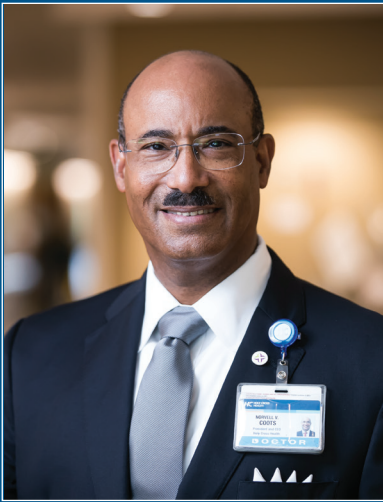




OPTIMAL OUTCOMES IN DIGESTIVE HEALTH

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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A message from
NORVELL V. COOTS, MD
*President and Chief Executive Officer,
Holy Cross Health*

At Holy Cross Health, we are driven to provide the highest quality of care for the communities we serve. In partnership with our medical staff and clinicians, we have achieved national recognition for the quality of our care, the safety of our facilities and the passionate engagement of the people who work with us.

I am proud of our many centers of excellence, where diverse teams take a holistic and consultative approach to patient care. In this edition's feature on digestive health, you can see the teamwork and excellence we deliver through collaborative and caring problem solving.

Partnering with physicians is core to our foundation at Holy Cross. We are committed to working, discovering and innovating together, and to reducing the total cost for those we serve. In this edition, our vice presidents of medical affairs share initiatives to increase physician collaboration. Through avenues like CTO's and HCIP and others, we remain open to your ideas and suggestions.

Holy Cross Health is now building upon market-leading success in neuroscience, women's health, cancer care, surgical services and care for seniors as we invest in our future master planning. We are excited to work with physicians across all Holy Cross facilities and service settings as we lead into the future.

We do this with and for you, our physicians, so that you can rely on our clinical teams and facilities to provide safe, quality care to your patients. Together, we strive to be the most trusted provider of health care services. ■

KAISER PERMANENTE AND HOLY CROSS HEALTH LAUNCH UNIQUE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic States is launching its first-ever Internal Medicine Residency Program with Holy Cross Health. The response has been overwhelming, with nearly 1,500 applications received for four available positions.

Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the program is a partnership with Holy Cross Hospital. Residents will be trained in and around Washington, D.C.. Holy Cross will provide rotations in outpatient, inpatient, critical care and emergency medicine settings, as well as affiliated clinics for the underserved.

During their residency, participants will be taught and mentored by world-class physicians at the Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group and Holy Cross. Upon completion, most residents are expected to join Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group or other local practices.

"Holy Cross Health is very excited to continue our partnership with Kaiser Permanente through this innovative new internal medicine residency program. Holy Cross' vibrant hospital services make it an ideal partner for the hospital-based portion of the clinical training necessary for the residents. The program will allow us to jointly train the next generation of primary care physicians for our community," said Blair Eig, MD, chief medical officer, Holy Cross Health.

The program will officially start in July of 2020. Prospective residents and those interested in learning more may visit: residency-mas.kaiserpermanente.org or contact Marc John D. Barredo, coordinator, Internal Medicine Residency Program, at **240-813-8740**. ■





THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CRITICAL-CARE NURSES (AACN)

awarded Holy Cross Hospital's Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU)/Neuro Critical Care Unit (NCCU) a bronze-level Beacon Award for Excellence. This award reflects the unit's success in improving patient outcomes and aligning practices with AACN's rigorous Healthy Work Environment.

HOLY CROSS PARTNERS WITH USACS FOR GREATER ALIGNMENT IN CARE

Holy Cross Health selected U.S. Acute Care Solutions (USACS) to provide clinical services in emergency and hospitalist medicine at Holy Cross Hospital, and in emergency, hospitalist and critical care medicine at Holy Cross Germantown Hospital, effective July 1, 2019.

