

## **TO MEDIA**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **INDEPENDENCE HEALTH SYSTEM MALL EVENT ADVANCES BOUNDARIES OF MEDICINE**

**GREENSBURG, PA, August 28, 2023** ... Heart, lung and vascular specialists from Independence Health System Westmoreland Area will share Center Court at Westmoreland Mall, Monday, Sept. 18 as they promote the latest advances in technique and technology. Open to the public, the free daylong event features eight presentations by health system physicians and clinicians covering some of the most important topics for managing and treating heart, lung and vascular disease. Mall patrons can participate in five different health evaluations including blood pressure and carotid artery checks, pulmonary function testing, lung cancer and sleep apnea screenings. Guests also will have the opportunity to try their hand at robot-assisted surgery, using the demonstration model of the DaVinci robot from Intuitive. The robot is similar to those used in the operating rooms at Independence Health System Latrobe and Westmoreland Hospitals.

Screening stations are open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The first series of lectures runs 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The second grouping is scheduled from 3 to 4 p.m. Each presenter will talk for approximately 15 minutes and answer questions following.

Seating is available and complimentary refreshments will be provided.

Topics include:

- Afib – Detect and Protect, Bassel Sayegh, MD, 11:30 a.m.
- Aortic Stenosis ...The Silent Killer, Vinod Kudagi, MD, 11:50 a.m.
- Managing Heart Attacks ... It Takes a Village, Juan Chahin, MD, FACC, FSCAI and Nevin Baker, DO, FACC< FSCAI, 12:10 p.m.
- What is Vascular Surgery Anyway?, Elizabeth Detschelt, MD, FACS, 12:50 p.m.
- Minimally Invasive Surgery at Independence Health System, Hiroyuki Tsukui, MD, PhD, 1:10 p.m.
- Heart Failure to Heart Success, Chantal Trice, CRNP and Jennifer Barrick, MSN< RN, NE-BC, 3 p.m.
- Don't Hold Your Breath – Why You Might Have Sleep Apnea, Euhan John Lee, MD, 3:20 p.m.
- New Paradigms in Lung Cancer, Michael Szwerc, MD, 3:40 p.m.

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Nationally recognized for quality care, Independence Health System comprises Butler Memorial, Clarion, Frick, Latrobe and Westmoreland Hospitals with a combined bed count of 925. With more than 1,000 physicians and advanced practice providers and 7,300 employees, the System is now the third largest in western Pennsylvania serving a population base of 750,000 in a footprint spanning more than 10 counties.

The System includes tertiary programs that are rated among America's best for cardiac care and surgery by Healthgrades in its Top 100 and Top 50 designations, and one of only five in Pennsylvania to achieve a five-star rating in cardiac surgery. In similar fashion, the prestigious Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) bestowed its top three-star rating. Historically, less than 10 percent of programs within the STS data base achieve this elite standing. The hospitals of Independence Health System also have earned a host of accolades from such prestigious outlets and sources as US News and World Report, Newsweek Magazine, the American College of Radiology, the American College of Cardiology, the American College of Surgeons, the Joint Commission, Leapfrog and the American Heart/Stroke Association.

Locally owned and locally controlled, Independence Health System offers its patients low-cost, high-quality care across the care spectrum in such specialties as cardiology, cardiovascular and thoracic surgery, orthopedics and sports medicine, minimally invasive and robotic surgery, women's health and obstetrics, emergency medicine, behavioral health and primary care. Its network of outpatient centers sees more than 1.2 million visits annually. The homecare division further supports patients at all stages

of life with home health and hospice services.

Independence Health System continues to change the healthcare landscape in western Pennsylvania by meeting patient needs through superb physician expertise, outstanding nursing, the latest in technology and programmatic depth.