



YourCare

A CROUSE HOSPITAL COMMUNITY PUBLICATION



**Crouse Neuroscience Institute
Advanced Care
for the Brain & Spine**

Crouse Recognized with Gold-Plus Award for **Heart Failure Care**



Crouse Hospital has received the Get With The Guidelines — Heart Failure Gold-Plus Quality Achievement Award for implementing specific quality improvement measures outlined by the American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology Foundation's prevention guidelines for heart failure patients.

Get With The Guidelines is a quality improvement program that helps hospital teams provide the most up-to-date, research-based guidelines, with the goal of speeding recovery and reducing hospital readmissions for heart failure patients. Crouse, the first hospital in New York State with dual chest pain and heart failure accreditation, earned the award by meeting specific quality achievement measures for the diagnosis and treatment of heart failure patients at a set level for a designated period.

"The Miron Cardiac Care Center at Crouse Hospital is dedicated to improving the quality of care for our heart failure patients," says Chief Medical Officer Seth Kronenberg, MD. "Implementing the Get With The Guidelines program helps us accomplish this goal by tracking and measuring our success in meeting internationally respected guidelines."



Who's the 'Best' Doctor?

By Mickey Lebowitz, MD, FACE

Vice President of Medical Affairs and Clinical Quality

“Who's the best doctor?" This question is often posed to me by relatives, friends and patients. Who is the best internist? Cardiologist? Surgeon?

My answer has been the doctors I know and trust, based on my interactions with them, as well as the patients we shared and feedback from those patients. In short, my answer to the million-dollar, 'best-doctor' question has been my subjective opinion, rather than any objective information, such as their success and complication rates.

Volume to Value Care

Yet in the words of Bob Dylan, "The times they are a changin'." As healthcare shifts from "volume care" (how many patients can a doctor see) to "value care" (how many patients can a doctor see *well*), the answer to, "Who is the 'best' doctor?" is going to be better known now than ever before — with supporting data to prove it.

**“Who is the 'best' doctor?
The physician who delivers
the highest quality at the
lowest cost and with the
highest patient satisfaction.”**

— Mickey Lebowitz, MD

Value care is defined as high quality with low cost, and will be measured, for example, by how well a patient's blood pressure, cholesterol levels and blood sugars are controlled and if they meet national guidelines. Or for a surgeon, the infection or mortality rate for the patients on whom they operate.

Additionally, the cost of the tests and treatments can also be gleaned and



compared with the outcomes to see if "value care" was achieved. With the adoption of electronic medical records in hospitals and private offices, information can now be sent more easily to payers, such as Medicare, who can package the information and distribute it back to the public, hospitals and even to physicians. As one might expect, this will add an additional level of challenge to physicians having their "scores" made public, much like sports team scores and standings are made public every day in the media.

Who is the Best Doctor?

Patient satisfaction is also being factored into the "value care" mix. This indicator will also be publicized and taken into consideration by payers when they determine how much to reimburse physicians for their services.

So who is the best doctor? The answer may be the physician who delivers the highest quality care at the lowest cost, along with the highest patient satisfaction, supported not by mere word-of-mouth accolades, but publicly reported data.

Learn more about healthcare report cards at hospitalcompare.gov.

Crouse, SU Partner for Student Athletes

As the official hospital of Syracuse University Athletics, Crouse is proud to coordinate all orthopedic care for the school's student athletes, from football and basketball to lacrosse and field hockey.

The centerpiece of the SU/Crouse sports partnership is the team of local orthopedic surgeons Crouse has brought together to provide on-site game and practice coverage to student athletes.

The Crouse team includes Todd Battaglia, MD; Brad Raphael, MD; and Ryan Smart, MD, partners from Syracuse Orthopedic Specialists (SOS), and John Cannizzaro, MD; Kevin Setter, MD; and Matthew Scuderi, MD, partners from Upstate Bone and Joint Center.

"We're excited to work in collaboration with Crouse Hospital to enhance our orthopedic services," says Syracuse University Assistant Athletics Director for Sports Medicine Brad Pike. "Our priority is the health and well-being of our student athletes and Crouse has been most supportive in those efforts by drawing from an expert orthopedic community to enhance the services and care we provide our student athletes."

Crouse's overall sports medicine program features not just orthopedics, but a continuum of care that covers general surgical services, cardiac care, concussion management and a full range of physical and occupational rehabilitation services for both children and adults — from sports enthusiasts and 'weekend warriors' to student players and competitive athletes. Additionally, Crouse provides athletic trainers for a number of Syracuse city high schools.

"We're excited to work in collaboration with Crouse Hospital to enhance our orthopedic services."

— Brad Pike, SU Asst. Athletics Director

"We've been fortunate to be able to bring some of the best sports medicine orthopedic specialists in the region together for one common goal, which is to provide superior care to SU student athletes, both on and off the field," says Crouse Chief Medical Officer Seth Kronenberg, MD, who was instrumental in bringing the physicians from the area's two largest orthopedic specialty groups together.

