

CHOICES

Because There's No Such Thing as **MINOR SURGERY**

When you're scheduled for a minimally invasive surgery and don't expect severe blood loss, you may think there's no need to investigate bloodless options for the procedure. That couldn't be further from the truth. If bloodless surgery is your priority, your surgery needs to be performed by physicians affiliated with a hospital that makes it their priority, too.

THE BERRIE CENTER, the ambulatory surgery center located on the campus of Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, may be your best option for care. Because many surgeons and staff members at the Berrie Center are affiliated with The Institute for Patient Blood Management and Bloodless Medicine and Surgery, they're prepared to use their expertise and the center's state-of-the-art technology for patients for whom blood transfusions aren't options.

"The Institute has been in existence at Englewood Hospital since 1994, and it's since become known as the place to go for major surgeries," says Edna Cadmus, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, Senior Vice President of Patient Care Services at the Berrie Center. "Having the Berrie Center on our campus allows us to focus on patient- and family-centered care during outpatient surgeries as well, while still implementing The Institute's focus on respect for our patients' needs and medical preferences."

Preparing for the Unexpected

In the vast majority of cases, outpatient procedures can be performed in a matter of hours with patients returning home with no problems whatsoever. Because of the low risk of medical complications, it is possible that your surgeon may offer you the option of a non-hospital-based outpatient surgery center for your procedure. While the decision is ultimately yours, many informed patients understand that the safest environment in which to undergo their procedure is a hospital with a dedicated Bloodless Program.

"When unforeseen situations occur during an outpatient surgery at an offsite ambulatory center, patients must wait for an ambulance to take them to a hospital—which most likely doesn't have a Bloodless Program—so they can receive emergency care," says Lori Horton, MSN, RN, Administrative Director of Perioperative Services at the Berrie Center. "Because the Berrie Center is located onsite on Englewood Hospital's campus, patients have immediate access to the type of emergency care they want."

Offering advanced technology paired with a hometown, community feel is what the Berrie Center strives for each day.



WHILE YOU WOULDN'T THINK TWICE ABOUT TURNING TO ENGLEWOOD HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER FOR YOUR MAJOR SURGERY, YOU MIGHT THINK IT'S NOT NECESSARY FOR MINOR, OUTPATIENT PROCEDURES. THAT'S NOT THE CASE. NO SURGERY IS MINOR SURGERY, AND YOU SHOULD ALWAYS GO TO A HOSPITAL THAT IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE YOU WITH BLOODLESS SURGERY OPTIONS FOR ANY PROCEDURE.

"The Berrie Center provides the type of ambulatory setting patients have come to expect from an outpatient surgery center," says Gregg Lobel, MD, FAAP, anesthesiologist and Medical Co-Director of the Berrie Center. "Our patients are able to enjoy these benefits and have peace of mind knowing they have instant access to bloodless emergency medicine if an unanticipated event should occur."

For more information, visit www.bloodlessmed.com.



**The Institute for
Patient Blood Management &
Bloodless Medicine and Surgery**

Englewood Hospital and Medical Center

LETTERS

We want to express our deepest gratitude for everything you did prior to my surgery and during my stay in the hospital. Even though we were away from home, we never felt alone thanks to you. My wife and I thought this was going to be a hard experience for us, but we can definitely say it wasn't; we always felt at ease knowing we had your support. No doubt, you were the answer to our prayers. We will never forget your loving kindness and support.

Javier and Hyrcania Valentin
Chantilly, Virginia

Much of the anxiety we would have experienced during our 19-day stay at the hospital was greatly reduced by the kindness and caring we were shown. Bob said he couldn't have made it without me there and I wouldn't have made it without you! The daily visits to Bob were most encouraging.

Delores and Bob McLaughlin
Plainfield, New Jersey

Thank you so much for your help in preparing for my surgery. It's a wonderful provision to have you here to assist us in making our options clear to the medical staff. What tremendous weights you help to lift from our shoulders.

D.F.
Brooklyn, NY



NEWS YOU CAN USE

A study from the University of Michigan revealed that patients receiving blood transfusions following heart bypass surgery are at an increased risk of potentially deadly postoperative infections. According to the study, which was published in the July 31, 2009 issue of *BMC Medicine*, patients who receive transfusions have a five times greater risk of dying in the hospital and three times the risk of dying within one month of the surgery when compared to patients who do not receive transfusions.

Through research performed on mice with pancreatic cancer, researchers with Denver Health Medical Center have determined that blood transfusion can cause cancerous tumors to grow more quickly. The researchers, who presented their findings at the March 2009 Society of Surgical Oncology Annual Cancer Symposium, aren't sure exactly why blood transfusions allow the tumors to grow faster, but they believe that it's because the patient's immune system is weakened following the transfusion.



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OVERCOMING THE ODDS



Every year, approximately 43,000 cases of pancreatic cancer are diagnosed in the United States. Of these new cases, nearly 35,000 prove fatal. Thanks to the skilled surgeons and advanced techniques available at The Institute for Patient Blood Management and Bloodless Medicine and Surgery at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, however, Herbert Lorenzo, 52, of Puerto Rico, is recuperating from this deadly disease.

