

# Surgical Innovation

At Cabell Huntington Hospital, surgical innovations are guided by the highest standards, an experienced surgical team and, most importantly, the needs of patients and their families.

Preparing for surgery can feel overwhelming. However, with a state-of-the-art surgical suite and a specially trained staff, Cabell Huntington Hospital works to make every surgical experience as comfortable and stress-free as possible — not only for patients, but for their families as well.

“With every decision we make regarding perioperative services, we look at how we can better support the needs of our community,” said Shirley Martin, RN, MSM, executive director of perioperative services. “We want to offer the skills, capabilities, equipment and support services

that will make us the place of choice for patients and their families.”

Martin said “perioperative services” means looking beyond the surgical procedure itself to serve each patient before, during and after surgery. The Perioperative Services Department assists the highly skilled surgeons of Cabell

Huntington Hospital by advising patients as they prepare for surgery, conducting pre-admission testing prior to the surgery and working with other hospital departments to provide support for patients following surgery. Patient needs are the No. 1 priority every step of the way.

Recent examples of patient-guided change within the department include a booklet that is provided before surgery, containing directions to the surgical suite, instructions on how to prepare for surgery and information for family members. To ease the minds of families in the waiting room, time clocks were installed in each operating room to alert nurses when it is time to provide an update to the patient’s family. Pagers are issued to loved ones so that they remain in contact when they leave the waiting area.

Recognizing and accommodating the unique needs of children have become increasingly important as well.

“With the continued growth of the Hoops Family Children’s Hospital, our goal is to make the surgical suite a welcoming environment for children and their families,” Martin said. “That ranges from reserving the operating room that will best meet a child’s needs to allowing families to remain with their child until he or she has gone to sleep — and even larger plans such as a special waiting area for the siblings of our young patients.”

In 2006, Cabell Huntington Hospital was the first hospital in the region to offer daVinci® Surgery, and that commitment to being on the leading edge of robotic surgery continues today with the addition of a new daVinci® Xi™ Surgical System. The daVinci® Xi™ offers unparalleled precision, dexterity and control to the region’s most experienced daVinci® surgeons. Its innovative four-arm system allows surgeons to operate on both sides of the body without rearranging operating room equipment.

“Our goal is to provide the most leading-edge technology and the safest, most efficient environment for our patients,” Martin said. “The new daVinci® system is an exciting improvement in our technology that will allow us to provide even better robot-assisted procedures.”

Coming soon are two new operating rooms that will keep Cabell Huntington Hospital on the forefront of surgery, including a new general operating room that will open in May and a hybrid operating room designed for vascular surgeries that will open in July.

“The new hybrid OR will provide us with the technology to support vascular surgery at the highest standard,” Martin

Cabell Huntington Hospital offers surgical services to patients of all ages.



Perioperative nurses play a key role in helping patients prepare for surgery, both physically and emotionally.



Before, during and after surgery, patients are the top priority at Cabell Huntington Hospital.

said. “It will allow our surgeons to visualize vascular concerns more quickly and intervene to resolve them more efficiently.”

From the most routine operation to the most advanced robotic procedure to the most delicate neurosurgery, patients and their families can trust the innovative technology, skilled physicians, caring staff and state-of-the-art facilities at Cabell Huntington Hospital.

For more information about surgery at Cabell Huntington, call 304.526.2293. 📞