AAMC, a regional health system headquartered in Annapolis, is the third busiest medical center in Maryland as measured by the number of patients it cares for each year. Nationally recognized in heart care, our specialists perform thousands of cardiac-related procedures every year. AAMC offers a wide range of quality heart services, from prevention and diagnosis of heart disease to interventional cardiology procedures and rehabilitation. The missing link is cardiac surgery.

Collaboration with Johns Hopkins Medicine

» Building on an eight-year relationship with Johns Hopkins Medicine (JHM), AAMC will collaborate with Johns Hopkins' Division of Cardiac Surgery to bring renowned cardiac surgeons to AAMC to establish its cardiac surgery program.

» Johns Hopkins cardiac surgeons will bring expertise in traditional open-heart surgery and in the latest innovations in minimally invasive valve repair and replacement surgery.

» This collaboration with JHM means community members have access to the highest quality surgical care and latest advancements in heart surgery right here at AAMC.

Community benefits of cardiac surgery at AAMC

» Anne Arundel County is the largest county in Maryland without a cardiac surgery program. Hundreds of AAMC patients have to be transferred to other hospitals for heart surgery.

» Cardiac surgery at AAMC improves access to heart care in the health system's defined service area. It would lessen the time spent traveling significant distances for heart surgery, and the stress of being transferred to another hospital after care is started at AAMC.

» AAMC has the facilities in place to provide cardiac surgery. It will not require additional expensive construction.

» A cardiac surgery program at AAMC will allow cardiologists and cardiac surgeons to work as a team to make the best decisions for patients. This provides a more seamless experience for patients and their families, less disruption, and the best possible outcomes.

» AAMC initiatives continue to reduce healthcare costs, improve the patient experience, and improve the health status of the community. Consistent with its track record, AAMC will be one of the lowest cost cardiac surgery programs in Maryland.

AAMC has filed a Certificate of Need (CON) application with the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) to gain approval to develop a cardiac surgery program at the hospital. The MHCC must grant approval of the CON before heart surgery is available at AAMC.

To stay up to date on the proposed cardiac surgery program at AAMC visit AAHS.org/heart
Cardiac surgery volume is growing in Anne Arundel County, reflecting the population growth and aging of the population. There was a 15% increase in adult cardiac surgery cases from 2012-2013.

There were 945 cardiac surgery cases in AAMC’s defined service area in 2013. Anne Arundel County outpaces the nation in the prevalence and mortality of heart disease.

The population in Anne Arundel County has grown more than 35% in the last 24 years, more than 7% greater than the growth in the U.S. during the same period.

The 65+ population in Anne Arundel County has grown at almost twice the National average—more than 80% since 1990.

In FY2014, more than 200 AAMC patients were transferred to other hospitals for cardiac surgery. Cardiac surgery at AAMC reduces delays in care, and lessens travel time for patients and visitors.

Closest location for cardiac surgery for midshore residents is 45 to 70 miles away. A program at AAMC will reduce travel time for more than 600,000 adult residents.

AAMC is a high quality, low cost provider with high cardiac care performance ratings. The Heart and Vascular Unit at AAMC saw 20,000 patients in FY14.

Cardiac surgery at AAMC will cost approximately 40 to 50% less than at academic medical centers in Maryland and D.C. A program at AAMC would save the state $7.7 million in hospital spending.

AAMC is committed to reducing the rate of heart disease in the community. AAMC has invested more than $8 million in outreach activities during the last two years.

AAMC has developed programs that address preventable risk factors such as hypertension, obesity, tobacco use, diabetes, and alcohol use.

As a leader in global healthcare discoveries, JHM will bring its expertise in cardiac research to AAMC, as well as it’s commitment to the mission of the Johns Hopkins Center to Eliminate Cardiovascular Health Disparities.

JHM also brings expertise in training. Through the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, JHM is one of the largest teaching institutions in the world, training more than 1,000 residents and fellows and close to 500 medical students annually.

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