

CARDIOLOGY MILESTONES
AT SAINT FRANCIS HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER

1957

Cardiovascular/Pulmonary Section established.

1959

First cardiac catheterization performed.

1960

First open-heart surgery performed.

1965

Coronary Care Unit opens, the first in Connecticut.

Cardiac Arrest Program established.

First selective arteriographic study in Connecticut performed.

Saint Francis Cardiovascular Symposium first held; now the longest-running symposium of its kind in the country.

(MORE)

CARDIOLOGY MILESTONES - 2

1971

Research initiated into mitral valve prolapse under the direction of Robert Jeresaty, M.D.

1973

First cardiac stress test performed.

1976

Cardiac Rehabilitation Program established, the first in Hartford.

1983

Angioplasty program begun.
Cardiac Doppler system obtained.

1985

Coronary Care Unit and Open Heart Unit renovated, equipped with state-of-the-art monitoring equipment.

1986

Opening of newly-expanded Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory.

1990

First transesophageal echocardiography in northern Connecticut performed.

1991

Hoffman Heart Institute of Connecticut founded, first comprehensive heart institute in Connecticut.

(MORE)

CARDIOLOGY MILESTONES - 3

1992

First excimer laser coronary angioplasty in northern Connecticut performed.

1993

Introduced omni-plane transesophageal echocardiography and Doppler flow study systems in northern Connecticut.

Intravascular ultrasound technology obtained.

1995

First issue of Journal of the Hoffman Heart Institute of Connecticut published.

Coronary artery stents introduced to reduce the incidence of restenosis following balloon angioplasty

Computerized stress echocardiography introduced as a cost-effective alternative to nuclear imaging stress testing.

Chest Pain Evaluation Service initiated to rapidly and cost effectively evaluate and diagnose ischemic heart disease.

Digital imaging and quantitative angiography introduced in the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory.

Lipid Education Services initiated to enhance patient education, risk factor evaluation and reduction, dietary instruction and medical consultation.

1996

Relocation of cardiac services into new Patient Care Tower.

Initiation of CareMaps or standard treatment protocols to enhance and standardize the quality of care and reduce costs.

Comprehensive cardiovascular data base implemented to bench mark and develop longitudinal outcome tracking to improve quality.

Minimally invasive coronary bypass and valve surgery introduced.

(MORE)

CARDIOLOGY MILESTONES - 4

1997

First port-access open-heart surgery in Connecticut.

Rotablator introduced as an adjunct to the comprehensive interventional therapies in the cardiac catheterization laboratory.

Digital echocardiography storage and playback introduced allowing viewing of echocardiography images in select locations.

Non-acute cardiac inpatient/outpatient unit opened to rapidly diagnosis and cost effectively treat coronary heart disease and congestive heart failure.

Phase III/IV cardiac rehabilitation program relocated to the Center for Health Enhancement.

1999

Saint Francis named to the first-ever list of list of the 100 Top Hospitals in the United States for coronary artery bypass surgery.

First in state with CARTO system, used to pinpoint source of arrhythmias.

First transradial coronary angioplasties in northern Connecticut.

2001

Hoffman Heart Institute is first in northern Connecticut with vascular brachytherapy, used to prevent the continued narrowing of coronary arteries.

Digital cardiac imaging system acquired.