

New robotic system offers unmatched precision



Continued from cover

view. Though it is often called a robot, daVinci cannot act on its own. Instead, the surgery is performed with unmatched precision entirely by the surgeon. The surgeon controls the robotic system as it translates his or her hand movements into smaller, more precise movements of tiny instruments inside the patient's body. Together, surgeon and the robotic technology perform complex procedures through just a few tiny openings.

Types of procedures

Gwinnett Medical Center-Duluth performs three types of robotic procedures for women including:

- Hysterectomy, the removal of the uterus and on occasion the removal of the ovaries, fallopian tubes and/or select lymph nodes, depending on the patient's condition
- Myomectomy, the removal of fibroid tumors
- Sacrospinopexy, the treatment of pelvic floor prolapse

How does robotic surgery help?

Some of the primary benefits of procedures performed using daVinci for patients at Gwinnett Medical Center-Duluth include:

- A shorter hospital stay
- Significantly less pain
- Less blood loss and fewer blood transfusions
- Minimally invasive surgical option for women with large, numerous or difficult to access myomas
- Fewer complications and risk of infection
- Shorter hospital stay
- Faster recovery and return to normal activities
- Small, dime-sized incisions for improved cosmesis

As part of its mission, Transforming Healthcare, Gwinnett Medical Center-Duluth is committed to offering a broad range of alternatives to conventional open-surgery procedures. Visit gwinnettmedicalcenter.org/davinci for more information about robotic surgery or call 678-312-5000 for a free physician referral.

Pleasant Hill Road bridge project receives key approval

Efforts to replace the Pleasant Hill Road bridge over I-85 have received an important boost from state transportation authorities.

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) recently approved a concept report as part of planning for the innovative diverging-diamond interchange (DDI) at Pleasant Hill Road's interstate crossing.

Having the concept report approved is required to advance the project further with the Federal Highway Administration and marks an important milestone in advancing the project from a

conceptual one to an approved project ready for implementation. Additional permitting and plan approvals will be sought this Fall as right-of-acquisition continues in preparation for construction to begin in early 2012.

Leo Wiener, chairman the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District (CID), said the GDOT approval is welcomed news signaling that the bridge replacement is closer to reality.

"The CID's top priority is rebuilding this bridge to dramatically improve traffic flow and safety," Wiener said. "We greatly appreciate the strong leadership

and emphasis that Gwinnett County and Georgia transportation authorities have placed on the Pleasant Hill Road DDI. They recognize the importance of this project to the CID and our county's central business district."

The CID also received word that the GDOT will be supplying \$450,000 in 2011 Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant funding. These funds will support the CID's efforts to complete streetscaping and other pedestrian enhancements on Satellite Boulevard from Pleasant Hill Road to the Gwinnett Transit Center. ●

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