

**TO MEDIA:**

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**SEMELKA NAMED PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
FOR EXCELA HEALTH FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY**

**LATROBE, PA, July 6, 2010...** Michael Semelka, DO, has been appointed program director of the Family Medicine Residency Program at Excela Health Latrobe Hospital. Dr. Semelka will oversee all aspects of the three-year residency that promotes real world training for family physicians in office, clinic, hospital and home settings.

Dr. Semelka joined the Excela Health medical staff in 2005 as a family physician serving Norvelt Family Medicine, one of three primary care teaching practices associated with the residency program. At that time he was entrusted with further development of the osteopathic aspect of the residency education as director of osteopathic medical education as well as a clinical instructor for his alma mater, the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. He was later named interim director for the residency program.

The Family Medicine Residency Program began as a collaboration between Excela Health Latrobe Hospital and the Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. Since the program's inception in 1974, the residency has produced more than 150 graduates, and is ranked among the best programs in Pennsylvania. Nearly 85 percent of program graduates continue to practice in the Commonwealth, with the majority remaining in southwestern Pennsylvania as members of the Excela Health medical staff

and residency teaching faculty. In 2004, the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine became a joint sponsor of the residency.

Dr. Semelka is a 1996 graduate of the Pennsylvania State University. He received his degree in osteopathic medicine at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2000, and completed his family medicine residency with the Medical Center of Beaver. He then completed a fellowship in faculty development at Duke University. He is certified by the American Board of Family Medicine and the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians.

The Excelsa Health Latrobe Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program is accredited by the American Osteopathic Association and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). During its recent review, the program received a five-year accreditation from ACGME, the maximum allowed. This reflects the esteem afforded the Excelsa Health residency.

To learn more about the residency or medical school rotations, visit [www.excelsahealth.org/residency](http://www.excelsahealth.org/residency).