Dear Nesbit family and friends—voting for the annual US News and World Report (USNWR) Best Children’s and Adult Hospitals (and specialty) rankings is underway. As has been done in previous years, surveys/ballots may come via US Mail or through Doximity.com.

Responses must be submitted by the end of March 2019. Physicians are asked to vote for up to 5 hospitals in their specialty that they believe are the best in the nation. The survey results are used to calculate hospital reputation scores. We highly encourage you to vote if you are eligible and to keep the University of Michigan/Michigan Medicine in mind when you do so.

And now on to our What’s New…

Brighton Center for Specialty Care (BCSC) – Dr. John Wei

Commissioned almost a decade ago, the Brighton for Specialty Care (BCSC) opened for business on September 4, 2018. It’s hard to believe that we’ve been open for a full 6 months now. As the newest Michigan Medicine ACU, BCSC fills a need as a good proportion of our patients live and travel from points north of Ann Arbor. These patients were having to fight traffic on US23 to get to their appointments only to have to deal with the challenges of parking at the Hospital upon arrival. BCSC was built strategically across the street from Michigan Medicine’s existing Brighton Health Center (primary care) and conveniently located just off the I96/US23 interchange.
Carrying the flag for providing “local care locally,” BCSC is a major extension of Michigan Medicine’s extraordinary panoply of medical and surgical specialists. Every segment of our facility is now open for business. Services offered are too many to list here, but here is a link to a BCSC URL that also has phone numbers for making an appointments with each specialty: https://www.uofmhealth.org/our-locations/brighton-center-specialty-care. Since we opened, we’ve become the primary landing spot for new patients and return patients from points up north, including MidMichigan Health, Lansing, Bay City, Flint, Saginaw, and Livingston County – Brighton & Howell. BCSC, of course, also sees patients traveling from Ann Arbor and points east. In the month of January, BCSC, as a single ACU, had over 18,000 visits.

So what is special about BCSC? Well, BCSC offers almost 300,000 square feet of pure Michigan Medicine specialist and specialty resources. It is the first time Rogel Cancer Center has moved with critical mass off the hill. Four cancer specialty clinics are offered at BCSC—prostate, colon, breast, lung—along with a smattering of other cancers.
There is an infusion center with 16 bays (including several private bays) for treating both adults and pediatric patients, which is already near capacity. BCSC also hosts the first linear accelerator "off the hill" that is at a Michigan Medicine ACU. There is a Mott pediatric specialty clinic with Child Life presence, a large Comprehensive Musculoskeletal Center with beautiful therapy and rehab space and the Kellogg Eye Center with an adjacent optical shop. But wait there’s more! The adult specialty clinic hosts many other specialists including general surgery, urology, dermatology, neurology, allergy, etc. And did I mention that OTO has their own large clinic on the second floor complete with 2 audiology booths?

In order to support all these specialists, BCSC has an imaging capacity that rivals the hospital with an MRI (sorry only 1.5T for now), CT scanner, nuclear medicine, ultrasound, breast imaging center, walk-in radiology, fluoroscopy, and even IR capability. There are currently 4 operating rooms in the ambulatory surgery center, with plans to open 2 more. There are also 4 MPU rooms, a 10-bed sleep center, 4-bay ADTU, and uniquely, a 6-bed short stay unit for post-operative patients. There is an outpatient pharmacy, MLabs phlebotomy, and dedicated spaces for clinical research, including a specimen processing lab.

As urologists, we are always looking for more OR capacity. Below is the OR I usually use at BCSC—600 square feet of state-of-the-art equipment—just as big and well-equipped as the newest ORs at the main hospital.
Below is a photo of the urology clinic area—we use Team 3 space that has its own treatment room with an OR table and also a brand new FUDS room with its own C arm.

With all these resources, Urology has played a leading role in clinical practice at BCSC. If I am counting correctly, we currently have 8 Urology faculty (Kaffenberger, Ghani, Ambani, Pelletier, Wei, (Dauw now at Chelsea ☺), Park, Sack, Kraft, 3 APPs (Ball, Mukundi, Sanvordenker) and 4 nurses (Tammy Knuth, Shannon Johnson, Debi Spivak, Anna Silvenis). Urology sees patients in 4 segments of the facility: Adult specialty, Mott Childrens’ clinic, Rogel Cancer Center, and the ASC. And that’s excluding our other faculty who come and operate in the ASC but do not yet see patients in clinic, such as Dr. Malaeb.

In terms of clinic volume, Urology ranks third, surpassed only by Ophthalmology and Orthopedics. Procedures offered include FUDS, fluoroscopy, prostate biopsies, gold marker/Spaceoar placements, PTNS, Botox injection, REZUM, and CMG among others.

Yet, Urology is a laggard when it comes to OR utilization of our ASC block. Here we are below average with a utilization of only 46% in January. Needless to say, more cases need to be performed in Brighton soon, or we risk losing OR block time. Keep in mind that we have the short stay unit that is available for adult cases. So please work with your OR schedulers to fill BCSC ASC and Short Stay Unit!
Brighton is also the primary landing spot for testing new ambulatory care initiatives. Below is a picture of one of our check in/check out areas. Here we are innovating how to reduce the steps needed to get patients through these processes in order to shorten the congestion that we know patients hate.

Like a proud new father, I’ve been rambling too long, so allow me to end now with the following photo. It captures our unique ACU structure in that almost all aspects of this new facility is operating as a single ACU with a medical director (yours truly), 2 nursing directors (Michelle Fernamberg, Gretchen Pagac), and an administrator director (Kathy Herron). The directors are supported by a superb team of administrative managers, supervisors and assistants.

Opening this wonderful facility has been borne on the backs of many, including John Stoffel, who I owe a huge debt of gratitude. Have a great weekend—one and all!