Peter Frommer, M.D. Heart Center Opens Second Cath Lab

On February 12, 2010, history was made as Orange Regional opened its second cardiac cath lab in the Peter Frommer, M.D. Heart Center located at the Horton Campus. A special ribbon cutting ceremony was held with members of the Frommer family to celebrate the momentous occasion. The lab was constructed to support an increase in cardiology patients, specifically those receiving emergency or elective angioplasty as well as diagnostic catheterization and electrophysiology (EP) studies.

NICU Approved for Rowley Family Birthing Center in New Hospital

Orange Regional Medical Center has received New York State Department of Health approval for a Level 2, 10-bed Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) in the Rowley Family Birthing Center at the new hospital. The NICU will be located on the 6th floor of the new facility. It will complement the current perinatal services and full-time neonatologists Orange Regional offers in conjunction with Westchester Medical Center.

Orange Regional’s NICU will also provide a full array of specialized equipment and delivery room coverage along with all required support services on a 24-hour basis. Neonatologists and specially trained neonatology nurses and nurse practitioners will staff the NICU.
Some Things We Can Control...

I recently got a call from a friend who was visiting the state of Florida and was injured. He needed an operation, so he called me to see if I could find out anything about the surgeon he was referred to. I looked the physician up on the State medical page, found out he was Board-certified, where he worked and where he had his training. I then called the physician’s office and figured I’d speak to him or his staff. The office staff was effusive in their praise of the physician. They, without my asking, offered to fax his CV and Board-certification certificate to me. It arrived in my hands 5 minutes later and included a state quality assurance file outlining his malpractice history for the last 10 years!

What would happen if you had received this type of call? Our staff has the power to make us look good, as in the above example, or they can present a very amateurish and unprofessional practice which reflects on you. The same goes for our answering services. We pay for this service to make us look good, protect us, at times, and to put the best face forward when dealing with our patients or fellow healthcare professionals. There should never be a time when we are presented in any way but perfect!

Let’s take this a step further and make it our goal that when we, ourselves, interact with patients inside the hospital, we also help to build each other and our institution up.

It is not easy to take a critical look at ourselves and our own backyard. However, by starting there and taking responsibility for what we can control, a remarkable and positive difference can be made in how we are perceived. I was impressed with the Florida doctor’s staff and operation. That doesn’t mean he is a great doctor. Nevertheless, first impressions are important and his office certainly made a good one.

Jim Oxley, DO
Vice President of Medical Affairs

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**Post-Cardiac Arrest Hypothermia Treatment at Horton Campus**

The protocol for post-cardiac arrest hypothermia has been implemented at the Horton Campus. This protocol is used to protect the brain in patients, post-cardiac arrest, and can lead to better functional outcomes in patients who are resuscitated from cardiac arrest. The implementation of this policy could not have happened without the generosity of the Orange Regional Medical Center Foundation who supplied more than $39,000 in funding for the equipment. Gratitude and appreciation is also extended to Dr. Eric Silva who spearheaded the protocol and the departments of Anesthesia, Cardiology, Emergency Medicine, Pulmonary/Critical Care, Pharmacy and Nursing. Thank you for your support and assistance. It is one more step in our goal of providing the best care to our community.

For more information on the protocol for post cardiac arrest, please contact Cathy Fogarty, RN, Nurse Director of the Horton Campus Emergency Department or Dr. Eric Silva, Associate Director of the Emergency Department at the Horton Campus, at 845-342-7108.

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**Medical Staff Master Meeting Schedule on Hospital Intranet**

All Medical Staff meetings are now located on the hospital’s intranet. To see the master meeting schedule, visit the intranet, click on Medical Staff in the menu bar and then click on the Medical Staff Department/Committee Master Meeting Schedule link.
**Physician Spotlight**

*Dr. Shmuel Shapira, Interventional Cardiologist, shares his insight on the future of cardiac care*

Dr. Shapira joined Orange Regional two years ago as the Interventional Cardiologist representing Middletown Medical. He specializes in treating coronary and peripheral artery disease, placement of pacemakers, defibrillators and resynchronization pacemaker leads. He takes part in the STEMI (acute heart attack) team covering Orange County and its surrounding areas 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We’ve asked him to share his thoughts on the future of cardiology at Orange Regional and some information about himself.

"As Orange Regional Medical Center moves closer to opening its new hospital, having a high-level angioplasty team will help with the expansion of its cardiac center. The next year will be marked by our transition to the new and modern hospital and one that will, eventually, allow us to perform cardiac surgery; now only available outside of Orange County," Dr. Shapira said.