Crouse orthopedic surgeons (left to right) John Cannizzaro, MD; Ryan Smart, MD; Brad Raphael, MD; Todd Battaglia, MD; Kevin Setter, MD; and Matthew Scuderi, MD.



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Affiliated with Crouse Medical Practice, PLLC

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Soubhi Azar, MD
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Lisa Dorsey, MD
Family Medicine



Matthew Marvel, MD
Internal Medicine

To schedule your appointment call **315/479-5070** or visit **crousemed.com**.

CNY Medical Center
739 Irving Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13210
Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Central New York's Gateway to Advanced Brain and Spine Care

Four years ago, Crouse Hospital identified a need in Central New York for a comprehensive service to treat those having serious brain and spine conditions or needing emergent stroke care.

This year, the Crouse Neuroscience Institute was formed — right in Syracuse, in the heart of New York State.

“Early on we recognized there was an opportunity to create a less fragmented, more coordinated approach for specialized neurological care in our region,” says Crouse CEO Kimberly Boynton. “The vision of the medical team we have formed matches the vision that Crouse has had for this program from the start.”

Patient-centered Care

The Institute's multi-disciplinary team approach focuses on patient-centered treatment using the most advanced technology and innovation, combined with Crouse's mission to provide the best in empathic, compassionate care, to achieve the highest quality outcomes.

The institute's foundation rests upon the hospital's existing award-winning stroke program and neurosurgery procedures for brain and spine, along with neurology services for an array of conditions.

Rochele Clark, BSN, is the Administrator for the Crouse Neuroscience Institute. Leanne Werbeck, MS, RN, serves as the Stroke Program Administrator.

Technology and Innovation

As the team was being expanded, technological enhancements were built in Crouse's Witting Surgical Center. Specialists assembled two new hybrid

operating rooms that incorporate the imaging capabilities of radiology suites into the traditional operating room setting. These ORs allow neurosurgeons to better and more quickly analyze brain function and blood flow to greatly improve patient outcomes.

“Our vision is for the Crouse Neuroscience Institute to stand out for the quality of our neurovascular care and to be a leader in the field.”

— Kimberly Boynton
Crouse CEO

Key Components of the Crouse Neuroscience Institute

- Fellowship-trained, nationally recognized neurovascular neurosurgeons
- Board-certified neurosurgeons whose expertise is brain and spine care
- Fellowship-trained neurologists specializing in stroke care
- Board-certified neurologists who treat an array of conditions
- An experienced, multi-disciplinary clinical support team
- State-of-the-art imaging technology and two dedicated hybrid operating rooms
- Crouse's existing state-designated, award-winning Stroke Center, featuring advanced stroke rescue therapies
- A horizontal patient care pathway that provides a coordinated and integrated continuum of care (versus the more common 'silo' approach)

Exceptional Specialists

The expertise of our physicians — coupled with the latest technology and a dedicated, highly qualified support team of nurses, neuroradiologists, clinicians and support staff — has put the Crouse Neuroscience Institute in a position to provide superior advanced brain and spine care to patients from across the region and beyond.

“Our vision is for the Crouse Neuroscience Institute to stand out for the quality of our neurovascular care and to be a leader in the field,” says Boynton. “We're off to a great start.”

▶ To learn more about the Crouse Neuroscience Institute and our team, visit crouse.org/neuroscience.

 **Crouse Neuroscience Institute**
Advanced Care for the Brain & Spine

Crouse Neuroscience Institute Physician Specialists

Neurovascular and Stroke Division | Skull Base Microsurgery Division

CNY Medical Center | 739 Irving Ave., Suite 600 | Syracuse, NY 13210 | 315/701-2550



Eric Deshaies, MD, FAANS, FACS

One of the few dual-fellowship-trained neurosurgeons in the U.S., Dr. Deshaies is Medical Director for Endovascular and Cerebrovascular Neurosurgery at the Crouse Neuroscience Institute. He specializes in treating arteriovenous malformations of the spinal cord and brain; brain aneurysms; tumors of the brain stem and skull base; and advanced stroke rescue therapies. A graduate of the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Dr. Deshaies completed a fellowship in Neuroendovascular Surgery at Albany Medical Center and was a Cerebrovascular and Skull Base Fellow at the University of Miami.



David Padalino, MD

A native of Liverpool, NY, Dr. Padalino serves as Director of Neurosurgery Education at the Crouse Neuroscience Institute. He received his medical degree from University at Buffalo School of Medicine, and completed his residency in Neurosurgery and a fellowship in Neuroendovascular Surgery at SUNY Upstate Medical University. Dr. Padalino specializes in brain aneurysms; skull base and brain stem tumors; arteriovenous malformations of the brain and spinal cord; and advanced stroke rescue therapies.



Adham Kamel, MD

Serving as the Medical Director of Crouse's Stroke Program, Dr. Kamel received his medical training in Egypt before coming to the United States for education at the Cleveland Clinic, Allegheny General Hospital and SUNY Upstate Medical University. Dr. Kamel specializes in treating aneurysms; carotid artery disease; narrowing of the arteries; vasculitis; and advanced stroke rescue therapies.