A WAREHOUSE MANAGER BY TRADE, Herbert's occupation often requires road trips to different store locations in his native Puerto Rico. On one of these trips in May 2009, Herbert began to experience tremendous pain in his right shoulder stretching down his side. Thinking nothing of the problem, he went about his work. Over the following days, the pain Herbert was experiencing would gradually worsen, eventually waking him frequently at night.

"The pain became so excruciating that I woke up 10 times in agonizing pain in one night," says Herbert. "I decided to go to the emergency room and, after an ultrasound, the doctors initially diagnosed me with gallstones. I was admitted to the hospital on May 2, 2009, and told that removing the stones would require surgery."



Prior to Herbert's surgical procedure, physicians conducted a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan to again check his gallbladder for stones. Reviewed by an MRI specialist, the scans showed unusual activity in his pancreas but no signs of gallstones. Believing Herbert no longer required surgery, physicians released him from the hospital.

The Difference a Week Makes

Following a week off work, Herbert began feeling a little bit better. Upon returning to his job, however, his condition took a turn for the worse.

"While at work, I noticed I was becoming jaundiced," says Herbert. "My skin and eyes were beginning to turn yellow. I went back to the emergency room."

After Herbert returned to the hospital, doctors performed a computed tomography (CT) scan that revealed he was suffering from pancreatic cancer. Physicians recommended he immediately undergo surgery to remove the tumor on his pancreas.

"The physicians in Puerto Rico kept encouraging me to have surgery as soon as possible," explains Herbert. "I knew I needed medical treatment quickly, but I wanted to be sure my procedure would be performed bloodlessly. The surgeon in Puerto Rico gave me no guarantee that my surgery would be totally bloodless, so I looked elsewhere for care."



Herbert Dardik, MD

Turning to The Institute

Seeking the best in bloodless care, Herbert and his wife traveled from Puerto Rico to New Jersey to meet with surgeons at The Institute. Upon reaching The Institute, Herbert was placed under the care of Herbert Dardik, MD, Chief of Surgery at Englewood Hospital, and Ibrahim Ibrahim, MD, Chief of Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery at Englewood Hospital.

At The Institute, Dr. Dardik and Dr. Ibrahim decided to proceed with a very complex surgical procedure that would remove the tumor from the head of Herbert's pancreas, located dangerously close to the liver, stomach, and vital veins.

"Based upon our assessment of Herbert's cancer, we determined we had to operate," explains Dr. Ibrahim. "Had we not made the commitment to perform his procedure, Herbert's cancer would have proven fatal."

Utilizing available blood-conserving technology and surgical expertise, Dr. Dardik and Dr. Ibrahim performed the extensive, difficult surgery needed to remove Herbert's tumor.

"Herbert's operation was a major surgical procedure," says Dr. Dardik. "By employing our bloodless techniques, however, his surgery was successful and ultimately left his body in a position prime for recovery. Working in conjunction with Dr. Ibrahim, we were able to save Herbert's life and help him overcome a very deadly disease."



Ibrahim Ibrahim, MD

The Road to Recovery

Months after his operation, Herbert's condition has continued to improve. Although his procedure took quite a physical toll on his body, bloodless surgical practices have left him poised for a smooth recovery.

"I knew going into my surgery that it would not be easy," says Herbert. "Dr. Dardik and Dr. Ibrahim gave the utmost confidence that my operation would be successful and that I could beat my cancer. Thanks to their expertise and commitment to my treatment, I am now cancer-free."

To learn more about the surgical services available at The Institute, visit www.bloodlessmed.com or call 1 (888) 766-2566.

I cannot thank you enough for the help you gave my family and me. I have to tell you that receiving care at this hospital has been a memorable experience for us. Everyone—from the people who clean the floors to the "Dream Team" of Dr. Ibrahim and Dr. Dardik—made my stay at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center extraordinary.

I cannot believe I'm going to tell you this, but actually, I'm sad that I'm leaving! For the three weeks here in Englewood Hospital, I felt secure and cared for. Plainly, I felt as though I were at home.

My wife told me that the day of the operation, a nurse came to her with tears in her eyes and said, "You don't know how hard these two doctors worked on your husband. You had the best, and they didn't stop until everything [meaning the tumor] was out of his body!"

Wow! What a privilege we had being here! We are now headed home to Puerto Rico filled with hope about the new life ahead, thanks to you all. We came to this hospital crying and scared. We leave today crying because we are going—but with joy, hope, and a new life. Thank you."

Herbert Lorenzo
Puerto Rico

LEADING THE WAY IN BLOODLESS SURGERY

When it came time for David N. Feldman, MD, to choose a career, no one would have been surprised if he had followed in his parents' footsteps and became a musician. Instead, Dr. Feldman followed a different passion and became an orthopedic surgeon with The Institute for Patient Blood Management and Bloodless Medicine and Surgery at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center.