USACS previously provided services in our two emergency centers. Holy Cross chose USACS for its ability to integrate care to improve outcomes and support patients on their path home, and to create continuity for physicians across the hospital setting and the community. ■



PHYSICIAN LIAISONS ARE HERE FOR YOU

We are proud to announce the start of our Holy Cross Health Physician Liaison Program. The purpose of the program is to connect Holy Cross Health with our physician community so that doctors can learn about our health system, give us feedback on how we're doing and let us know what services they'd like to see.

Our physician liaisons, Bill Wall and Shereece Benson, have extensive experience working with doctors. Bill has been a physician relations consultant for many years, and Shereece worked with physicians and healthcare leaders in her role as a licensed clinical social worker at Holy Cross Germantown Hospital for five years. Bill and Shereece are here to meet with and be available to our doctors, and to reach out to physicians in our community and allow physicians to reach out to them.

Bill Wall can be reached at: **301-754-8886** or **William.Wall@holycrosshealth.org**

Shereece Benson can be reached at: **301-754-8727** or **Shereece.Benson@holycrosshealth.org**



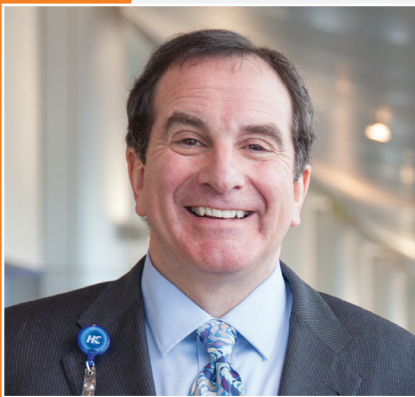
William C. Wall, III



Shereece Benson, LICSW, MBA

Q&A

Collaborating with Physicians to



Blair Eig, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Holy Cross Health, MD; Vice President of Medical Affairs, Holy Cross Germantown Hospital



Ann Burke, MD, Vice President of Medical Affairs, Holy Cross Hospital



Rhonique Shields, MD, Vice President of Medical Affairs, Holy Cross Health Network

From care redesign programs, to communication efforts, to state health advocacy, our ultimate goal is to take care of our community's residents, making them healthier so that they may not need hospital care. To succeed in that goal, Holy Cross Health collaborates with community physicians to attract patients and better manage care through mutually beneficial activities. We asked our VPMAs to discuss our most recent initiatives.



PLEASE DESCRIBE RECENT INITIATIVES RESULTING IN MEASURABLE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS AND GREATER EFFICIENCY.

DR. EIG: We currently have 14 orthopedic surgeons participating in the **Hospital Care Improvement Program**, also known as **HCIP**. This care redesign program is improving efficiency and effectiveness through measurable performance and quality benchmarks. Participating physicians share in the resulting cost savings when specified benchmarks are achieved.

HCIP includes the surgeon, hospitalists, specialist consultants, and the patient's primary care physician. Everyone works together before, during and after surgery to achieve optimal patient outcomes and lower readmission rates.

DR. SHIELDS: Holy Cross Health is also introducing a **Care Transformation Organization (CTO)**. The current environment is particularly challenging for primary care practices as they balance patient care and MACRA's reporting pressures. The CTO is designed to help practices

participating in the **Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP)** by providing access to efficient operational support backed by the experience and expertise of our integrated health system. Our CTO is currently supporting Holy Cross Health's two primary care practices, Holy Cross Health Partners in Kensington and at Asbury Methodist Village.

Participating in MDPCP guarantees practices a 5 percent increase in Medicare Part B payments, and opens additional revenue streams to provide advanced primary care and improved clinical outcomes for their patients. **Holy Cross Health CTO** is available to all practices in Montgomery, Prince George's and Frederick Counties.

To learn more about Holy Cross Health CTO, visit [HolyCrossHealth.org/CTO](https://www.HolyCrossHealth.org/CTO) or call Rhonique Shields, MD, vice president of medical affairs, Holy Cross Health Network, at 301-754-7871.

