Message From the CEO and the Chief of Orthopedic Surgery

From its start as a 100-bed hospital in 1951 to its current status as Catholic Health’s Orthopedic Campus of Excellence, Kenmore Mercy Hospital continues to evolve and innovate. To accommodate a growing patient population and to ensure that our joint replacement services remain state-of-the-art, Kenmore Mercy Hospital has embarked on a plan to modernize and expand its Surgical Service Department.

To date, this has included the addition of two new surgical suites and the renovation of the hospital’s original Sterile Process Department. Next is a complete overhaul of the hospital’s old Emergency Department, which was vacated when we opened our new ER in 2013, making way for larger Pre-operative Holding and the Post Anesthesia Care Units.

It has been our goal since establishing the Knee & Hip Center more than ten years ago, to follow patient care from start to finish. We do this first by introducing patients to Kenmore Mercy during pre-admission testing. Then, through pre-operative education classes, our orthopedic clinical educator teaches patients what to expect before, during and after surgery. Every attempt is made to set realistic expectations, put patients at ease and improve their level of confidence.

As people’s lives get busier, we must find new ways to stay connected with our patients, bringing them closer to Kenmore Mercy at the push of a button. We have made it possible for patients who are unable to attend pre-operative education classes to receive instruction online. In addition, work is underway on a virtual tour of our joint replacement facilities.

The pages of this 2015 Orthopedic Annual Report will highlight much more of what is happening at Kenmore Mercy Hospital as we continue to provide our patients with the area’s most widely recognized Orthopedic Center of Excellence. The convenient location, together with state-of-the-art services and experienced surgeons, make Kenmore Mercy Hospital an excellent choice for your orthopedic needs.

Sincerely,

James M. Millard
President & Chief Executive Office

Marcus Romanowski, MD
Chief of Orthopedic Surgery

2015 Joint Replacements at a Glance

1255 .................. Total joint replacement procedures in 2015
50.2 % ............... Percentage of patients discharged to home
67 years ............. Average age of our joint replacement patients
37 years old ......... Age of the youngest hip replacement patient
61.1 % ................. Percentage of female patients
Kenmore Mercy Hospital’s specialized team of orthopedic physicians, mid-level providers, nursing staff, and rehabilitation therapists take pride in delivering outstanding care for patients through leadership, education, innovation and excellence in medicine.

Their commitment to improving patient safety and quality of care has resulted in the hospital receiving numerous awards. This includes Disease-Specific Care Certification from The Joint Commission in both knee and hip replacements. Kenmore Mercy was the first hospital in the region to attain this certification in 2011 and has been recertified twice now, in 2013 and 2015.

Kenmore Mercy Hospital remains the only orthopedic program in Western New York that has earned this certification, which means it meets or exceeds rigorous national standards for quality, safety, and outcomes.

In the Healthgrades® 2015 Annual Report to the Nation, highlighting achievements in 33 of the most common inpatient procedures and conditions, Kenmore Mercy Hospital was once again listed as one of America’s 100 Best Hospitals for Orthopedic Surgery and Joint Replacement.

In addition, Kenmore Mercy was awarded five-stars, the most possible, by Healthgrades® for total knee and total hip replacement. The hospital also received Healthgrades® Joint Replacement Excellence Award for the ninth year in a row (2007-2015) and its Orthopedic Excellence Award for 2014 and 2015.

Why Healthgrades Matters?

222,392 lives could have potentially been saved if all facilities in the US performed at the 5-Star hospital level

166,086 complications could have potentially been avoided if all facilities in the US performed at the 5-Star hospital level
Kenmore Mercy Hospital orthopedic surgeons, nurses, and rehabilitation professionals provide expert patient-centered care. Not surprisingly, patients rated Kenmore Mercy’s Knee & Hip Center high on the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems survey, also known as HCAHPS.

In fact, they rated above the national average for their overall experience and for their willingness to recommend the center to family and friends. The survey asks a random sampling of patients about factors such as the responsiveness of hospital staff to their needs, the quality of care transitions and how well information about medications is communicated. It also asks about cleanliness and quietness of the facility and whether or not the patient would recommend it to others.

The Knee & Hip Center also conducts its own survey of patients prior to their discharge, providing an opportunity to address any concerns promptly. Patients consistently rank their care and physical therapy sessions a 9.3. The goal is to achieve a 9 or 10 on a 10 point scale. In addition, 98.5% of patients surveyed prior to discharge in 2015 noted that they would recommend the hospital to friends and family. Achieving positive patient experience scores is the result of Kenmore Mercy Hospital’s patient-centered projects.

This includes its therapy dog visitation program, restful night menus, picture perfect room cleaning initiatives, and so much more. Executive leaders also make rounds on patient floors to informally ask patients and families about their experiences. This helps give leadership a direct view of what is going well and what areas may need improvement.
To keep patients who have received a knee or hip replacement on the move, Kenmore Mercy Hospital’s rehabilitation staff has made early mobilization a priority. In fact, 67 percent of patients in 2015 were seen the day of surgery and within a few hours of arriving at the Knee & Hip Center.

“While progressive mobility isn’t a new concept, what is new is the initial start time,” noted Beth Anne Rutter, PT, manager of the hospital’s Rehabilitation Services Department. “We have progressively decreased the gap between surgery and initial ambulation since first piloting this program for total knee replacements in 2012.”

