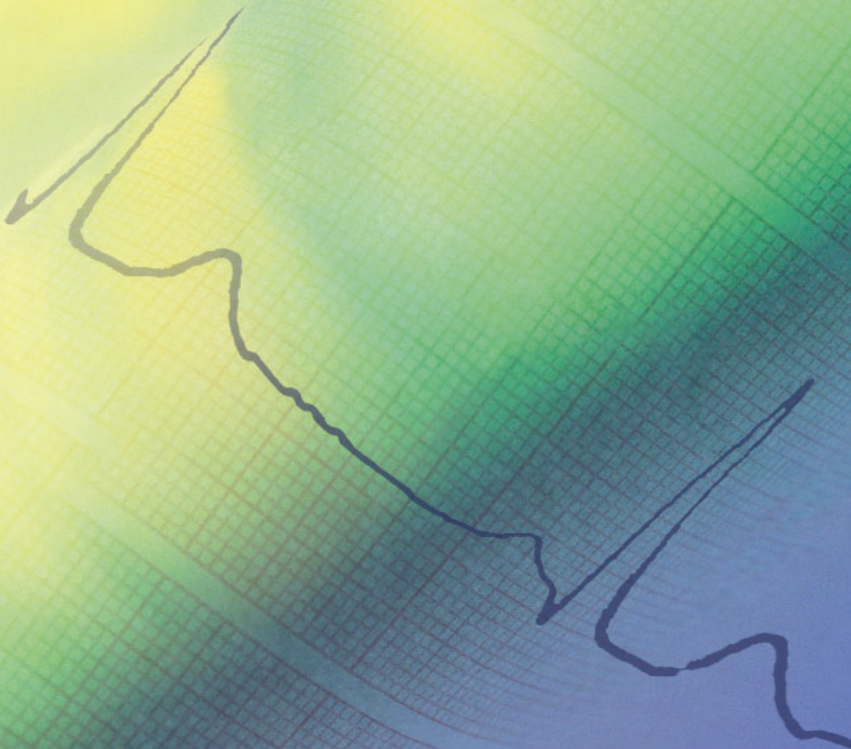




Patient

RESOURCE GUIDE



McLeod

Heart & Vascular Institute

The name McLeod is one that families in this region have come to trust for quality health care since 1906. The 12-county area McLeod serves has a population nearing one million, more than one half of those patients coming from outside Florence county. McLeod care givers, composed of more than 4,700 employees, 350 physicians and nearly 30 medical practices, consider their commitment to service a calling.

For more than two years, McLeod has been involved in a cardiac surgery clinical affiliation with Cleveland Clinic. This affiliation combines the academic, clinical and research components of Cleveland Clinic with the leader in cardiac services for the region. Under this affiliation, McLeod Heart & Vascular Institute and Cleveland Clinic Heart Surgery Program will continue to share clinical policies, treatment protocols and research opportunities.

The Institute is very proud to lead the way in providing the most advanced and comprehensive cardiac services in northeastern South Carolina. While cardiac services have been offered at McLeod since the early 1950's, the opening of our Heart Institute in 1986 made it possible to provide a full spectrum of cardiac care programs designed to identify and treat cardiac disease and then help patients build and maintain a healthy heart.

Cardiovascular disease is South Carolina's leading killer for both men and women, among all racial and ethnic groups. Our region's rate of mortality from heart disease exceeds the state's average. Stroke is also the third leading cause of death in South Carolina. The McLeod Heart and Vascular Institute works hard to help reduce these devastating rates by making world-class treatment of cardiovascular disease easily accessible to the region. This is demonstrated in part by a remarkable cardiac surgical affiliation with Cleveland Clinic – which allows surgeons of McLeod and Cleveland Clinic to share knowledge, skills, treatment protocols, research opportunities and best practices to provide therapies to patients as well as to accelerate mutual advancements in cardiac surgery.

Our goal at McLeod is to build the strongest cardiac surgery program possible, while adapting to an aging population and their needs for cardiovascular care. That means minimally invasive techniques and more valve surgery. These advanced techniques can significantly reduce a patient's risk of later medical problems.