Better Manage Care Together



HOW ARE YOU EVOLVING CARE DELIVERY TO MEET THE CLINICAL NEEDS OF OUR POPULATION?

DR. BURKE: Improving two-way communication with our physicians is a core focus of Holy Cross Health. Physician engagement scores improved significantly in our most recent survey, placing Holy Cross Hospital in the top 5 of Trinity Health's 94 hospitals.

Engagement and alignment scores are an objective measure of our success in collaborating with physicians. They indicate our physicians are proud to partner with us, believe in our mission, and view Holy Cross Health as a great place to give and receive care.

Chesapeake Regional Information System (CRISP) and **HALO** secure messaging are two technologies that facilitate continuity of care for our patients through timely availability of patient data and secure communication within the care team.

The ability to send patient information through secure encryption is extremely important. Our colleagues use the HALO system every day to communicate with other providers quickly, conveniently and securely.

DR. SHIELDS: Holy Cross Health also offers programs and classes to improve health throughout the community. Our **Senior Fit** program and our **Medical Adult Day Center**, for example, are helping our region's population age in place. Other classes help patients manage their chronic diseases, which helps physicians manage their most challenging patients.

Holy Cross Health also works through **Nexus Montgomery Regional Partnership**, a collaboration among Montgomery County's six hospitals, to reduce avoidable hospital utilization and improve health. Initiatives include health coaching for Medicare beneficiaries with increased risk for hospitalization, development of community-based behavioral health services as an alternative to hospitalization, and improving quality of care for patients in skilled nursing facilities.

To learn more about Nexus Montgomery, please contact Annice Cody, president, Holy Cross Health Network at 301-754-7131 or codya@holycrosshealth.org.



HOW WILL YOU ENSURE THAT HOLY CROSS HEALTH HAS THE NECESSARY MEDICAL STAFF TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS?

DR. EIG: Our medical staff is currently made up of 1,575 physicians from 63 specialties and sub-specialties. We regularly review referral patterns and expand our medical staff to meet evolving needs accordingly.

In some cases, Holy Cross Health partners with specialty physician groups such as **U.S. Acute Care Solutions (USACS)**, which ensures quality and continuity of care in our emergency departments and inpatient units.

Our providers are focused on common goals that span all aspects of clinical care, including emergency medicine, hospitalist and critical care. These shared priorities mean that we are all responsible as a team and accountable for specific performance metrics.

To learn more about joining our medical staff, please contact Blair Eig, MD, at 301-754-7060 or eigb@holycrosshealth.org.

DR. SHIELDS: Holy Cross Health Partners in Kensington and at Asbury Methodist Village are forming formal relationships with specialists in the community to ensure adequate care, communication and coordination for shared patients. We are currently seeking cardiologists, urologists, neurologists, orthopedists and pulmonologists.

Holy Cross Health Centers provide primary care services to uninsured patients and provide access to specialty care through on-site volunteers or referrals to Project Access. With more than 60,000 low-income patients in Montgomery County, there is a significant unmet need for specialty care for county residents. Local specialists can help meet this need by participating in Project Access at the level that is right for them.

Specialists interested in working with Holy Cross Health Partners or participating in Project Access can contact Rhonique Shields, MD, at 301-754-7871 or rhonique.shields@holycrosshealth.org.

From heartburn to colon cancer, Holy Cross Health's collaborative and multidisciplinary team approach helps patients achieve

OPTIMAL OUTCOMES IN DIGESTIVE HEALTH



Halim Charbel, MD, gastroenterology, (left), with his team performing an endoscopic ultrasound in the endoscopy suite at Holy Cross Germantown Hospital.

Holy Cross Health's comprehensive digestive health services build on longstanding, academic-caliber strength in medical and surgical care to diagnose and treat patients with maximum efficiency and minimum impact, leading to optimal outcomes and quality of life.