Brain Tumor Division | Spine Division

Madison Irving Medical Center | 475 Irving Ave., Suite 418 | Syracuse, NY 13210 | 315/475-3999



Gregory Canute, MD, FAANS

Board-certified in neurosurgery, Dr. Canute specializes in CyberKnife radiosurgery and neurostimulation, and treats Chiari malformations and tumors of the brain, spine and pituitary gland. He graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School and earned a PhD in Pharmacology at the University of Rochester.



Ross Moquin, MD, FAANS

Board-certified in neurosurgery, Dr. Moquin is a graduate of Georgetown University Medical School and serves as Chief of Neurosurgery at Crouse Hospital. He specializes in the treatment of spinal issues, including injury and trauma; scoliosis; spine deformities; and medical conditions associated with the aging brain and spine.

Crouse Neurology

Physicians Office Building | 725 Irving Ave., Suite 402 | Syracuse, NY 13210 | 315/470-7747



Sami Abdul Malak, MD

Chief of Neurology at Crouse Hospital, Sami Abdul Malak, MD, is board certified and has been with Crouse since 2007. Dr. Malak received his medical degree from the American University of Beirut and specializes in treating dementia, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, Parkinson's disease, peripheral neuropathy as well as stroke and cerebrovascular diseases.



Jianxin Ma, MD

A board certified neurologist, Dr. Ma received his medical degree from Tongji Medical College in Wuhan, China. He is also board certified in electro-diagnostic medicine, vascular neurology (stroke), neuroimaging (neurologic subspecialty), neuromuscular medicine (neurologic subspecialty), sleep medicine and headache medicine.



Syed Ali, BSc, MBBS, MD

A board-certified neurologist, Dr. Ali earned his MBBS from Allama Iqbal Medical School in Pakistan. He completed a fellowship in EEG/Epilepsy at Montefiore Medical Center at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York and an EMG/Neuromuscular fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital, affiliated with Harvard Medical School, in Boston. Dr. Ali treats neurological conditions, including migraines, multiple sclerosis, neuropathy, Parkinson's disease and stroke.

Crouse Neurosurgeon Pioneers Stroke Rescue Procedures

According to a recent article in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, a new procedure that captures blood clots blocking large arteries in the brain dramatically improved outcomes for stroke patients — and may now set a new standard in treatment.

Groundbreaking Treatment



Led by endovascular neurosurgeon Eric Deshaies, MD, FAANS, FACS, this groundbreaking new treatment is available in Central New York — at Crouse Hospital.

Dr. Deshaies was a primary investigator in an international randomized, controlled stroke rescue trial looking at the use of stent retrieval devices for endovascular stroke rescue therapy (ESRT). He and his colleagues validated that this clot-retrieval procedure can dramatically improve



patient outcomes after an acute ischemic stroke, according to the study.

In 2013, Dr. Deshaies became the second endovascular neurosurgeon in New York State to perform a blood clot retrieval using the new stent retrieval device.

Safe and Effective Procedure

"I knew that this device would be a game changer in the way we manage stroke patients," says Dr. Deshaies, one of only a few dual-fellowship-trained neurosurgeons in the country and the only one in Central New York.

Ischemic stroke is caused by a sudden blockage of an artery that carries critical nutrients, such as glucose and

oxygen, to the brain. The procedure uses a retrievable stent and catheter device to retrieve clots from blocked blood vessels in order to restore blood flow in patients experiencing acute ischemic stroke.

Evidence released at the International Stroke Conference earlier this year affirms this method is safe and effective in removing clots in the brain's largest blood vessels — the carotid, anterior and middle cerebral arteries — that are linked to the most serious disabilities after a stroke.

For more information visit crouse.org/neuroscience.

Stroke Care: Moments Matter

When it comes to stroke, moments matter. That's because stroke causes damage to brain cells. Quick treatment helps dramatically reduce the severity of impairment following a stroke, the fifth-leading cause of death in the United States and a major cause of adult disability.

"Our multidisciplinary approach begins immediately when stroke patients present to the emergency room, where the ER physician, nurse, pharmacist and neurologist work cohesively as a team," says Adham Kamel, MD, medical director of the Stroke Program at Crouse Hospital.

A key element of the Crouse Neuroscience Institute is the hospital's state-designated Stroke

Center, which has received the American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus Achievement Award for its excellence in patient care the past three years.

Crouse's comprehensive team approach allows for rapid determination of which interventional therapies are needed. If a clot-dissolving medication does not work, endovascular retrieval of the blood clot may be considered. "Applying these new protocols has enabled us to lessen our times at Crouse to as fast as 22 minutes for acute stroke treatment, which is more than a 50 percent decrease," Dr. Kamel says. "Because 1.9 million brain cells die every minute during stroke, every minute counts."

Is it a stroke? Check these signs **FAST!**

Face



Does the face look uneven?

Ask the person to smile.