Patients arriving to the Knee and Hip Center as late as 3 p.m. the day of surgery are now being seen by a physical therapist who conducts an initial evaluation. Therapists get patients sitting up and out of bed, spending longer time in a chair, and working on range-of-motion exercises.

“Although patients have just undergone major surgery, getting them up and moving around has many benefits,” Rutter continued. “It helps to build their confidence, decreases apprehension, and gives them more mobility throughout their recovery.”

This also helps the nursing staff as they care for patients throughout the night. Patients are not as hesitant to get up and out of bed, dangle their legs, or walk to the bathroom. In addition, it helps to prevent negative bed-rest outcomes, such as blood clots, pneumonia, delirium, and ultimately, patient dissatisfaction and longer stays. The hospital’s goal in following this patient care model is shorter lengths of stay, faster recoveries, and superior outcomes for patients.
Kenmore Mercy was a shining star at the community outreach event - A Multidisciplinary Approach to the Musculoskeletal System - on November 14, 2015. More than a third of the presenters were associates and medical staff hailing from the hospital.

In addition to orthopedic surgeons Marcus Romanowski, MD; and Matthew Mann, MD, Kenmore Mercy Hospital presenters included nurses Alan Chittley, RN, ONC; Elizabeth LoFaso, RN, BSN, MSEd, ONC; and Deb Micholas, RN, BSN, ONC. Other presenters from the hospital included Deborah Bedard, PT; Beth Anne Rutter, PT; Rev. Nancy Faery, MDIV, BCC and Brenda V. Queeno, PharmD.

Widely attended, with nearly 150 guests, the symposium was a comprehensive review of the important aspects of orthopedic and spine protocols for physicians, therapists and nurses.

A few of the topics covered by Kenmore Mercy presenters included early mobility for total joint patients, fundamentals of ankle replacement, and multimodal pain management using a multidisciplinary approach.

Catholic Health hosted two additional orthopedic events in 2015 focused on physician education. This included Total Hip Arthroplasty with Advanced Robotics with Peter Shields, MD; and Minimally Invasive Surgical Techniques with Kristin Barnard, PT, DPT, Cert MDT; and R. Warren Rogers, DO.

There were also a number of programs focused on educating the community. This included AUAA Shoulder and Knee Pain with Keith Stube, MD; Michael Parentis, MD; and Joe Lorenzetti, PT; and Outpatient Knee Replacement with Cindy Romanowski, MD.

“I am so happy that I had this knee replacement. I can now walk as far as I like with no more pain or discomfort. After only five months, I hardly think of my new knee at all (except for kneeling down to clean the floor). I have returned to golf and tennis and am grateful every day for having undergone the struggle of post-op recovery and rehab. My experiences at Kenmore Mercy Hospital could not have been better and I credit my physical therapist from McAuley Services for my good recovery.”

~ Eileen Grimaldi, West Seneca, NY
Patient of Dr. Rachala

“My life has almost become painless. Aside from being a magnificent person, Dr. Stoeckl has shown his mastery at this kind of surgery. I’ll be forever thankful to him for all he has done for me. I also will be thankful to Kenmore Mercy Hospital (the hospital of my choice) for letting him perform these surgeries. Thank you all.”

~ Francesco Germano, Amherst, NY
Patient of Dr. Stoeckl
People: The Kenmore Mercy Hospital Orthopedics Team

Surgeons

Jeremy P. Doak, MD
Jennifer Gurske-dePerio, MD
Patrick J. Hubik, MD
Joshua L. Jones, MD
Matthew A. Mann, MD
Brian E. McGrath, MD
Michael A. Parentis, MD
Paul D. Paterson, MD
Sridhar Rachala, MD
John A. Repicci, MD
Marcus Romanowski, MD
Stephen D. Rycyna, MD
Peter E. Shields, MD
James Slough, MD
Andrew C. Stoeckl, MD
Keith Stube, MD
Nicholas J. Violante, DO
Ryan Wilkins, MD

Orthopedic Certified Nurses

Delreta Billips, RN
Alan Chittley, RN
Christine Clark, RN
Sydney Dirk, RN
Nicole Faulkner, RN
Briana Geddis, RN
Mary Hojnacki, RN
Pamela Koetzle, RN
Elizabeth LoFaso, RN, BSN, MSEd.
Amber Mazurek, RN
Deborah Micholas, RN, BSN
Christine Reaser, RN
Susan Wasielewski, RN
Suzanne Zeisz, RN

Kenmore Mercy Hospital Mid-Level Surgical Providers

Reema Bawab, PA-C
Jessica Beck, PA-C
Ian Brown, PA-C
Breanne Jeffrey, PA-C
Donna Hall-Anderson, PA-C
Stacy Heiler, PA-C
Harjeet Cumbo, PA-C, BS, MS
Karen McMahon, PA-C
Andrea Schmitt, NP-BC, RNFA
Esther Sprehe, NP-BC, RNFA

The nursing staff at Kenmore Mercy’s award-winning Knee & Hip Center are professional and attentive.

For more information or a physician referral, call (716) 706-2112.
If you suffer from knee, hip, or other joint problems, you can trust Kenmore Mercy Hospital to lead you back to the activities that you love best.

Our patients can expect fast and convenient care, the latest treatments, and the peace of mind that comes from knowing that they’re with one of America’s best hospitals.