



News Release

Bloodless Medicine and Surgery Program at Baptist Medical Center Downtown Celebrates Five Years of Service

Jacksonville, Fla., January 18, 2006 — The [Bloodless Medicine and Surgery Program](#) at Baptist Medical Center Downtown will celebrate its five-year anniversary on January 20. Now serving more than 3,000 patients a year, the program offers an alternative for people who wish to avoid using donated blood.

“Many patients are concerned about the quantity and quality of the blood supply,” said Gary L. Butler, manager of Bloodless Medicine and Surgery at Baptist Downtown. “People are accessing our program not only for religious reasons, but because bloodless procedures offer faster recovery, shorter hospital stays and decreased infection rates.”

Some of the devices that minimize blood loss during surgery, and are being used by more than 200 physicians on the medical staff at Baptist Downtown, are:

- Argon beam coagulators
- Lasers
- Hemostatic scalpels
- Specialized pharmaceuticals
- Blood-salvage devices
- Hyperbarics
- da Vinci™ Robotic Surgical System

“As more physicians and patients recognize the benefits of this type of treatment, it’s being applied more often,” said Butler.

To celebrate its fifth anniversary, the Bloodless Medicine and Surgery Program will offer a public education seminar on **February 4, 2006**, from 2 – 4 p.m. and the duPont Auditorium at Baptist Downtown. Cardiovascular surgeon Robert J. Still, MD, will speak about the role of bloodless procedures in open-heart surgery and Timothy Daniel, MD, an interventional radiologist, will discuss procedures in his specialty that use bloodless techniques. To register for the program, call 202.2141.

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Baptist Health is a faith-based, mission-driven system comprised of Baptist Medical Center Downtown, Baptist Heart Hospital, Baptist Medical Center Beaches, Baptist Medical Center Nassau; Baptist Medical Center South and Wolfson Children's Hospital -- Jacksonville's only children's hospital. Baptist Health also includes cardiology and cardiovascular surgery services, a comprehensive cancer center, orthopaedic institute, women's resource center, a full range of psychology and psychiatry services, outpatient facilities and a network of primary care physicians' offices throughout Northeast Florida. Baptist Health is the official healthcare provider for the Jacksonville Jaguars.