

# Grossmont Plans to Embrace Technologies That Improve Surgery

There is a revolution currently underway in vascular surgery. More and more patients who suffer from common vascular disease states are now benefiting from the use of minimally invasive endovascular surgery.

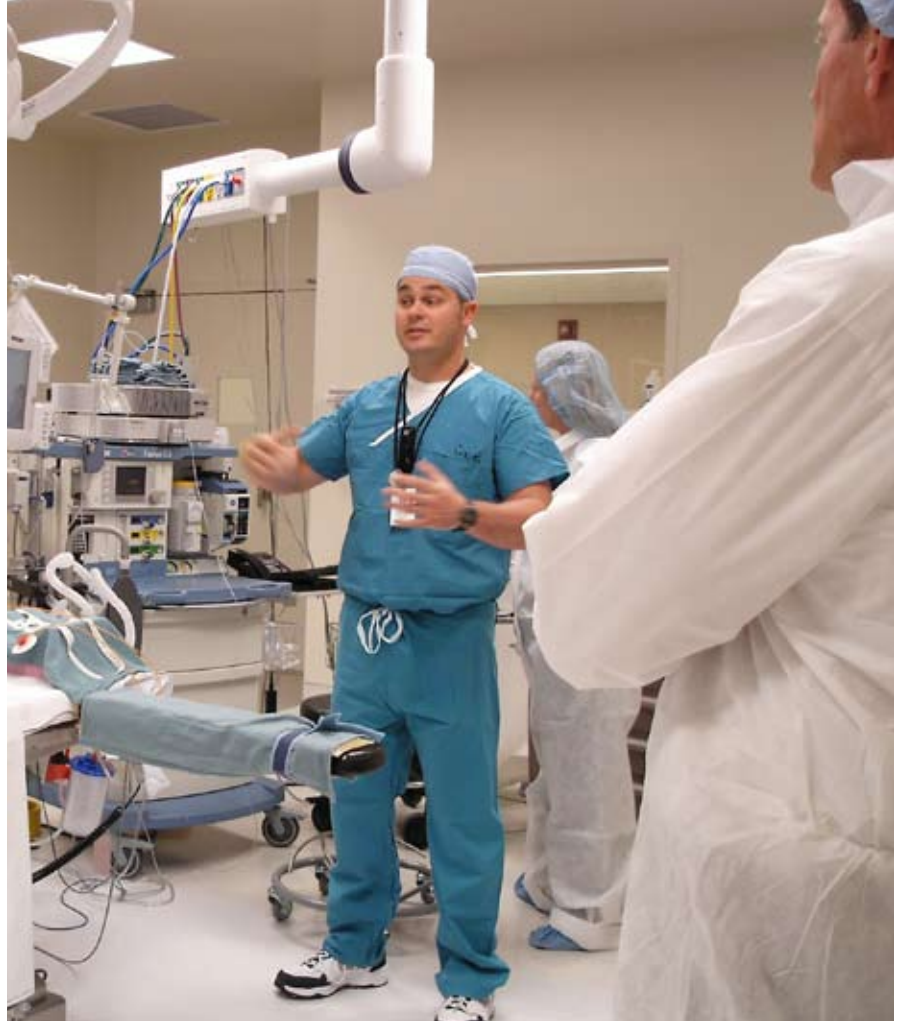
These include peripheral vascular disease (a slow and progressive circulation disorder) and cerebrovascular disease (reduction of blood supply to the brain from the carotid arteries in the neck).

According to Thomas T. Terramani, M.D., a vascular surgeon with Grossmont Hospital, “Minimally invasive endovascular procedures are like surgical operations on blood vessels from the inside and, in most situations, are performed without a surgical incision. These procedures are performed through a small puncture wound, utilizing advanced imaging equipment. Basically, any blood vessel in the body can be repaired.”

## WHAT CAN MINIMALLY INVASIVE ENDOVASCULAR SURGERY DO FOR YOU?

The benefits of minimally invasive endovascular surgery include:

- The procedure is less invasive, making it safer and less stressful on the heart
- The use of local or regional anesthesia instead of general anesthesia
- In the case of aortic aneurysm and/or dissection repair, smaller incisions can be used
- A shorter recovery period and less discomfort
- Fewer risks for patients who are compromised by other diseases, such as coronary artery or pulmonary disease
- Reduced need for blood products



Hospital leadership conducts a site visit to Banner Estrella Medical Center in Arizona to evaluate advantages of a multipurpose interventional surgery suite.

### PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Endovascular surgery is relatively new in the medical world, and older hospitals such as Grossmont Hospital are not ideally designed to address this new trend in surgery. However, our goal is to meet the technological challenges in the near future. The next generation of surgery also includes the use of minimally invasive robotic surgery for advanced cardiac and urologic procedures and minimally invasive total knee replacement, all providing similar benefits. As modern technology advances and surgical techniques change, hospitals like Grossmont must respond with appropriate changes to their facility design and infrastructure capability.

### RESEARCHING PATIENTS' NEEDS

As part of its master planning process, Grossmont Hospital conducted extensive research in planning for the years to come and recognized that a redesign of how surgical services should be provided for the future required additional

surgical space. Additional studies were conducted regarding the type of surgical suites needed, culminating in a decision to build multipurpose surgery suites capable of both interventional and traditional surgery. “We know the demand is there for more modern operating room suites, not only for state-of-the-art procedures, but to meet growth demands in general,” acknowledged Susan Werner, R.N., Director of Surgical Services. “Grossmont Hospital has seen a 32-percent growth in surgery cases since 2001.”

Because of the need, these multipurpose surgery suites are considered a priority, along with increasing bed capacity for the hospital. “We are committed to providing the highest level of care to our patients — and that includes the latest surgical advancements, especially when they improve medical outcomes and enhance the quality of life for our patients,” said Michele Tarbet, R.N., CEO. ♦