Arm



Does one arm drift down?

Ask the person to raise both arms.

Speech



Does the person's speech sound strange?

Ask the person to repeat a phrase.

Time



Every second, brain cells die.

Call 9-1-1 at any sign of stroke.

Seeing the Big Picture with Neuroradiology

At the Crouse Neuroscience Institute, our innovative approach to interdisciplinary neurovascular and neurosurgical care starts with accurate diagnoses, including the ability to provide advanced imaging services at a moment's notice.

“Our neuroradiology team is critical to our ability to deliver advanced neuroscience care.”

— Eric Deshaies, MD

Whether it's functional MRI, CT perfusion or high-resolution 3D vascular imaging, Crouse's neuroradiology team skillfully performs advanced diagnostic imaging techniques with expert precision using the latest technology.

“Our neuroradiologists help the larger neurosciences team see the overall ‘big

picture’ when it comes to the diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of our patients,” says Chief of Radiology Thomas Green, MD, who adds that a highly trained team of board-certified neuroradiologists is readily available to ensure patients receive the best care.

“Our neuroradiology team is a critical component in our ability to deliver cutting-edge neuroscience care and positions Crouse as a regional leader in all areas of brain and spine disease, including complex spine, brain tumor and advanced stroke care,” says Eric Deshaies, MD, FAANS, FACS, Medical Director for Endovascular and Cerebrovascular Neurosurgery.

Members of the Crouse neuroradiology team each completed a fellowship in neuroradiology at the following prestigious institutions: (left to right) Anne Marie Sullivan, MD, at Beth Israel Deaconess in Boston; Syracuse native Farah Naim, MD, at Yale New Haven Hospital; and Nick D'Ambrosio, MD, at New York Presbyterian.



Crouse Neurology

Crouse Hospital neurologists, each board certified in neurology, include Sami Abdul Malak, MD, FAAN, chief of neurology; Jianxin Ma, MD; and Syed Ali, MD. These specialists evaluate and manage a wide variety of conditions involving the brain, spinal cord, muscles and nerves in both inpatient and outpatient settings.



Brain Tumor and Spine Care Specialists

Integrating specialties has allowed clinicians at the Crouse Neuroscience Institute to treat serious and potentially debilitating brain and spine disorders.

Gregory Canute, MD, FAANS, who specializes in the treatment of brain tumors, is developing a brain tumor clinic specifically to serve all aspects of patient care. “It is more convenient and efficient for patients to combine radiological imaging with access to specialists, such as oncologists, hematologists and neurosurgeons,” Dr. Canute says.

“From the time we first see a patient until he or she is discharged, it is a seamless process with excellent care throughout,” said Ross Moquin, MD, FAANS, a leader in spine surgery, who was the first of only seven neurosurgeons in the world to be invited into the prestigious Scoliosis Research Society.

Dr. Moquin says, “I came to Crouse to build a neuro-orthopedic spine department in which specialists work collaboratively and have access to advanced technology.”



Crouse Health Foundation Appoints Director of Philanthropy

Jeffrey Comanici has joined the staff of the Crouse Health Foundation as Director of Philanthropy. He will work closely with hospital and foundation administration, board volunteers, physicians and key staff to design, implement and manage a comprehensive major gift fundraising program to support Crouse Hospital's strategic initiatives.

A graduate of Leadership Greater Syracuse, Comanici comes to Crouse from Syracuse University, his alma mater, where he has been the Assistant Dean for Advancement for the College of Visual and Performing Arts since April 2006. He previously served as Executive Director of the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra.

Grant Helps Launch Women of Worth

Crouse Hospital's Chemical Dependency Treatment Services, partnering with Syracuse Community Treatment Court, has been awarded a \$733,000 grant by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to provide services to women.

Crouse created the Women of Worth program recognizing the many challenges a woman may face that could interfere with her recovery. Some of these challenges include domestic violence, lack of stable housing, absence of healthy social networks, lack of job skills and medical and mental health needs.

through substance abuse treatment and evidence-based practices specific to their needs in a safe and caring environment," states Monika Taylor, LCSW, CASAC, director of behavioral health for Crouse.

In addition to traditional substance abuse treatment, participants are able to take advantage of vocational counseling and a variety of interventions tailored to individual needs. These include anger management, going beyond trauma, seeking safety, thinking for change and celebrating families.

"Working with Crouse, our goal for this program is to increase treatment completion rates and enhance employment opportunities for women who complete the program," says Kim Kozlowski, project director for Syracuse Community Treatment Court.

Crouse operates the region's only hospital-based substance abuse treatment service, covering more than 20 counties and serving over 3,000 admissions in 2014. To learn more, visit crouse.org/cdts.

"The primary goal is to engage women in a safe and caring environment."

— Monika Taylor, LCSW, CASAC

"The primary goal of this program is to engage women who enter the Syracuse Community Treatment Court system

Perinatal Depression Support Group

Depression or anxiety during and/or after pregnancy occurs in one out of every seven pregnancies. Yet the stigma and judgment about perinatal depression makes it an under-reported illness and, consequently, under treated.