He believes having a high-level cath lab within our own community is a great asset. Most patients’ cardiac care, including elective and emergency angioplasty and stent placement, can now be performed locally, improving patients’ experiences without compromising safety.

Dr. Shapira has 23 years of cardiac cath lab experience, most of which was in New Orleans. He is Board-certified in internal medicine, cardiovascular disease and interventional cardiology. He completed his medical studies at the Technion Medical School in Haifa, Israel and his internal medicine residency with the Interfaith Medical center in Brooklyn, New York. His Fellowship was at Advocate Christ Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois.

Prior to his arrival in the United States, Dr. Shapira served in the Israeli army as a paratrooper and platoon commander. He is a veteran of three wars and attained the ranking of captain. Dr. Shapira is a commercial pilot and used to enjoy flying as a hobby. He can be reached at 845-342-4774.

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**Did you know….**

Most insurance plans require pre-authorization for a patient to undergo outpatient testing, biopsies and/or surgical procedures. With some insurance plans, the authorization process can take up to 72 hours.

Authorizations are most commonly required for MRI; MRA; CT Scan; CCTA; Nuclear Medicine; Nuclear Cardiology; Pet Scan; Biopsy and Surgery. On occasion, approval for ultrasounds and mammography may be required. Be sure to submit your requests early to ensure on-time authorizations. The best time to obtain authorization is when the patient is given a prescription.

To learn more about pre-authorization, you and your staff are invited to Orange Regional’s Outpatient Fair on Tuesday, June 1, 2010 from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., at the Horton Campus where Orange Regional Outpatient Tool-kits will be available.

If your office needs additional assistance regarding pre-authorizations, please contact the Pre-Registration Department at 845-342-7120 and select option number 3.

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**Are You Joint Commission Ready?**

Joint Commission readiness is everyone’s responsibility.
One of the most innovative forms of treatment for prostate cancer is robotic prostatectomy using the daVinci Surgical System.

In fall 2009, Orange Regional installed the daVinci SI Surgical System which provides surgeons with an alternative to both traditional open surgery and conventional laparoscopy. Using the surgical system, surgeons operate while seated comfortably at a console viewing a 3D image of the surgical field, explains Orange Regional’s Medical Director of Robotic Urological Surgery, Dr. Pedro Maria. The surgeon’s fingers grasp the master controls below the display, with hands and wrists naturally positioned relative to his or her eyes. The system seamlessly translates the surgeon’s hand, wrist and finger movements into precise, real-time movements of surgical instruments inside the patient.

The benefit to patients, Dr. Maria added, is reduced trauma to the body; reduced blood loss and need for transfusions; less post-operative pain and discomfort; less risk of infection and scarring; a short hospital stay; faster recovery and return to normal daily activities.

By enhancing surgical capabilities, the daVinci SI Surgical System helps to improve clinical outcomes and redefine standards of care. With the use of the System, Dr. Maria, of Middletown Urology Group, and his team of nurses, technicians and physicians are helping to make Orange Regional’s robotic program a success. Dr. Pedro Maria can be reached at 845-343-4141. Also utilizing robotic surgery for urology is Dr. Steven Rowe of Crystal Run Healthcare.

Orange Regional’s Obstetrics and Gynecology Department members Dr. Ralph Anderson and Dr. Deborah Spencer of Crystal Run Healthcare are also privileged to utilize the surgical system to perform gynecological procedures.
In the News

Drs. John Fioranti and Paul Kochupura, Board-certified surgeons at Crystal Run Healthcare, appeared on the cover of the March 2010 issue of MD News and were featured in a story about Advanced Endovascular techniques. To see the issue, visit midhudson.mdnews.com

Board-certified Pediatrician, Dr. Suzanne Kaseta, of Washingtonville Pediatrics, was featured in the “I am Orange County” section of the April/May 2010 issue of Orange Magazine. Visit OrangeMagazineNY.com

Drs. Laura Nicoll, of Crystal Run Healthcare, and Ciro Attardo, of Horizon Family Medical Group, were featured in the Times Herald-Record’s ‘Go Healthy’ section where they were quoted in a story on why men make excuses not to go to the doctor. Dr. Paul Baker, of Hudson Valley Pediatrics, was featured in ‘Go Healthy’ for his expertise on swine flu and Dr. Thomas Littner, of Cornerstone Dental, was featured on the cover of ‘Go Healthy’ and in a story about dental-sleep medicine.
The Grateful Patient Program Recognizes Physician ‘Partners In Excellence’