From our interactions in primary care to our partnership with gastroenterologists, general surgeons, and surgical subspecialists, Holy Cross Health's digestive health services are comprehensive in clinical offerings. Our robust diagnostic, surgical and medical care capabilities provide advanced multidisciplinary care for people across the region.

Digestive disorders often affect multiple sites or organs. Holy Cross Health's coordinated, multidisciplinary approach offers patients a holistic, team-based experience.

"We offer solutions to digestive health problems in a multidisciplinary fashion because conditions that may not be digestive, like hernias, often impact sites along the digestive tract. This approach leads to productive collaborations that result in optimal outcomes for our patients," said Halim Charbel, MD, gastroenterology, Holy Cross Hospital and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital.

With Holy Cross Health's digestive health services, patients don't need to travel all over the region for leading-edge screening, diagnosis and treatment. A multidisciplinary team of experts, equipped with the latest tools in modern facilities, cares for the full digestive system, including the mouth, esophagus, stomach, liver, gallbladder, bile ducts, pancreas, small and large intestines, colon, rectum and anus. With investments in advanced diagnostic and therapeutic technologies, Holy Cross Health has the capability to find and treat problems earlier and less invasively.

"It's very rare that we have to refer patients outside our health system," said Carolina Solis Sanabria, MD, MPH, general surgery, Holy Cross Hospital and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital. "We have the resources, expertise and technological capability to take care of almost everything here from endoscopic procedures to the most complex surgeries."

Nationally Recognized Colorectal Expertise

Holy Cross Health's colorectal cancer program is nationally recognized for quality. Holy Cross Health surgeons use advanced minimally invasive and robotic surgical techniques and diagnostic procedures to treat the full range of colorectal conditions including colorectal cancers, anal fistulas and fissures, complex hernias, diarrhea, diverticulitis, fecal incontinence, hemorrhoids and inflammatory bowel diseases. Holy Cross Health specialists use a range of modalities, including BOTOX® injections, anal manometry and biofeedback therapy to treat symptoms like constipation, rectal pain and fecal incontinence.

Using the latest robotic-assisted technology, Holy Cross Health surgeons preserve organ function, save lives and safeguard the quality of life for patients with complex tumors or bowel/colon disease.

"Advanced surgical techniques enable Holy Cross Health colorectal surgeons to remove low rectal cancers, reconstruct the colon, and preserve the anorectal function, thus avoiding a permanent colostomy or 'bag,'" said Rami Makhoul, MD, colorectal

surgery, Holy Cross Hospital and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital.

Surgical teams can perform multiple procedures in a single surgery, creating a complete solution for patients while eliminating the need for multiple surgeries.

"If a patient has both a uterine prolapse and a rectal prolapse, we can combine surgeries to solve both issues and completely reconstruct the pelvic floor," said Bradley Bennett, MD, colorectal surgery, Holy Cross Hospital and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital. "Collaboration fuels creativity and leads to innovation that is a great benefit to our patients."

Patients with digestive health concerns, no matter how complex, can find the care they need at Holy Cross Health. The team's strength is built on a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach that enables its physicians and clinicians to create treatment plans that minimize the impact on the patient's quality of life, while optimizing clinical outcomes.

In the 2018-2019 U.S. News & World Report listing of "America's Best Hospitals," Holy Cross Hospital received the highest rating in colon cancer surgery.



Rami Makhoul, MD, setting up for minimally invasive, robotic da Vinci® Xi resection of low rectal cancer with colonic J pouch reconstruction.

Innovations in Upper GI Diagnostics and Treatment

Holy Cross Germantown Hospital is the only hospital in Montgomery and Prince George's counties to offer the complete suite of advanced diagnostic tools for digestive disorders.

This investment allows for faster diagnosis and treatment planning and coordination of care with the referring provider and across specialties.

Advanced diagnostic testing and surgical treatment of GI cancers, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) and hernias by an interdisciplinary team equipped with the most advanced technologies, and staffed by highly skilled surgeons, offers patients the full continuum of care.