As the Central New York leader in deliveries, with more than 4,000 births annually, Crouse Hospital has launched an outlet for ongoing support and awareness-raising activities that will help shed light on this widespread condition.

Staff from our Kienzle Family Maternity Center and Spirit of Women program have formed the new Perinatal Family Support Group, which meets Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Marley Education Center.

All mothers are welcome, regardless of where they gave birth. Significant others and infants can also attend. The group is led by Nurse Practitioner Christine Kowaleski, a professor in the Pomeroy College of Nursing at Crouse Hospital who's certified in family, neonatal and psychiatric care. She also serves as the Regional Coordinator for Postpartum Support International. To register, call **315/708-9748**.

In May, Crouse hosted the first "Walk with Crouse to Raise Awareness of Perinatal Depression" at Green Lakes State Park, a fundraiser to support additional perinatal depression resources in Central New York. Learn more at crouse.org/familysupport.

Symptoms of Perinatal Depression

- Feeling sad, hopeless, empty or overwhelmed
- Crying more often than usual or for no reason
- Worry, anxiety, insomnia, difficulty concentrating
- Anger, rage, moodiness, irritability, restlessness
- Withdrawing from family and friends
- Bonding issues with baby
- Doubting ability to care for baby
- Thoughts of harming self or baby

Keeping Crouse **Strong**

Crouse Hospital has a long and rich history of serving Central New York. Our entire team is working hard to keep Crouse strong, as a best-in-class healthcare provider and a caring community partner.

Mission

Actions and behaviors at Crouse are rooted in our mission, vision and values. Our mission is simple:

To provide the best in patient care and promote community health.

Vision

To keep Crouse strong, we are focused on:

- Service excellence
- Creating a dynamic work environment
- Building on centers of clinical and organizational excellence
- Innovation and collaboration
- Financial and resource stewardship

Values

Our values guide how we act and treat one another:

- **C**ommunity – working together
- **R**espect – honor, dignity and trust
- **O**pen and honest communication
- **U**ndivided commitment to quality
- **S**ervice to our patients, physicians and employees
- **E**xcellence through innovation and creativity

Strategic Initiatives 2015-2016

Specific strategic initiatives we're focusing on to better serve our patients and the community:

- Build on the Crouse culture
- Expand neuroscience services
- Build on women and infants services
- Grow surgical services
- Improve access to care



CEO in the Community

Crouse CEO Kimberly Boynton was born and raised in Syracuse and still resides on the city's west side. This spring she's participated in speaking opportunities in the community she calls home.

In March, Boynton was the keynote speaker during the Tri-State Diversity Summit, a career development event for

local college students, held at Onondaga Community College. In April, Boynton served on a panel discussion during a program of the Women's Leadership Initiative at Syracuse University.

She also delivered the keynote address during the spring residency of the MBA@Syracuse program at the university's Martin J. Whitman School of Management, from which she received her master's in business administration.

Boynton was part of a panel discussion in May at Syracuse Stage during Syracuse Media Group's inaugural program of CNY Conversations Live. She also stepped into the classroom at Le Moyne College, serving as guest lecturer in a course that's required in the college's Leadership in Healthcare Graduate Certificate Program.



CEO Kimberly Boynton (center) chats with Amy McHale, assistant dean for Masters Programs, and Kenneth Kavajecz, dean of the Whitman School.

Crouse Hospital Board Leadership

For more than a century, Crouse Hospital's leadership has been comprised of members from the Central New York community. Today that proud tradition continues with a strong board of directors who each live and work right here in the Syracuse area and are deeply passionate about and committed to the future of our hospital. Thank you to these special individuals who give of their time, expertise and resources to keep Crouse strong.

Patrick Mannion

Chair
Columbian Financial Group

James Hughes

Community Volunteer

Elizabeth Hartnett, Esq.

Vice Chair
Mackenzie Hughes, LLP

James Longo, MD

Cardiology, PC

Paul Kronenberg, MD*

Vice Chair
Former President and CEO
Crouse Hospital

Robert Miron

Community Volunteer

Barbara Ashkin

CXtec & TERACAI

Richard Russell, Esq.

Community Volunteer

Patricia Black

MorganStanley SmithBarney

Melvin Stith, PhD

Dean Emeritus,
Martin J. Whitman
School of Management
Syracuse University

Jim Carrick

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Kent Syverud

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McMahon/Ryan Child
Advocacy Center

Hayes Wanamaker, MD

Ear Consultants of
Central New York

Mary Cotter

Community Volunteer

* Ex-Officio Members

Benjamin Himpler, MD*

President,
Medical Staff
Executive Committee
Crouse Hospital

Crouse Recognized for **Quality** Bariatric Surgery

*Among first in U.S. to receive new
Blue 'Plus' designation*

Excellus BlueCross BlueShield has recognized Crouse Hospital as one of the first healthcare facilities in the nation to receive its Blue Distinction® Center+ designation in the area of bariatric (weight loss) surgery by the Blue Distinction Centers for Specialty Care program.