Since Orange Regional Medical Center Foundation introduced its new Grateful Patient Program, our patients and their families have responded with generous donations totaling $8,000 and heartfelt notes and letters of appreciation. The following physicians have been recognized as Partners In Excellence:

- Mark Bele, MD
- Thomas Booker, MD
- William Cieplinski, MD
- Edward Croen, MD
- Thomas Eanelli, MD
- John Ferguson, MD
- Eric Fethke, MD
- Gerard Galarneau, MD
- Anousheh Ghezel-Ayagh, MD
- Emelito Gonzales, MD
- William Gotsis, MD
- Leslie Green, MD
- Firas Hamdi, MD
- Michael Hoffman, MD
- Howard Karpoff, MD
- Gnanamba Kondagunta, MD
- Cleveland Lewis, MD
- Eric Martin, MD
- Phillip Massengill, MD
- James McLaughlin, MD
- Themostklis Nissirios, MD
- John Peralo, MD
- Manuel Perry, MD
- Daniel Ponticello, MD
- Ravi Ramaswamy, MD
- Ronald Raspa, MD
- Robert Jaffe, MD
- Daniel Rohmer, MD
- Alan Schaffer, MD
- Emmanuel Schenkman, MD
- Scott Selbo, MD
- Viral Sheth, MD
- Lance Siegel, MD
- Eric Silva, MD
- Samir Sodha, MD
- Charles Strober, MD
- Kevin Trapp, MD

Dr. Ronald Israelski’s Efforts for Haitian Relief

Dr. Ronald Israelski, of Catskill Orange Orthopaedics, recently spent time in Haiti after the devastating earthquake where he lent his talent and expertise to many of the injured Haitian people. Now he is looking to deliver the first X-ray machines and CT Scans to the university hospital in Port-au-Prince, Haiti in the next month or two. Dr. Israelski is very concerned that there is still no infrastructure or sterile operating rooms at the only public hospital in Haiti.

“This hospital is responsible for caring for the uninsured and poor of Haiti and infrastructural development needs to occur as soon as possible to prevent the death of much of the indigent population,” he said.

At left, Dr. Israelski is shown in Haiti at work and with members of the United States Military. We, at Orange Regional, are proud of his efforts.
Around and About:

*Physicians Make Debut in “Operation Runway”*

On April 25, 2010 several Orange Regional physicians appeared as models in the 2nd Annual Operation Runway Fashion Show held at "The Fountains" at Town of Wallkill Golf Club to raise funds for the Orange Regional Medical Center Auxiliary. Proceeds from the event, which raised $9,200, will benefit the new hospital. Orange Regional is grateful for their support of fundraising activities that benefit our community.

Congratulations

*Dr. Anuj Vohra Awarded as ‘Physician of Excellence’*

In March 2010, Dr. Anuj Vohra, Associate Director of the Emergency Department, was selected by the Orange County EMS Council as the Emergency Physician of Excellence. Pictured is Dr. Vohra (center) with Rebecca Stage, Chairperson of the Orange County EMS Council and Walter Welsh, Vice-Chair of the Orange County EMS Council.
Welcome New Practitioners

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Specialty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Berger</td>
<td>MD Cardiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Brady</td>
<td>MD Obstetrics &amp; Gynecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evan Deutsch</td>
<td>MD Vascular Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dimitrios Papavassiliou</td>
<td>MD Pediatric Cardiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tejas Parikh</td>
<td>MD Diagnostic Imaging</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Putter</td>
<td>MD Anesthesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andreea Rahman</td>
<td>MD Internal Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Shapiro</td>
<td>MD Internal Medicine</td>
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SAVE THE DATE

**Information Fair and Breakfast Meeting**
The Ease of Scheduling: Elements of an Outpatient Script
Sponsored by the Outpatient Services Department

Tuesday June 1, 2010
7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Orange Regional’s Horton Campus Auditorium
For physicians and their office staff

Please RSVP to Marisol Ortiz,
Director of Patient Access Management,
at 845-342-7178 by May 25, 2010

**Medical Staff Quarterly Meeting**
Thursday, June 3, 2010 at 6 p.m.
New Hospital Site – tours and refreshments

Orange Regional Medical Center

**2010 Golf Classic**

Monday, June 21, 2010
Otterkill Golf and Country Club
Orange County Golf Club

For more information, contact
Tori Neville at 845-343-2424 x2198 or visit www.ormc.org