"Our team approach makes it easy to get diagnostic tests done such as imaging, biopsies and advanced technologies like endoscopic ultrasound," said Naveen Gupta, MD, gastroenterology, Holy Cross Hospital. "It creates a seamless experience for the patient and ensures that we develop the best treatment plan with optimal efficiency."

Comprehensive Heartburn Center

Holy Cross Germantown Hospital has a comprehensive Heartburn Center offering esophageal manometry for the diagnosis of complex swallowing disorders, as well as Bravo pH testing.

"Our Heartburn Center is unique in the region, and was designed specifically to treat the many thousands of area residents now suffering from acid reflux," said Bryan Steinberg, MD, thoracic surgery, medical director, Thoracic Oncology, and chair, Robotic Surgery Committee, Holy Cross Health.

Advanced minimally invasive and robotic surgeries to correct GERD and repair complex hiatal hernias with one to two day hospital stays are available.

New Surgical Solution for Acid Reflux

Holy Cross Germantown Hospital is the only hospital in Montgomery County that offers the new LINX procedure – a circle of magnetic beads that surrounds the esophageal opening and prevents reflux – an alternative to the Nissen fundoplication.

"LINX has fewer side effects than a Nissen, allows for early eating of regular food, rapid return to work and getting off proton-pump inhibitors that have been associated with anemia, heart disease and the development of dementia," said Dr. Steinberg. "This technology allows us to do what were once considered massive operations without a huge impact on the patient."

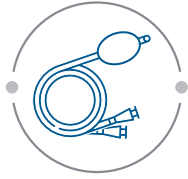
"LINX has changed the way I surgically manage GERD," said bariatric surgeon, Joseph Greene, MD. "My patients are amazed by how much better they feel practically overnight."

"Eliminating acid reflux associated with GERD also reduces the risk of developing esophageal cancer later on," said Dr. Charbel.



Bryan Steinberg, MD, (center) and his team performing a diagnostic procedure utilizing electromagnetic navigational bronchoscopy (ENB).

INTEGRATED SUITE OF LIFE-SAVING TOOLS:



Manometry:

measures pressure within various parts of the gastrointestinal tract and provides helpful information to the doctor in treating patients with fecal incontinence, severe constipation as well as heartburn/reflux



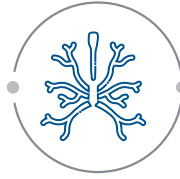
pH Testing:

helps diagnose and treat acid reflux and GERD



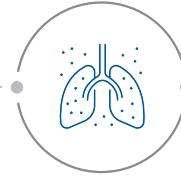
Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS):

helps detect upper GI cancers and other conditions earlier, leading to less invasive treatments and better long-term outcomes



Endobronchial Ultrasound-guided Transbronchial Needle Aspiration (EBUS):

enables physicians to see the structures just outside the airways and take tissue samples from the mediastinum without an incision



Electromagnetic Navigation Bronchoscopy (ENB):

helps surgeons identify and remove nodules, to identify and treat diseases affecting the lungs

Life-Changing Solutions for Complex Hernias

Hernias are a comorbidity associated with digestive health concerns such as chronic heartburn. Holy Cross Health offers patients a collaborative, multispecialty approach to hernias that are often the root cause of their heartburn, or GERD, resulting in long-term relief.

“Patients often come to us after being told their hernias can’t be fixed,” said George Conrad, MD, general surgery, Holy Cross Hospital and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital. “However, through the collaboration of our multidisciplinary team of surgical specialists, we can almost always repair them.”

Smaller abdominal hernias such as inguinal can be treated through a minimally invasive, laparoscopic approach. Robotic-assisted surgery

is often helpful for repairing the hernia with sutures and placing a mesh to strengthen the abdominal wall. Large or complex, recurrent hernias may be best treated with an open procedure.

