

Life

## Robotic surgical system performing hysterectomies

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By Dennis J. Wright

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PHOENIXVILLE — The latest surgical procedure being performed using the daVinci Surgical System at Phoenixville Hospital is now hysterectomies, according to Dr. Dominick Giuffrida.

Giuffrida said he began performing robotic hysterectomies last July.

"The robotics program brought me to Phoenixville," said Giuffrida. "I've been looking to go into that direction." An associate, Dr. Brian Rosenthal, urged him to join the Phoenixville staff, he added.

Giuffrida attended medical school at Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, where he also completed a research fellowship in pharmacology in 1990. He completed a residency at Suburban General Hospital, now Mercy Suburban Hospital, in 1992.

Giuffrida is board certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

His office is located at the East Norriton Women's Health Care, 170 N. Henderson Road, King of Prussia, where he handles the treatment of heavy bleeding, abnormal pap smears, minor surgical procedures and some infertility work.

He performs robotic procedures using the daVinci Surgical System at Phoenixville, where he is the only obstetrician/gynecologist trained to perform robotic surgeries.

"A number of procedures that could not be performed using traditional minimally invasive surgical technologies can now be performed using the daVinci Surgical System," said Giuffrida. "By enhancing surgical capabilities at Phoenixville, the daVinci Surgical System helps to improve clinical outcomes and redefine standards of care."

The da Vinci Surgical System combines 3D visualization with greatly enhanced dexterity and smaller incisions.

For the surgeon, the system provides increased precision and better visualization than traditional open surgery. For the patient, surgery using the daVinci technique means less blood loss, reduced pain and faster recoveries.

Giuffrida said that most women, following a normal hysterectomy, are in the hospital for three days, and out of work for four to six weeks.

"With the robotics, they are going home within 24 hours, and back to work in less than two weeks," he said. "It is a huge benefit for women, as there is less pain."

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