

Castle "Scrubs In" with New Da Vinci Surgical System at St. Francis Hospital -- February 1, 2007

Wilmington, DE -- Delaware Congressman Mike Castle today scrubbed in to witness the Da Vinci Surgical System in action at St. Francis Hospital, the first and only robotic-assisted minimally invasive surgical system throughout the State of Delaware. The new equipment, which cost \$1.5 million was paid for with \$1 million of federal funding secured by the Congressional Delegation.

The surgical system can treat conditions as diverse as obesity, heart disease and prostate cancer. The benefits to patients of robotic-assisted surgery are less pain and discomfort, less blood loss and a quicker return to normal activities.

"Medical technology never ceases to amaze me. It is incredible that a robotic-assisted system can prove to be such a valuable tool in treating patients for serious diseases so that they may lead an improved quality of life. I am pleased to have witnessed this cutting-edge technology for myself today, which has many advantages, such as cutting down on the length of each surgery and the recovery time for the patient," Congressman Castle said.

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