“There’s no one-size-fits-all technique to hernia repair,” said Alexander Sallon, MD, plastic surgery, Holy Cross Hospital and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital. “Every hernia is different, so patients referred to Holy Cross Health benefit from our vast expertise and experience in the full range of hernia repair.”

Hiatal Hernias and Heartburn

“A hiatal hernia is when the stomach goes up into the chest and the lower esophageal sphincter becomes incompetent causing reflux and heartburn,” said Dr. Steinberg. “To repair



The LINX device

it we bring the stomach down into the abdomen, repair the hiatal hernia and use the LINX device as an anti-reflux measure. This is an exciting development for the treatment of chronic GERD patients, many of whom have suffered for years with acid reflux.”

A Long-Standing, Comprehensive Bariatrics Program

With more than 20 years of demonstrated excellence in bariatric surgery, Holy Cross Health's comprehensive bariatrics program is dedicated to supporting patients who commit to lifelong change with approaches that treat the whole person.

Holy Cross Health offers a range of minimally invasive bariatric procedures, including laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy, laparoscopic Roux-en-Y gastric bypass and revision surgeries.

"Excessive body mass index (BMI) can cause or worsen several co-morbid conditions, including diabetes, joint problems, asthma, binge and stress eating issues, polycystic ovarian syndrome, hypertension, sleep apnea, heart disease and weight-related depression. Patients with these conditions can be helped through our programs with psychological therapy, nutritional counseling and, in some cases, surgery," said Stephen McKenna, MD, general and bariatric surgery, Holy Cross Hospital and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital, and co-chair, Bariatric Services Committee, Holy Cross Germantown Hospital.

Psychological therapy, nutritional counseling, and medical and surgical weight management are all coordinated in our accredited program. The process begins well before surgery, with informational seminars and one-on-one consultations with a bariatric surgeon.

Patients spend months preparing for surgery with exercise programs, psychological evaluation, a comprehensive nutrition curriculum and a structured weight management program.

"We have a proven process that begins well before surgery and extends for years after," said Joseph Greene, MD, bariatric surgery, and co-chair, Bariatric Services Committee, Holy Cross Germantown Hospital. "Our holistic approach to the medical, emotional and behavioral causes of obesity maximizes the opportunity for a successful recovery for chronically obese patients."

Holy Cross Germantown Hospital's Bariatric Services Committee is emblematic of Holy Cross Health's coordinated, team approach to specialty care delivery. It convenes an interdisciplinary group of colleagues and physician partners to improve the care delivered to our metabolic and bariatric surgery patients. Integrating the knowledge and experience of a diverse team of administrators and clinical experts, the committee provides a forum for the sharing of best practices and fosters a culture of patient safety and continuous improvement. ■



MBSAQIP[®]
METABOLIC AND BARIATRIC
SURGERY ACCREDITATION AND QUALITY
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Holy Cross Hospital is accredited by the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP) as a comprehensive center for bariatric surgery.



Bariatric Services Committee at Holy Cross Germantown Hospital

For more information about Holy Cross Health's digestive health services, visit:

HolyCrossHealth.org/DigestiveHealth

Members of Holy Cross Germantown Hospital's Bariatric Services Committee (left to right): Barry Greene, MD, Bariatric Surgeon; Brenton Andreasik, MD, Senior Strategy Consultant; Joseph Greene, MD, Bariatric Surgeon and Co-chair, Bariatric Services Committee, Holy Cross Germantown Hospital; Bryan Steinberg, MD, Thoracic Surgeon; Adwoa Kaakyire, PA; Stephen McKenna, MD, General and Bariatric Surgeon and Co-chair, Bariatric Services Committee, Holy Cross Germantown Hospital; Elizabeth Regan, Bariatrics Coordinator; J.C. Emmanuel Mbimba, pharmacy student; Michelle Merriweather, Case Manager; Mary Chang, pharmacy student; Edithe Nyagou, Clinical Informatics; Karen Michaels, Pharmacy Operations Manager; Claudia Schreiber, Patient Transport Services Coordinator; Christopher O'Brien, Vice President of Program Development; Nelson McClellan, Performance Improvement; Kimberly Elliott, Chief Nursing Officer; Jennifer Thanh, Process Improvement; Sukeye Snyder, Regional Manager of Clinical Nutrition & Wellness; Elizabeth Begley, Director of Performance Improvement; Phillip Bobrowsky, Dietitian; Megan McClelland, dietetic intern.



