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REGIONAL NEWS

Palmetto General Hospital Unveils New Heart Institute

Palmetto General Hospital, Hilton, unveiled its new Heart Institute to the public on Sept. 22. The Heart Institute at Palmetto General Hospital has two new "smart" operating rooms and a 10-bed cardiac ICU.

The two "smart ORs" are fully integrated, completely wireless, voice-controlled operating rooms that will provide surgeons with comprehensive access and control of critical devices along with networked digital documentation and telemedicine capabilities. A voice recognition network will turn on lights, raise or lower the surgical table, instruct cameras to zoom in and out, take pictures and perform a variety of other functions.

The ICU features individual rooms for each patient and is wired to the ORs via television monitors so nurses can prepare for a patient's arrival before they leave the operating table.

A "universal bed" concept allows patients to spend their entire stay in the same bed instead of switching rooms and floors from



pre-procedure to recovery.

"We are committed to offering our patients advanced technological methods that will result in quicker recovery times, shorter hospital stays and even better patient care," said Palmetto General CEO Ana Mederos, MBA, RN. "This state-of-the-art technology enables us to offer our South Florida community a highly sophisticated cardiac facility."