



## Congratulations to Our 'Tops Docs'

A number of physicians from Lourdes Medical Associates and Lourdes Cardiology were named "Top Docs" by several local publications. They include:

### *South Jersey Magazine*

Cardiology: Joshua Crasner,  
William Godin

Hematology/Oncology:  
Eduardo Fernandez

Neurology: Larry Janoff

### *SJ Magazine*

Bariatric Surgery: Mark Salcone

Cardiac EP: Devender Akula,  
Nicholas DePace

Cardiology: John Hamaty,  
David Schlessel

Cardiovascular Disease: Bryan Saia

Colorectal Surgery: David Berg

Endocrinology: Sarah Varghese,  
Parveen Verma

Family Practice: Matthew Gettings

Gastroenterology: Robert Shmuts

Geriatric Medicine: Mirela Draganescu

Gynecologic Oncology: Howard Saul

Hospitalist: Ninon Matos

Infectious Disease: Sandra Paluzzi

Internal Medicine: Glenn McLintock

Interventional Cardiology:  
Adam Levine, Ibrahim Moussa

Medical Oncology:  
Eduardo Fernandez

Nephrology: Manassa Ujire

Neurology: Allen Zechow

Obstetrics/Gynecology:  
Sherrilynn Parrish

Orthopedics: Kristen Herbst,  
Sean McMillan

Physical Medicine: John Nolan

Pulmonology: Stuart Mest

Sports Medicine: Craig Kimmel,  
Thomas Plut

Surgery: Margaret Merriam

Thoracic Surgery: Arthur Martella,  
Atiq Rehman

Vascular Surgery: Nasser Youssef

### *Philadelphia Magazine*

Cardiovascular Disease:  
Nicholas DePace

Nephrology: Arijit Chakravarty

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Maintaining a top-tier healthcare organization requires top-tier medical providers. We are fortunate that Lourdes Medical Associates is made up of so many skilled and compassionate physicians, nurses and other professionals who work together as a team to provide our patients with the highest quality care.



In recent months, a number of LMA physicians have been recognized as "Top Docs" by several local publications. Their inclusion on these lists speaks volumes about their service to the profession and the respect they have earned from their colleagues. I congratulate each of them and thank them for the excellent care they provide to our patients.

In other news from around LMA:

- For the three months ending September 30, LMA has realized an operating loss of \$2.5 million compared to a budgeted loss of \$2.7 million, a favorable variance of \$200,000.
- Net patient revenues are essentially on budget (favorable \$54,000). Gross charges were slightly below budget (\$34,000), but this shortfall is offset by favorable collections experience year-to-date.
- LMA has added a number of new medical professionals over the past six months. See page two of this newsletter for a complete list.

It is the work you do every day that makes a difference to the patients we serve. Keep up the good work.

Steven Fox, MD, FACC  
*President*  
*Lourdes Medical Associates*



# Lourdes Cardiologists Among First in Region to Implant New Dissolving Heart Stent

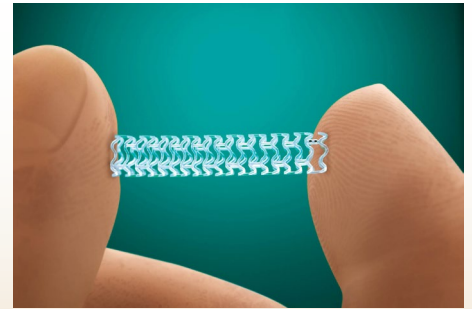
Interventional cardiologists at Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center are among the first in South Jersey and Philadelphia to implant the world's first FDA-approved dissolving heart stent. Vijay K. Verma, MD, FACC, FSCAI, an interventional cardiologist with The Heart House, implanted a patient with Abbott's Absorb bioresorbable vascular scaffold in September. Dr. Verma was principal investigator of three Absorb clinical trials at Lourdes.

The Absorb device is a major advance in the treatment of coronary artery disease, said Reginald Blaber, MD, Executive Director of the Lourdes Cardiovascular Institute and Vice President of Cardiovascular Services and Chairman, Department of Medicine at Lourdes.

"The Absorb stent is a game-changer in the treatment of blocked coronary arteries," said Dr. Blaber. "We're proud to offer this first-of-its-kind technology at Lourdes. Bioresorbable stents represent the future of treating heart disease."

While stents are traditionally permanent metal implants, the Absorb stent is made of a naturally dissolving material. Absorb's small mesh tube can open a blocked heart vessel, restore blood flow to the heart and then gradually disappear over a three-to-five-year period. The device dissolves except for two pairs of tiny metallic markers that remain in the artery to enable a physician to see where the device was placed.

"Because no permanent stent is left behind, we are able to reduce the risk of blood clots forming," said Dr. Verma. "Although complications from metal stents are rare, the bioresorbable stent offers great benefits to the patient. It also allows physicians to perform additional procedures in the treated vessel—should another intervention be needed in the future."