Blue Distinction Centers are nationally designated healthcare facilities shown to deliver quality specialty care based on objective measures, developed with input from the medical community, for patient safety and better health outcomes.

To receive this special designation, a healthcare facility must demonstrate success in meeting patient safety, as well as bariatric-specific quality measures, including reducing complications and readmissions, for gastric stapling procedures. A healthcare facility must also have earned national accreditations at both the facility level and the bariatric care-specific level, as well as demonstrate better cost efficiency relative to its peers.

Program performance is based on the expertise of the medical team, number of times the facility has performed the procedure and the facility's track record for procedure results. Crouse is one of just eight Blue Distinction Centers+ for Bariatric Surgery in New York State.



Pastor Jack Keating Found New Active Life

A simple trip to the mailbox used to be a grueling excursion for Pastor Jack Keating. But since losing 175 pounds following weight-loss surgery at Crouse, he's found a new active lifestyle. Jack's also found a caring, compassionate team to help him along his journey.

"The Crouse bariatric team was there with me from the beginning," says Jack, giving credit to the program's trusted surgeons and nutritional experts, as well as the monthly support group that shares everything from flavorful recipes to healthy doses of inspiration.

Jack's goal was to get healthier by losing weight — yet he found so much more. Come to our next bariatric surgery seminar and discover what *you* can find.

Learn more at crouse.org/weightloss.



Crouse Hospital's Weight-loss Program is proud to partner with CNY Surgical Physicians.

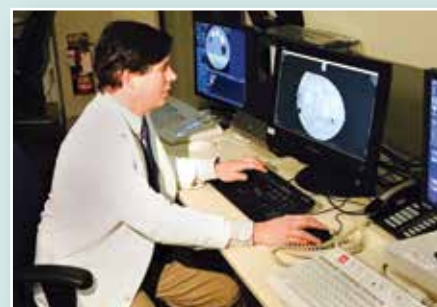
Surgical Innovations

Crouse recently became the first Syracuse hospital to introduce two new groundbreaking surgical procedures.

Interventional Radiologist Stuart Singer, MD, performed the first tumor removal using the NeuWave gas-cooled microwave ablation system. The minimally invasive procedure is used to treat cancerous liver, lung, kidney and bone tumors without surgery or damage to healthy surrounding tissue.

Crouse vascular surgeon Robert Schwartz, MD, was the first in the area to use a new treatment, approved last fall by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, to treat peripheral artery disease (PAD). The new device is being used to re-open arteries in the thigh and knee when narrowed or blocked as a result of PAD.

Both surgeons were assisted by members of the Crouse Interventional Radiology team.



Interventional Radiologist Stuart Singer, MD, (top) and Vascular Surgeon Robert Schwartz, MD, are using the latest technology to treat patients at Crouse.

LUNG PARTNERS: Helping COPD Patients Breathe Better

By Russ Acevedo, MD, and Julia Wright, MS, RRT/RT

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a progressive disease that makes it difficult to breathe and worsens over time.

Ensuring the best quality of life for a patient during any stage in his or her disease process is the goal of a new Crouse Hospital program.

Disease Management

Launched late last year, the Lung Partners Primary Respiratory Care Program is a COPD disease management initiative created and led by Crouse critical care physician Russ Acevedo, MD. The program utilizes the education, clinical competency and continuum of care expertise of licensed respiratory therapists to effectively manage the distinct needs of patients with COPD.

Lung Partners is unique in that it establishes a lifelong relationship between the patient and members of their respiratory therapy team. The program follows patients in the hospital and at home using community-based relationships and resources from many organizations.

The primary program goal is to improve the quality of life for COPD patients by ensuring they and their caretakers have a thorough understanding of their disease process, as well as homecare plans, the ability to carry out prescribed therapy, obtain resources and reach out for help when needed.

Assessment and Follow-Up

A COPD patient enters the program by having an in-depth initial assessment, followed by daily assessment by teams of licensed respiratory therapists who screen for health literacy, physical functionality, depression and anxiety, sleep disorders, medication and nutrition management.

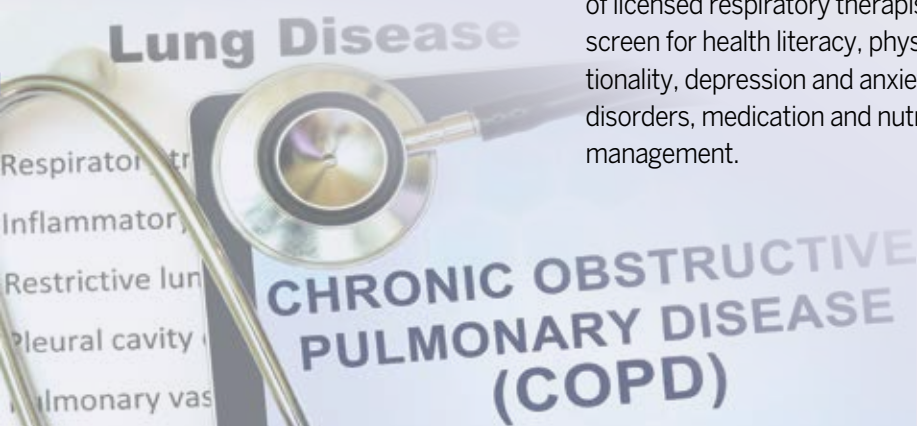
As needed, clinical protocols will assist in timely referral of patients to specialists for further assessment and follow-up.

