Expanding our Commitment to Better Care

As several expansion projects near completion, McLaren Regional Medical Center is positioned to be the premier healthcare provider for the next generation of patients in mid-Michigan. The creation of the new McLaren Imaging Center along with the expansion of cancer, dialysis, emergency, and cardiovascular services are enhancing the delivery of treatment to patients and expanding our commitment to better care.

McLaren Imaging Services

The McLaren Imaging Center opened in June at 501 S. Ballenger Hwy., Flint. The center combines imaging services from two previous locations, including the McLaren Community Medical Center in Flint Township and Michigan Diagnostic Imaging. The all-digital technology includes mammography, computer-aided detection Systems (CAD), and a 64 slice CT-Scanner. Other services include general imaging, ultrasound technology, fluoroscopy and nuclear medicine. All imaging completed for patients at the site can be easily accessible to their physicians through a special website portal where images and results are made available on-line to be viewed by computer. A highly trained staff cares for patients including fellowship trained radiologists who are on-site.

Digital Mammography

Selenia™ digital mammography from Hologic® has been added to the comprehensive diagnostic services dedicated to women and

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the early detection of breast cancer at the McLaren Imaging Center. Selenia™ incorporates revolutionary imaging technology that provides incredibly sharp images.

From the patient’s point of view, a digital mammogram is like traditional film screen mammography. Both use x-ray to generate images of the breast. However, instead of using film to capture and record the image, a digital mammogram uses a special detector to capture and convert x-ray energy into a digital image. The resulting digital images are immediately available to the radiologist for diagnosis.

The radiologist can view and manipulate the images on high-resolution computer monitors that enhance visualization of the structures within the breast tissue. They can also adjust brightness and contrast, and zoom in on specific areas to help detect small calcifications, masses, and other changes that may be signs of early cancer. McLaren’s goal is to provide the best possible care to women.

Because there is no waiting for film to be developed it can significantly reduce the time patients spend in the breast center, as well as reduce the need for repeat exams due to under or over exposure. Digital images are easily stored and transferred electronically, eliminating the dependency on one set of original films, which can be misfiled or lost in transit.

64 Slice CT-Scanner
This x-ray system takes extremely detailed cross-sectional images, or slices of the body, at a very rapid rate. Based on the data it acquires, the computer then generates images. The technology aids physicians in reliably and precisely visualizing and then diagnosing the presence or absence of disease inside the body.

The technology provides excellent image quality, regardless of a person’s size or weight. It can even image a beating heart in real time, permitting evaluation of its valves and the motion of its walls in greater detail.

The technology can assist your physician in:
- Detecting strokes, head injuries, herniated discs, abscesses
- Locating fractures
- Determining the extent of bone and soft tissue damage in trauma patients; in such cases it is especially helpful to have an imaging procedure which allows a fast first diagnosis
- Diagnosing changes in various organs
- Diagnosing or excluding diseases

During testing a patient lays on a table that slowly moves through the opening of the examination unit. CT personnel will instruct patients to hold their breath or not to move during the scanning. In most cases an examination lasts 15 to 30 minutes. Depending on the examination, a contrast medium may be administered to aid in strengthening the resulting diagnosis. Most people tolerate the contrast medium without any problems and merely feel flushed for a moment.

Additional Services
Breast Biopsies
Mammotome (minimally invasive breast biopsy)- The Mammotome is an outpatient breast biopsy procedure that is performed in less than an hour and allows women to return to their normal routine immediately afterwards. They leave with only a small bandage that covers an incision about the size of a match head.

Breast Biopsies

Procedures with the Mammotome involve the one-time insertion of a probe directly into the area of the breast that appeared suspicious, based on a physical exam or a Mammogram finding. The doctor guides the probe through the use of ultrasound or stereotactic imaging systems. Once inside, the Mammotome gently vacuums, cuts and removes tissue for examination.

Ultrasound Guided Breast Biopsy-This is an outpatient breast biopsy similar

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to Mammotome only done under ultrasound guidance.

**Wire Localization of the Breast**
This is a diagnostic procedure in which a special needle and X-rays are used to identify the precise location of abnormal breast tissue for the purpose of performing a breast biopsy.

**Bone Density**
This is a screening for osteoporosis. No preparation time is needed and the examination only takes approximately 10 minutes. The procedure determines bone mass. Bone mineral measurements are very highly correlated to predict the potential for bone fractures.

