

Hospital Readout

Court OKs Ellenville Regional Hospital Reorganization Plan

Ellenville Regional Hospital has achieved another important step in its recovery process: attaining approval of its reorganization plan by the Bankruptcy Court. This step is one of the final steps in the reorganization process. The plan still requires confirmation by the hospital's creditors.

Approval of the reorganization plan is a reflection of the court's confidence in the management of the hospital and of the accomplishments achieved in 2004. This major step toward recovery would not have been possible without the support of the Village of Ellenville, Town of Wawarsing, County of Ulster, Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Senator John Bonacic, the Resnick Family, and the dedicated staff, volunteers, and members of the hospital Board of Directors.

As the recovery plan continues, the hospital is looking forward to a major construction and renovation project for the Emergency Department in 2005. The Emergency Department serves approximately 10,000 patients a year, many with life-threatening conditions.

Another major initiative in 2005 is the implementation of swing beds, which will provide for long-term stays for patients no longer eligible for acute care services, but not well enough to return to their homes and families.

The hospital wishes to express its gratitude toward the community for its unqualified support through this transition. 

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Hospital Testing for Arterial or Vascular Disease Detection

Did you know that having clogged arteries is more serious than having high cholesterol? That's because there is a strong chance that if you have clogged leg arteries, you have clogging in the heart.

To assist patients in the detection of clogged arteries, *Ellenville Regional Hospital* has purchased an Ankle Brachial Index (ABI) unit with funds generously donated by the *Ellenville Regional Hospital Auxiliary*.

The Nicolet VersaLab LE ABI provides systolic blood pressure comparison between a patient's arms and ankles. This procedure is similar to taking a standard blood pressure, but a Doppler instrument is used to listen to the blood flow instead of a stethoscope. Poor circulation can be a sign of arterial or vascular disease, and therefore, early detection can often prevent the effects of clogged arteries or veins. The ABI provides a fast and effective tool for screening for these diseases.

"The purchase of this ABI unit increases our ability to provide services to patients with cardiovascular disease and peripheral vascular disease," stated Steven Kelley, President and CEO of *Ellenville Regional Hospital*. He added, "We are extremely grateful to our *Auxiliary* for purchasing this state-of-the-art early detection system for our patients. With 1 in 4 American adults having some degree of arterial or venous disease, the early detection provided by this ABI unit is crucial for the health of our patients."

You are at risk for arterial or venous diseases if you:

- Are over sixty
- Smoke
- Are diabetic
- Are overweight
- Have high cholesterol
- Have high blood pressure
- Are inactive or bedridden
- Others in your family have a history of heart attacks or strokes

If you are experiencing symptoms of leg pain, numbness in the toes or fingers, tingly toes or fingers, swelling, sores that will not heal, or dizziness, check with your doctor. However, as many as 4 out of 5 people with peripheral vascular disease do not have symptoms. If you are at risk, please contact your doctor to determine whether an ABI test is right for you.

Most insurance carriers will pay for an ABI test once a year.

For questions regarding the ABI test at *Ellenville Regional Hospital*, please contact the *Radiology Department* at 845-647-6400 x271 



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