



Blackford Community Hospital

A Clarian Health Partner

March 25, 2009

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For Immediate Release:

Blackford Community Hospital now utilizing high-definition monitor equipment

HARTFORD CITY – Blackford Community Hospital is now using the latest high-definition endoscope technology to help diagnose problems in the gastrointestinal tract, which can include Colorectal Cancer, the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the U.S.

Compared to conventional systems, high-definition endoscopy combined with Narrow Band Imaging™ provides doctors with sharper images and better contrast, which in turn may help them better observe lesions in the colon. The results can be shorter procedure times while potentially providing patients with a more accurate diagnosis.

“We don’t want people in our community to have to drive 45 minutes to receive the same treatments and testing that is available right here,” said Steve West, President, Blackford Community Hospital. “We believe this is another example of Blackford Community Hospital providing the same high level of technology and care to the local Hartford City area as any other hospital in the region.”

The HDTV signal now used at BCH through the system’s video processor is designed to produce 1080 lines of resolution, which more than doubles the number of scan lines used by conventional systems, and offers doctors a very high level of detail and color. The new technology is specifically designed for use with human tissue, the result is a clear view of very small capillary patterns allowing physicians to better visualize areas of possible concern.

“Blackford Community Hospital should be applauded for continuing to push towards a high level of technology for this community,” said Dr. Boaz Ofek. “They are not resting on just having a new facility but are keeping up with the pace of new healthcare advancements.”

The American Cancer Society (ACS) projects that colon and rectal cancer will claim 55,170 American lives this year. The ACS also points out that the five year survival rate for people whose colorectal cancer is treated in an early stage, before it has spread, is greater than 90 percent.

Beginning at age 50, both men and women should be screened for colon and rectal cancer. People at risk or who have a personal history of a strong family history of colorectal cancer should talk to their doctor about starting screenings earlier or more often. For more information, talk to your doctor or visit www.blackfordcommunityhospital.org.

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