TOPIC FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020:

How does the Mohawk Valley Health System (MVHS) plan to transform care from excellent to exceptional? Is it just about a new regional medical center building?

Transforming care for our patients and community members is about more than a new building. That said, however, it is clear that the new regional medical center design will enable us to adopt and implement new approaches to patient care delivery, provide more and updated space for state-of-the-art technology and medicine, and is a draw for recruiting highly-talented and skilled physicians and other professionals.

The advances in healthcare in the last 100 years – even the last 20 years – have been dramatic. Advances in industry-based knowledge impacts the way healthcare is delivered. But our buildings were built for the way medicine was practiced decades ago. A new facility allows us to administer care in a state-of-the-art manner.

Over the past year we began transforming care by bringing more innovation and advanced medical services to our region. We acquired the most advanced robotics surgical system available and our surgeons can now perform more sophisticated and complicated surgeries – which means patients have smaller incisions, less recovery time and go home sooner! Our cardiac services have greatly advanced with the adoption of procedures such as WATCHMAN, TAVR, and, most recently, minimally invasive heart valve surgery (which doesn’t require cutting through a patient’s sternum). New approaches to treating complex brain aneurysms were conducted by our Comprehensive Stroke and Neuroendovascular Program. And, we continue to bring innovative orthopedic procedures and techniques to our region. Soon you’ll be hearing more about new devices and procedures to help our patients suffering from heartburn (also called GERD)!

And, the excellence of our clinical care has been recognized by state and national organizations. Just recently, MVHS became the first Cardiac Cath Lab in New York State to be accredited by the American College of Cardiology and we received “Blue Distinction Center” designation from Excellus BlueCross BlueShield for our hip and knee replacement programs. These are just two recent examples of ways in which our award-winning care is being recognized.

So, yes, today, we provide excellent care while we also continue to work with the members of our medical staff to identify ways to build on this and transform care to exceptional. It’s an exciting time in healthcare for the Mohawk Valley!