business: Regina Foley, Ph.D., MBA, RN, and Sandra Powell-Elliott

NJBIZ NJ 40 Under 40: Aakash Shah, M.D.

NJBIZ Healthcare Heroes (finalists)

Education Hero: Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine

Healthcare Professional of the Year: Mark Sparta

Innovation Hero – Individual: Michele Donato, M.D.

Medical Technology Pioneer – Organization:

Center for Discovery & Innovation

Physician of the Year: Daniel Varga, M.D.

Workplace Hero: Hackensack Meridian *Health*

CIANJ AWARDS - 2019

CIANJ Environmental Service Leadership Medal: Hackensack Meridian *Health*

CIANJ CEO Best Practices Award: Robert C. Garrett for the Bear's Den initiative

CIANJ Generation Now Game-Changer Award: Anamika Desai

CIANJ Visionary Award: Audrey Murphy, Esq., MSN, RN



JOINT COMMISSION GOLD SEALS OF APPROVAL:

Hackensack University Medical Center (26)

Jersey Shore University Medical Center (8)

JFK Medical Center (3)

Bayshore Medical Center (3)

Mountainside Medical Center (7)

Nursing & Rehab (1)

Ocean Medical Center (6)

Palisades Medical Center (2)

Pascack Medical Center (4)

Raritan Bay Medical Center (2)

Riverview Medical Center (6)

Southern Ocean Medical Center (2)

- Tackle Kids Cancer recognized by the American Hospital Association HAVE Awards Honoring Volunteerism in the category of Fundraising
- Andrew Pecora, M.D. and Kenneth Sable, M.D. honored among Modern Healthcare's 50 Most Influential Physician Executives and Leaders
- David S. Perlin, Ph.D., honored by MD Advantage Insurance with a 2020 Edward J. III Award for "Outstanding Scientist"
- David Kountz, M.D. honored by MD Advantage Insurance with an Edward J. III Award: the Verice M. Mason Community Service Leader Award
- Bonita Stanton, M.D. honored by MD Advantage Insurance with an Edward J. III Award: Outstanding Medical Educator Award
- Silver Gull Award in recognition of Jersey Shore University Medical Center's HOPE Tower

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IN MEMORIAM

With a heavy heart and sincere regret, we said goodbye to three Hackensack Meridian Health and HMH Hospitals Corporation board members in 2019 and early 2020.



Joseph Simunovich, former co-chair of the Hackensack Meridian Health Board of Trustees and founding chair of the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine Board of Governors, passed away in June 2019.



Gordon N. Litwin, Esq., former chair of the Hackensack Meridian Health Board of Trustees and founding chair of Meridian Health (in 1997), passed away in April 2020.



Samuel Toscano, former member of the HMH Hospitals Corporation Board, past chair of the Hackensack University Medical Center Board of Governors, and past chair of the Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation, passed away in March 2020.

We were incredibly fortunate to have these three visionaries dedicate their time and talent to help improve the health and well-being of the state of New Jersey. Through their work and countless hours of commitment, they leave a rich and accomplished legacy that will benefit our patients, team members and communities for years to come.

These lists reflect board and committee members as of July 2020.