NATIONAL QUALITY AWARDS

for Holy Cross Health

Our pursuit of clinical excellence is motivated by our promise to help individuals achieve their best quality of life. We do this for and with you, our physicians, so that you can rely on our clinical teams and facilities to provide safe and quality care to your patients. Our commitment to the highest quality of care recently earned the following awards.





2020 America's 100 Best Hospitals for Critical Care Award from Healthgrades for Holy Cross Hospital for two years in a row.

2019 America's 250 Best Hospitals Award from Healthgrades for Holy Cross Hospital, placing it in the top five percent of hospitals nationwide for clinical outcome. Holy Cross Hospital was also recognized by Healthgrades with the Critical Care Excellence Award™ for three consecutive years; Five-Star recipient for Treatment of Sepsis for fourteen years in a row; and a Five-Star for Treatment of Respiratory Failure for three consecutive years.

2019-2020 U.S. News & World Report national rankings of "America's Best Hospitals," ranks Holy Cross Hospital highest (tied) in Montgomery County, Md.; 10th (tied) in the Washington, D.C., metro area; and 10th (tied) among all the hospitals in the state of Maryland. The hospital also received the highest rating in three adult procedures/conditions: congestive heart failure, colon cancer surgery and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

2019 Get with the Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Achievement Award with Target: StrokeSM Honor Roll Elite for Holy Cross Hospital (eighth year in a row since 2010), and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital, from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

2019 Workplace Excellence Seal of Approval Award from the Alliance for Workplace Excellence, the only health care provider in Maryland to receive this recognition every year since its inception in 1999 (21st consecutive year).

2019 Health and Wellness Seal of Approval Award from the Alliance for Workplace Excellence for the 12th consecutive year.

2019 EcoLeadership Award from the Alliance for Workplace Excellence for the 11th consecutive year and every year since its inception in 2009.

2019 Diversity Champion Award Winner from the Alliance for Workplace Excellence for the eighth consecutive year.

2019 Certificate of Recognition: Best Practices Supporting Workers of All Abilities from the Alliance for Workplace Excellence for the 2nd year in a row (the award's inaugural year was 2018).

2019 Certificate of Recognition: Best Practices Supporting Workers 50+ from the Alliance for Workplace Excellence for the 2nd year in a row (the award's inaugural year was 2018).



To see all of Holy Cross Health's awards and recognitions, visit [HolyCrossHealth.org/Awards](https://www.HolyCrossHealth.org/Awards).

Join Us in Advancing Cancer Care for Our Community



On September 28, Holy Cross Health hosted the Blue Tie Ball at the North Bethesda Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, an event that attracted over 400 community members, partners, physicians and colleagues and raised nearly \$600,000. The Blue Tie Ball benefits the relocation and expansion of the Radiation Therapy Center within a comprehensive ambulatory cancer care setting. Thank you to everyone who joined us for the evening and supported this meaningful project.

Radiation therapy services are needed by two out of three patients on their cancer journey. The alignment of radiation services in this comprehensive center will offer integrated care in a convenient and welcoming environment with innovative technologies to meet our community's growing needs. Medical, surgical and radiation oncology services will be combined in one location with a full range of supportive programs that lead each patient every step of the way – from diagnosis through treatment, recovery and survivorship.

The Blue Tie Ball is just the beginning of a multi-year effort to build a strong community of support. To learn how to join us in the future of cancer care at Holy Cross Health, please contact Bethany Fox Hussey at foxbeth@holycrosshealth.org or 301-754-7133.