Prior research suggests that this disease management model decreases the need for emergency department visits, lowers hospital re-admissions, reduces fragmentation of COPD care and facilitates the transfer of critical patient information among providers.

Ongoing, Integrated Care

Providers are able to refer current inpatients having a primary or secondary diagnosis of COPD for enrollment into the program. Respiratory therapists then determine if program admission is appropriate. Once enrolled, a patient and his or her caregiver will receive intensive education, training and discharge planning within 24 hours.

Through the ongoing, integrated follow through provided by the Lung Partners program, Crouse hopes to better fulfill our mission of providing the best in patient care. For patients with COPD, that means helping them to breathe the best they can.



Screening for Lung Cancer

Smoking is a major risk factor for developing lung cancer. Yet if detected early, lung cancer can be treatable.

Crouse Hospital has established a Lung Cancer Screening Program, with the goal of finding cancerous tumors at their earliest stages. A low-dose, lung CT screening is now available for current and former smokers who are at high risk for developing the disease. In fact, 90 percent of small densities found on screening CTs are benign (non-cancerous).

Patients who are 55 to 77 years of age and have 30 “pack-years” history of smoking are eligible to be screened. Former smokers who’ve quit within the last 15 years can also be tested.

All low-dose CT scans are read by Crouse Radiology Associates, with results sent to the ordering provider. Medicare, Medicaid and some private health insurance plans cover the annual screening. For more information, visit crouse.org/lungscreen.

Know Your Smoking History

Take the average number of packs you smoke a day

Multiplied by the number of years you smoked

Equals your “Pack-Years”

_____ X _____ = _____

Madison County's Got Spirit

Crouse Hospital's affiliation with Community Memorial Hospital in Hamilton is now bringing Spirit of Women, the successful national health education program for women, to Madison County.

Fun, educational events will be planned, similar to those offered by Crouse in Syracuse since January 2014, according to Kathleen Miller Murphy, manager of community education and development. Programs will also be held for the campus communities of Morrisville and Colgate beginning this fall.

"We're pleased to be able to offer this health education programming to women in our service area," says Sean Fadale, FACHE, chief executive officer of Community Memorial.



Crouse Partners with Food Bank of CNY

Crouse Hospital is proud to partner with Food Bank of Central New York to improve the health outcomes of individuals affected by type 2 diabetes.

This past winter the Food Bank began a pilot program in various neighborhoods that includes diabetes screening, nutrition and disease education and healthy foods.

Crouse provided screenings for more than 60 individuals, who were then invited to attend a four-week diabetes education program. Crouse staff also provided education about smoking cessation, heart disease, diabetes and obesity, as well as information about salt reduction and eating well for weight loss.

The Food Bank will follow up with those who participated, with the goal of improving health. The Food Bank of Central New York works to eliminate hunger through nutritious food distribution, education and community advocacy.



Day of Dance for Your Health!

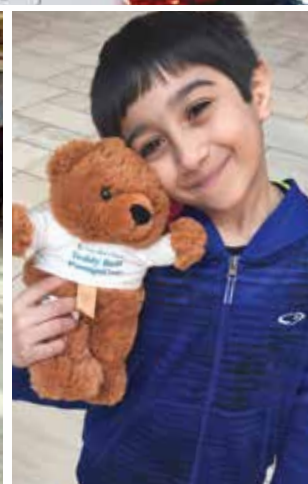
everybodydancenow

Saturday, April 18 was a beautiful day outside — and inside at the Canyon at Destiny USA as it filled with more than 650 dancers, visitors, volunteers and staff, celebrating movement as an important part of health.

The second annual Crouse Hospital Spirit of Women Day of Dance featured demonstrations ranging from Zumba and salsa to hula hooping and karate. Visitors from Watertown to Binghamton and everywhere in between, including folks from Virginia, danced the day away with special guests including Otto, Syracuse University's mascot.

People visited the many Crouse service line booths, testing their balance with our physical therapy team, learning how to pick up and hold a baby properly, signing up for appointments with Crouse Medical Practice physicians and much more. Hospital staff provided free blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose level screenings to 100 adults, and 250 children were given a stuffed "patient" from TeddyBear PromptCare to learn more about healthcare.

Are you a Spirit of Women member? The program's free and offers fun ways to learn more about keeping yourself and your family healthy. Learn more and join today at crouse.org/spirit.