You can contact the McLaren Imaging Center by calling (810) 342-4800.

**GLCI-McLaren**
The Great Lakes Cancer Institute-McLaren has expanded by 13,000 square feet, nearly doubling its size. The all new chemotherapy treatment area was completed earlier this spring. It has 14 private chemotherapy infusion stations and comfortable waiting areas for patients’ friends and loved ones. There are also additional examination rooms. Currently, remodeling is taking place in the Radiation Oncology side of the Institute. It will not only have a fresh new look but also more examination rooms. When complete a Patient Education Resource Room will provide access to educational materials and online information and support regarding cancer. An on-site pharmacy and lab area are also planned. The renovation project is scheduled to be complete this fall.

**Inpatient Dialysis**
A new area for patients needing dialysis during their hospital stay opened in early July. The unit can treat seven patients at a time. It contains six regular beds and one isolation room, which is a new feature for the Unit. Some new equipment was also purchased for the treatment area including televisions for the patients’ use.

**Emergency Services**
McLaren’s Emergency Department (E.D.) is undergoing a three phase expansion and renovation project.

An additional 12,546 square feet of space will greatly enhance the existing E.D. The completed first phase of the Emergency Department opened August 20. It has 23 rooms with three set up for trauma patients. Renovation of an existing 22,000 square feet is now underway in the older E.D. space.

When all three phases are complete the entire E.D. will include:
- 39 beds, with 3 Trauma Bays
- 8 Fast Track Rooms for patients with less severe injuries and illnesses
- A 10-bed Observation Unit
- New patient and family waiting areas
- 2 Triage Rooms
- A separate Ambulance Entrance with special features

The second phase of this project, which is the remodeling of the main E.D. is scheduled for completion in January 2008. The final phase, the remodeling of the Fast Track area will be complete in July 2008.

**Cardiac Catheterization Labs**
The addition of a new heart catheterization lab is also underway at the Medical Center. When complete this area will have three cath labs, an additional lab where testing can be done to check for heart rhythm disorders, and a fifth lab for endovascular procedures. The Cardiovascular Care Unit where patients are held before and after procedures is being expanded, as is the family waiting area. This project is scheduled to be complete in January 2008.
McLaren Takes the Lead in ACC Drill

McLaren Regional Medical Center is receiving the highest praise from Emergency Management officials throughout Michigan’s Region 3 Bioterrorism Defense Network (BTDN) for its role in the Region’s July 26 Acute Care Center Drill. Region 3 is made up of 14 counties including the mid-Michigan area and the entire thumb.

The exercise was run by AuSable Valley Emergency Management, LLC, which tested the Region’s ability to respond to a wide spread pandemic flu outbreak. The key elements of the exercise included the set up of two Acute Care Centers (ACC’s) and a test of the Regional Medical Coordination Center (RMCC). The event also included Emergency Management personnel and public health department personnel from all 14 counties.

McLaren and Marlette Regional Hospital took the lead in volunteering to set up Acute Care Centers for the drill. In addition, McLaren also volunteered to use Genesee County’s ACC Trailer, which houses the equipment needed to set up an Acute Care Center for its first ever use. The drill was considered a full-scale exercise (FSE).

This type of exercise is very complex because it is multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional, multi-organizational exercises that validate many facets of preparedness. This type of exercise is also conducted in real time, creating a stressful, time-constrained environment that closely mirrors real events. The level of support needed to conduct an FSE is greater than that needed during other types of exercises.

“Staff participation here at the Medical Center was outstanding,” says Kathy Sabat, McLaren's Emergency Management Coordinator. “Representatives from Genesys, Hurley, Genesee County and Region 3 have all highly praised the number of McLaren staff who participated and their professionalism during the drill. I appreciate everyone who participated and the feedback they gave so we can continue to improve on our readiness in case a pandemic or other disaster does occur.”

In the executive summary sent out from BTDN Region 3 it states, “it takes a special dedication to expose oneself to the scrutiny that occurs during a large scale exercise. All the participants, but particularly those in Marlette Regional Hospital and McLaren Regional Medical Center, should be commended for volunteering for such exposure.”

A formal Region 3 review of the exercise was held on August 14.

What is an Acute Care Center?

