

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ST. JOHN'S PRAIRIE HEART INSTITUTE COMPLETES 100th TAVR PROCEDURE

(SPRINGFIELD, IL)—The Prairie Heart Institute at St. John's Hospital completed its 100th Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) procedure on October 24, 2013 less than two years after the first procedure in January, 2012.

"Since we embarked on performing TAVR, I have said it is 'transformative.' The change in quality of life is immediately felt by patients following recovery," said Dr. Gregory Mishkel, interventional cardiologist at the Prairie Heart Institute at St. John's Hospital. "Completing the 100th procedure is a significant milestone for the TAVR team. It has been an honor to be able to perform TAVR and to give hope to patients who have no other treatment option available."

The revolutionary procedure does not require traditional open-heart surgery, but instead uses a catheter through an incision in the leg to replace the aortic valve. The replacement valve is made of bovine tissue leaflets sewn onto a metal frame and is performed on a beating heart, without the need for cardiopulmonary bypass. Typical hospital recovery is one to three days, much less than open-heart surgery.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the TAVR procedure in November 2011. For persons not eligible for open-heart surgery, TAVR presents an option for people with severe aortic stenosis—a condition in which the aortic valve fails to open and close properly.

Ninety-two-year-old Raymond Senteney was the 100th patient to undergo the TAVR procedure at St. John's Hospital. "I am very appreciative of all the members of the Prairie Heart Institute who had a part in my care and treatment," said Raymond.

“Additionally, during my stay at St. John's Hospital, I was provided the best care that anyone could have by the nurses and staff.”

St. John's Hospital is one of only nine hospitals performing TAVR procedures in the State of Illinois, and was the first hospital in downstate Illinois to perform an aortic valve replacement without open-heart surgery.

For more information, please contact Molly Wilson at 217.757.6818.

ABOUT THE PRAIRIE HEART INSTITUTE

The Prairie Heart Institute (PHI) is one of the largest heart and vascular programs in the nation. It serves communities throughout central Illinois and conducts community-based clinics in over 20 communities in this area. In addition, PHI has many subspecialists in the field of heart and vascular care as well as over a hundred clinical research projects every year. St. John's Hospital was named one of the nation's 50 Top hospitals for cardiovascular care by Thomson Reuters for 2012. HealthGrades designated St. John's as a recipient of the America's 100 Best Hospitals for Overall Cardiac Services and Cardiac Surgery for 2012 and 2011. PHI at St. John's Hospital was also named one of the nation's Top 50 hospitals for coronary bypass surgery in 2013, 2012, 2011. This recognition was based on data submitted by the Society of Thoracic Surgeons.

ABOUT HOSPITAL SISTERS HEALTH SYSTEM

Hospital Sisters Health System is a Roman Catholic health care mission founded to continue the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. Sponsored by the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, HSHS provides state-of-the-art health care framed in traditional values taught by St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi. It is dedicated to serving all people, including the poor and the needy, at each of its 13 Local Systems in Illinois (Belleville, Breese, Decatur, Effingham, Highland, Litchfield, Springfield and Streator) and in Wisconsin (Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, Sheboygan and two in Green Bay). For more information about HSHS, visit www.hshs.org.

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