

# Physician Forum

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## JEWISH HOSPITAL ESTABLISHES 24/7 ECHO COVERAGE FOR CARDIAC SURGICAL PROCEDURES

*“Real-time” information enhances patient management and intraoperative diagnosis*

To further enhance patient care, Jewish Hospital is now providing 24/7 Transesophageal Echocardiography (TEE) coverage for all cardiac surgical procedures performed at the hospital. This around-the-clock coverage will be provided by Jewish Hospital's team of TEE-trained cardiac anesthesiologists, many of whom are certified by the American Board of Echocardiography.

“Over the last decade, TEE has become increasingly desired and requested by cardiac surgeons,” said TEE-certified cardiac anesthesiologist Magdy Khalil, MD. “With ECHO now available around the clock for any cardiac surgical procedure, Jewish Hospital surgeons have real-time information that can change and improve the outcome of cardiac surgeries.”

The use of TEE in the operating room has significantly advanced all types of cardiovascular surgeries. With results interpreted by either cardiologists or cardiac anesthesiologists who are TEE trained, this sophisticated diagnostic and monitoring tool provides continuous, detailed information on cardiovascular functions. TEE can be used to determine the cause of hemodynamic disorders or other intraoperative complications, or to confirm the success of valve replacements or other surgical repairs – to name just a few its wide-ranging benefits in the OR. At Jewish Hospital, this real-time information

is enhancing intraoperative diagnosis as well as overall patient management and care.

“With TEE, we can see the heart working and assess functioning accordingly,” said Dr. Khalil. “In a bypass surgery, for example, we might see that a mitral valve is leaking. This information is instantly transmitted to the surgeon who can immediately make the repair. For patients, this immediate intervention reduces complications and means one surgery, not two.”

Conversely, said Dr. Khalil, TEE can prevent unnecessary surgery by providing diagnostic information that could not be obtained preoperatively.

“A patient may be scheduled for valve surgery, but with TEE, we can clearly see that the valve is not in need of surgical repair, and the surgeon changes course and elects to forego surgery.”

The patient's condition will determine the use of ECHO in the operating room. Should the need arise, though, it is now available 24/7 from TEE-trained cardiac anesthesiologists as part of Jewish Hospital's continuing commitment to provide premier cardiovascular care to the region.

For more information about Transesophageal Echocardiography at Jewish Hospital, contact Lisa Jackson, Vice President of Surgery at 502-587-4203 or [lisa.jackson@jhsmh.org](mailto:lisa.jackson@jhsmh.org).

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