DR. FELDMAN, one of seven children, grew up in a home with an opera-singing mother and a violinist father. The orthopedic surgeon enjoys playing the cello and repairing fine stringed instruments, and believes the orthopedic surgery he performs for Englewood Hospital's Jazz Foundation is an important way he stays connected with the local musical community. He was the recipient of awards from the Jazz Foundation of America and the Jazz Journalists' Association.

"I always liked to fix musical instruments with my family, but I thought it would be wonderful to be able to fix a person," says Dr. Feldman. "Helping someone who had a difficult time walking or playing with their kids seemed like my real calling."

Upon earning his medical degree from State University of New York and completing his orthopedic training at Maimonides Medical Center in New York City, Dr. Feldman came to Englewood Hospital where he was one of the founding members of the Society for the Advancement of Blood Management.

Dr. Feldman, who also serves as Associate Medical Director, has been involved with The Institute for Patient Blood Management and Bloodless Medicine and Surgery at Englewood Hospital since its inception 15 years ago. Englewood Hospital is an innovator in minimally invasive total hip replacements and hip resurfacing as well as partial and full minimally invasive knee replacements.

"Englewood Hospital's Blood Management Team is changing the way people think of orthopedic surgery," Dr. Feldman says. "Bloodless surgery allows us to perform complicated surgeries that otherwise might not be performed for fear of blood loss."

For more information about scheduling an appointment with Dr. Feldman, call (888) 766-2566.



AN EXPERT IN BLOODLESS VASCULAR SURGERY

It's not uncommon for children to wish to be physicians when they grow up. Few children, however, could envision not only attaining their dream, but helping improve lives by performing bloodless surgery a mere 30 miles from their childhood home.

THAT'S PRECISELY THE JOURNEY taken by Theresa M. Impeduglia, MD, vascular surgeon at The Institute for Patient Blood Management and Bloodless Medicine and Surgery at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center. Dr. Impeduglia grew up in Staten Island, New York, and learned about medicine by shadowing physicians as a teen. She received her medical degree from Stony Brook University School of Medicine and completed general surgery training at Nassau University Medical Center, both on Long Island.

"I chose vascular surgery because of its innovative nature," says Dr. Impeduglia. "After practicing in Maryland as a general surgeon, I came to Englewood Hospital for a vascular surgery fellowship, where I was introduced to bloodless medicine."



Choosing an Alternative to Conventional Surgery

During her fellowship, Dr. Impeduglia worked with other practitioners of bloodless medicine and realized the ease with which bloodless techniques could be incorporated into surgeries and the quality of patients' outcomes. Today, Dr. Impeduglia performs many vascular procedures—including open aortic aneurysm repair, endovascular aortic aneurysm repair, and carotid surgery—without the use of blood transfusions.

"Many people assume major vascular surgery involves significant blood loss and transfusions, but that's not the case," Dr. Impeduglia says. "At The Institute, we do our utmost to respect patients' choices and deliver the best care possible."

For information about scheduling an appointment with Dr. Impeduglia, call (888) 766-2566.



**The Institute for
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Englewood Hospital and Medical Center

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THE DOCTOR IS IN!

When blood transfusions aren't an option for you, it's critical to have a primary care physician who respects your decisions and can coordinate your specialty care. When you're hospitalized, you can rely on the Hospitalists at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center to meet these same needs.

HOSPITALISTS ARE PHYSICIANS WHO concentrate their work solely within the hospital, providing care 24 hours a day, seven days a week to patients who don't have a primary care physician available to coordinate their inpatient care. Because the six Hospitalists at Englewood Hospital don't have outside practices, they're able to concentrate their services on inpatients, which means they can provide bloodless primary care while ensuring the patient receives specialty care from physicians who also are dedicated to the mission of The Institute for Patient Blood Management and Bloodless Medicine and Surgery.

"Other hospitals might have a handful of physicians on staff who are comfortable treating bloodless patients, but we can call on entire teams of specialists who have embraced this culture," says Benjamin Hohmuth, MD, Hospitalist, Chief of Hospital Medicine, and Director of Inpatient Education at Englewood Hospital. "As a result, the Hospitalists have created processes that streamline inpatient care for the bloodless patient and make the entire hospitalization more efficient."

Because Hospitalists are available all day, every day, they're able to immediately react to test results and status changes. Because of this efficiency, patients under the care of Hospitalists may find that their inpatient stay at the hospital is shorter.

To learn more about Englewood Hospital's Bloodless Program, visit www.bloodlessmed.com.



"It's incredibly difficult for primary care physicians [PCPs] who have thriving practices in the community to come to the hospital, round on patients, and coordinate their care. As Hospitalists, we serve as extensions of those PCPs by maintaining the patients' inpatient care while allowing them to concentrate on their outpatient practices. It's a great relationship that works because we have great communication with the outpatient PCPs every step of the way."

—Benjamin Hohmuth, MD, Hospitalist, Chief of Hospital Medicine, and Director of Inpatient Education at Englewood Hospital