## NEWS BRIEFS

**Craig Kimmel, MD**, Director of Sports Medicine, recently spoke at the Burlington County Tennis Association's Women's Day. He is shown here with grand slam tennis champion Gigi Fernandez.



*Dr. Kimmel*

**Andrew Conn, MD**, will be a featured panelist at the fourth annual Dr. Stephen Matarazzo IBD Conference on Nov. 16 at the Crowne Plaza in Cherry Hill.



*Dr. Conn*

**Arijit Chakravarty, MD**, Medical Director of the Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Program, and **Hisham ElGenaidi, MD**, Medical Director of Hepatology, recently recorded interviews with WDAS-FM radio.



*Dr. Chakravarty Dr. Elgenaidi*

Congratulations to **John Radomski, MD**, who was featured in South Jersey Magazine's "Tales of Triumph" article on how he saved the life of a patient with immediate liver failure. Dr. Radomski performed both liver and kidney transplants on the patient. The grateful patients later invited Dr. Radomski to his wedding. Read the full story here:

[www.southjerseymagazine.com/articles/?articleid=1854](http://www.southjerseymagazine.com/articles/?articleid=1854)



*Dr. Radomski*



## LMA in the Community

Lourdes is a regular presence at community events across the region. In September, Lourdes sponsored the Parkside Business and Community in Partnership's annual Haddon Avenue street festival. Lourdes provided blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol screenings, administered flu shots through our partners at Walgreens, and signed up patients for kidney screenings (through another partnership with the National Kidney Foundation). Attendees could speak to our cardiologists, learn about our bariatrics and LIFE at Lourdes programs, and get free chair massages. Thanks to every LMA staff member who volunteered.



Congratulations to the **Lourdes Liver Team** for their outstanding participation in the Liver Life Walk on October 2 at Lincoln Financial Field.

The team of 135 walkers raised more than \$5,100, among the most for the event.

## THANK YOU'S

To **Dr. Lisa Lichtman and staff** – Thank you so much for everything you have done for us over the years! You're a great team and your patients know it and feel it when they walk in the door. Thank you again!

I have been a patient at Lourdes Medical Associates for eight-plus years and have never shared my gratitude for the wonderful care I have received. **Dr. Marvin Weinar** is one of the most caring doctors and who I have the most confidence in for maintaining my healthcare. I am very relaxed talking with him about my health concerns and he shows me he really cares. I also want to compliment the office staff. Wonderful, wonderful office manager nurse Linda, who retired September 9. She will be truly missed. **Carma, Valeria** and another **Linda**, just to name a few, do a wonderful job and help me so much. I know they care and they just lift my spirit up so much. I truly thank God for such wonderful doctors and staff at Lourdes Medical Associates in Willingboro.

To **Dr. Paul Lanza** – As someone who routinely provides advice to clients, I sometimes never learn if the advice given is heeded; or if it was heeded, the final outcome. So I just wanted to take the time to drop you a note of thanks for your help last week. First of all, thanks for your prompt response to both my call and my visit. The courtesy you exhibited was much appreciated. Both you and your staff acted professionally and efficiently. I was in extreme back pain when I came to see you; however, by following your advice, I was actually able to return to work the very next day. I have continued to improve since then and thankfully won't have to go for the MRI or X-ray. Thanks again for what you do; and, just as importantly, how you do it.

## COMING & GOING

### • NEW PROVIDERS

Joseph Tropea, DO Hem/Onc, LMA Hematology Oncology

Michael Hackman, MD, LMCBC Nocturnist

Michelle Miller, NP, PM&R

Rose McGeever, DO, Family Practice (LifeCare)

Eddy Martinez, MD, OB/GYN hospitalist

Adrienne Ortega, NP, Wedgewood Family

Miriam Nnabuihe, NP, Wedgewood Family

Usha Algesan, NP, GI Burlington

Gloria Chomicki, NP, Glendale

Harish Kakkilaya, MD, General Surgery

Ghazali Chaudry, MD, General Surgery

Zahid Baig, MD, GI

### • DEPARTURES

Carlos Molina, DO, Surgery

Leigh Hopkins, MD, Orthopedics

Elizabeth Cerva, DO, Family Medicine

Gerald Fendrick, MD, Pediatrics

Matthew Gettings, DO, Family Medicine

Preeti Chaurasia, MD, Internal Medicine

### • MOVES

Vanessa Tong, MD, has moved Willingboro Town Center.

### • ADDED SERVICES

Breast surgeon Malini Iyer, MD, is now seeing patients at Burlington Surgery.

Nasser Youssef, MD, is now seeing patients in Northfield, NJ.

Kathryn Lester, PsyD, from the Drexel Neuroscience Institute is now seeing patients at LourdesCare at Cherry Hill.