You can also make a tax-deductible donation at Giving.HolyCrossHealth.org.



Holy Cross Health's Community of Physician Leaders

Our medical executive staff members and community-based physicians provide strong leadership within our hospitals, and invite you to join our medical staff.

Holy Cross Germantown Hospital

2019 Medical Executive Committee

President: Ricardo Cook, MD
Vice President: Leslie Masiky, MD
Secretary-Treasurer: Joseph Hsu, MD
Credentials Chair: Leslie Masiky, MD
Medicine Chair: Ronny Khatkar, MD
Surgery Chair: Douglas Murphy, MD
OB/GYN Chair: Deanne McKenzie, MD
Pediatric Chair: Smita Mengers, MD
Emergency Department Chair: James DelVecchio, MD
Anesthesia Chair: Beth Childs, MD

Holy Cross Hospital

2019 Medical Executive Committee

President: Eric Ashkin, MD
Vice President: Cheryl Aylesworth, MD
Secretary-Treasurer: Zachary Levine, MD
Credentials Chair: Robin Madden, MD
Medicine Chair: Theodore Igwebe, MD
Surgery Chair: Garry Ruben, MD
OB/GYN Chair: Danielle Waldrop, MD
Pediatric Chair: Sarah Schooler, MD
Emergency Department Chair: James DelVecchio, MD
Pathology Department Chair: Pablo Gutman, MD
Radiology Chair: Stewart Karr, MD
Anesthesia Chair: Sara Depew, MD

AT LARGE

Surgery: Jonathan White, MD
Pediatric: Sharon Kiernan, MD
OB/GYN: Shirley VanMilder, MD

Holy Cross Health Representatives

Blair Eig, MD, *Chief Medical Officer*
Louis Damiano, MD, MBS, *President, Holy Cross Hospital*
Doug Ryder, *President, Holy Cross Germantown Hospital*
Ann Burke, MD, VPMA, *Holy Cross Hospital*
Rhonique Shields, MD, VPMA, *Holy Cross Health Network*
Yancy Phillips, MD, *Chief Quality Officer*
Celia Guarino, *Chief Nursing Officer, Holy Cross Hospital*
Kim Elliott, *Chief Nursing Officer, Holy Cross Germantown Hospital*
Van Coots, MD, *President and CEO, Holy Cross Health*



Get involved

with our medical executive committee, contact our

**Medical Affairs office at 301-754-7060
(Holy Cross Hospital) or 301-557-6059
(Holy Cross Germantown Hospital)**

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Physician News aims to provide useful information to physicians about the programs and services offered by Holy Cross Health.

- Norvell V. Coots, MD**, President and CEO, Holy Cross Health
- Lou Damiano, MD**, President, Holy Cross Hospital
- Doug Ryder**, President, Holy Cross Germantown Hospital
- Annice Cody**, President, Holy Cross Health Network
- Blair Eig, MD**, Chief Medical Officer, Holy Cross Health

To be added to the mailing list, email Mead.Notkin@holycrosshealth.org

***Holy Cross Health**, founded in 1963 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross, is a Catholic not-for-profit health system that serves the community through nearly 250,000 patient visits each year at Holy Cross Hospital, Holy Cross Germantown Hospital, 10 primary and specialized care centers, and a wide range of community health programs. Our team of more than 4,200 employees, 1,575 community-based physicians, and 400 volunteers is committed to providing innovative, high-quality and accessible services that meet our community's diverse health care needs and improve overall health. Holy Cross Health is a member of Trinity Health, one of the largest Catholic health care systems in the nation.*

CONGRATULATIONS TO HOLY CROSS HEALTH PHYSICIANS for making Holy Cross Hospital a leader in quality care



See page 12 for Holy Cross Health's quality awards.

2020 America's 100 Best Hospitals for Critical Care Award from Healthgrades for Holy Cross Hospital for two years in a row.



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