Tribute Evening Honors Anis Obeid, MD

The Crouse Health Foundation will host its 39th annual Tribute Evening this fall honoring Anis Obeid, MD, for his significant contributions to the greater Syracuse community.

A board-certified cardiologist and author, Dr. Obeid introduced the discipline of echocardiography to Syracuse in 1972. He became Director of Echocardiography and Stress Testing at Crouse Hospital in 1980 and continues to be active in the field today.

A lifetime honorary member of the American Medical Association, Dr. Obeid is also involved in many social and cultural organizations, including the Syracuse Area Middle East Dialogue (SAMED).

A native of Lebanon, Dr. Obeid has published poetry in Arabic and a book, *The Druze and Their Faith in Tawhid*. He is a founding member and past chairman of the American Druze Foundation and a lifelong member of the American Druze Society.

Tribute Evening proceeds will be used to support the work of Crouse Health Foundation, including purchasing special equipment, underwriting new initiatives and funding educational programs and scholarships.



Friday, Sept. 25 | 6 p.m.
Nicholas J. Pirro Convention Center at The Oncenter

Extended reception, gourmet dinner, tribute presentation and entertainment by Time Machine.

General tickets, patron opportunities and souvenir program ads are available. For more information, contact Phyllis Devlin at **315/470-7008** or visit **crouse.org/tribute2015**.

Award-Winning Employees



Congratulations to Environmental Services team leader Alyce Ligoci, who was selected as the recipient of the 2015 Joan Fernbach Kingsohn Award, presented each May during Employee Service Recognition Week. Dr. Eric Kingsohn, Joan's husband and author of the book *Lessons from Joan*, presented the award to Alyce, a dedicated, compassionate employee who works in the hospital's Intensive Care Unit. She was nominated for the award by Crouse critical care physicians Russ Acevedo, MD; Daniel Polacek, MD; David Landsberg, MD; and Mike Maguire, DO.



Margaret Rienhardt, RN, CAPA, from our Madison Irving Surgery Center, was selected as the recipient of the Umeshchandra Patil Family Educational Award. In 2005, Drs. Umesh and Vijay Patil established the Patil Family Foundation Fund within the Crouse Health Foundation's Endowment Fund. The fund awards up to \$3,500 for a technician, LPN or RN working in the area of Surgical Services, Interventional Radiology, the Cardiac Cath Lab, Endoscopy and Labor & Delivery to attend an educational opportunity. Upon their return, winners are asked to share information from the program they attend with their co-workers to extend the benefits of the award to other staff.



Crouse Health Foundation was the grateful recipient of more than \$23,000 from the 2015 SADA Charity Preview, an annual event held in conjunction with the Syracuse Auto Dealers Association's auto show at The Oncenter.

Crouse's proceeds will benefit the Crouse Neuroscience Institute. Monitoring equipment for post-operative care of neuroscience patients in the hospital's intensive care unit has been purchased with the funds.

For more information and/or to purchase 2016 SADA Charity Preview tickets in support of Crouse Health Foundation, please contact Phyllis Devlin at **315/470-7008**.

Crouse Classic Supports Baker Regional NICU

Net proceeds from Crouse Health Foundation's 14th annual Crouse Classic Golf Tournament on July 20 at Bellevue Country Club in Syracuse will support the work of the Baker Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Crouse Hospital. Many thanks to our golfers and event sponsors. For more information, contact Phyllis Devlin at **315/470-7008** or visit **crouse.org/golf2015**.



Crouse Health Foundation's Milestones & Memories special occasions giving program provides an avenue for donors to mark an important milestone in their life or honor the memory of someone dear.

Gifts may be given to celebrate the birth of a child, to express thanks for a successful surgery, or to observe a special birthday or anniversary. Gifts also may be given in memory of a dear friend or family member.

We're pleased to recognize these special gifts and are sincerely grateful these donors have chosen to commemorate a milestone or memory in this meaningful way.

To learn more about the Milestones & Memories program or other giving opportunities, email crousefoundation@crouse.org or call **315/470-7702**.

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William G. Pomeroy Foundation Executive Director Paula Miller (left), Bill Pomeroy and Sandra Pomeroy cut the cake during the ceremonial ribbon cutting, to which all students were invited.

Generous Gift Supports **College Mission**

The name of the Crouse Hospital College of Nursing was changed earlier this year to the Bill and Sandra Pomeroy College of Nursing at Crouse Hospital to reflect a significant gift from The William G. Pomeroy Foundation. The funds are being used to enhance the school's curriculum and make capital improvements to classrooms and ancillary spaces. The Pomeroy Foundation gift also established the Bill and Sandra Pomeroy College of Nursing Endowment Fund, a permanent source of funds that will support equipment purchases, student activities and faculty development. "We are grateful for this opportunity to significantly enhance the training nurses will receive at the college. Being able to help improve the places, people and causes that have had an influence on my life is a very profound experience. Crouse holds a special place in our hearts as Crouse helped save my life," said Bill Pomeroy, founder and chief executive officer of CXTec and TERACAL.

To learn more, visit crouse.org/pomeroy.

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