It is designed to provide for mass casualty care. The ACC concept was developed by a multidisciplinary team as a realistic plan for providing basic care to patients when an overwhelmed medical system would most likely be unable to do so. The ACC plan was developed to provide the most good for the greatest number of people while using limited resources. An ACC can be set up nearly anywhere. Region 3 has five ACC trailers throughout the region. Each trailer contains basic set up for 50 beds.
MRMC Nursing Scholarships Awarded

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2007 MRMC Nursing Scholarship Awards. The following individuals were recognized for their outstanding academic achievements in the field of nursing. Each of the nurses has been awarded in one of three scholarship categories.

2007 MRMC Career Ladder Scholarship
- Available to MRMC employees in good standing who have been accepted to nursing school and completed pre-requisites with a 3.0 grade point average or above
  - Provides $8,000 over two years to help the student complete an Associate Degree in Nursing
  - Three year work commitment to MRMC

BSN Completion Scholarship
- Available to MRMC registered nurses
- Provides $5,000 to complete Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
- Two year work commitment to MRMC post Completion of BSN Program

2006 MRMC Nursing School Senior Scholarship
- Available to nursing school students within one year of graduation
- Provides $4,000 lump sum
- Eighteen month work commitment to MRMC Post RN Licensure

Career Ladder
Crystal Pelky- NA II
11 Tower

Career Ladder
Tiffany Freeman
ER Tech

Career Ladder
Denise Hnilica
Clinical Patient Scheduler

Career Ladder
Crystal Brandon RN
8 Tower

Career Ladder
Alisha Williams RN
11 Tower

Career Ladder
Nicholas Loynes, Student Nurse Tech, 12 Tower

2006 MRMC Nursing School Senior
Wendy Neubecker, Student Nurse Tech, 8 Tower

2006 MRMC Nursing School Senior
Chelsea Lamrock, Student Nurse Tech, 9 Tower

2006 MRMC Nursing School Senior
Dan Gagnon, Student Nurse Tech, ICU

2006 MRMC Nursing School Senior
Andrew Green, Student Nurse Tech, 12 Tower

2006 MRMC Nursing School Senior
Deborah Maurer, GN ICU
The first ever McLaren Family Fun Day took place under sunny skies on the grounds of Faith Missionary Church on Elms Road. All proceeds from the event benefited enhancements to the barbeque patio. Several members of MRMC showed up with their spouses and children to enjoy family-friendly games and activities. The softball tournament ended with a victory for Nutritional Services. Congratulations Nutritional Services!

**Team members:** Chris Curtin, Jason Crowe, Mike Price, Julian Garcia, Lamarr Atkins, Mike Hayes, Laurie Emmendorfer.

**A Little Change Makes a Big Difference**

Family Fun Day brought in $750 in proceeds. To date the entire campaign has raised $5,000. The final amount will be matched by the McLaren Foundation.
Therapy Softball Team

Front row l to r: Michele Gardner, Terri Harding, Kelli Stites, Shelby Branden, Lori Walters, Annette Nickel
3rd row: Mollie Royce, Deon Harper, Yvonne Davis.
4th row: Jeff Schultz, Randy Adams.

Kathy Hipps, R.N. paints a butterfly on the cheek of Alia Lanham.

Administration Softball Team

Tom Donaldson, Brent Wheeler, Dave Desimone, Billy Sherwood
Back row: Cheryl Wieber, Tammy Wheeler, Joan Maten

Andre Williams perfects his form at the ring toss game.

Jim Eggerton graciously staffed the pie throwing stand the entire day.
Nurse Recognized for Creating Memorial at Clio Golf Club

Hollie Cook, RN, a new addition to the 10 South nursing team at MRMC, was recognized in a recent Flint Journal article for her part in creating a special memorial to her childhood friend.

Cook, 22, spent many days at the Clio Golf Course with neighborhood friend Mary Beth Knox and her sisters. The girls would meet to play golf and just talk. When Mary Beth passed away on March 2, at the age of 22, after a yearlong battle with cancer, Cook raised more than $1,500 to create a memorial with a bench and landscaping at the Clio Golf Club.

“I wanted to do something special to commemorate her life,” said Cook. “Mary Beth’s parents are members at the Club, so I thought it could be a nice spot for them and others to enjoy. They were really happy when the space was presented to them. That made me feel great.”

Hollie’s mother, Joyce, works in the laboratory at McLaren, and her father, Steve, recently chaired the McLaren Golf Classic.