Robert L. Colones

Rob Colones
President and CEO of McLeod Health



Marie Segars

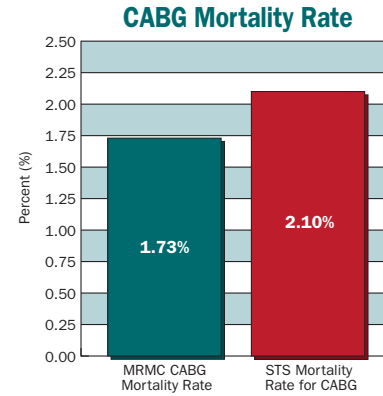
Marie Segars
Administrator
McLeod Regional Medical Center

McLeod Heart and Vascular Institute

Excellence in Cardiac Care

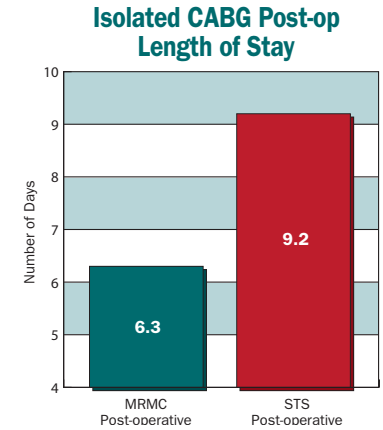
McLeod Heart and Vascular Institute offers a rich history of development and growth in cardiac care for patients in northeastern South Carolina. Since the early 1950's, McLeod has provided access to the most sophisticated cardiac services. We responded to the need for quality cardiac care with the region's first open heart surgery performed by a McLeod Cardiothoracic Surgeon, the region's first cardiac catheterization laboratory and Coronary Care Unit for the care of severe heart attack patients. The McLeod Heart and Vascular Institute strives daily to make world-class treatment of cardiovascular disease easily accessible.

- Three dedicated open heart and vascular surgical suites for both elective and emergent care, four cardiac catheterization rooms equipped with state-of-the-art digital cardiovascular imaging system and one dedicated lab for electrophysiology studies
- Eighteen Cardiologists, an Electrophysiologist and a Pediatric Cardiologist Subspecialist
- Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit for open heart and vascular surgical patients
- Coronary Care Unit comprised of 65 nurses and technicians with extensive training and expertise in cardiac care
- Dedicated Cardiovascular Day Hospital and Recovery Unit for pre and post operative cardiac surgical patients
- Highly specialized diagnostic tools that include echocardiography, vascular ultrasound, nuclear cardiology, MRI, PET, and CT scans
- CMS approved facility for Carotid Artery Stenting Program
- First hospital in the state to achieve bedside barcoding for medication safety
- Chest Pain Center staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by experienced healthcare professionals trained in recognizing and treating a heart attack
- Seventy-three minute average "Door to Balloon Time" for emergent cardiac catheterization patients, seventeen minutes below standard of care
- Four-phase cardiac rehabilitation program that helps patients resume active, productive lifestyles
- Growth and expansion plans for the Heart & Vascular Institute are part of the McLeod Vision 2012 project
- Accommodations for family members of patients from outside the area at the McLeod Guest House
- Partnership with the Medical University of South Carolina in the REACH Stroke Network to ensure stroke patients have immediate, 24/7 access to stroke care



McLeod Regional Medical Center had a 1.73 percent operative mortality for isolated revascularization procedures in 2008. The Society of Thoracic Surgeons' (STS) benchmark is 2.10 percent.

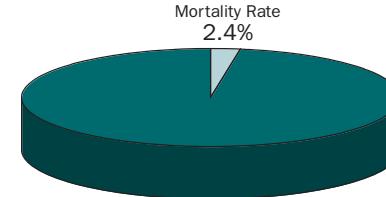
Source STS period ending 9/30/08



In 2008, the average post-operative length of stay following isolated CABG was 6.3 days.

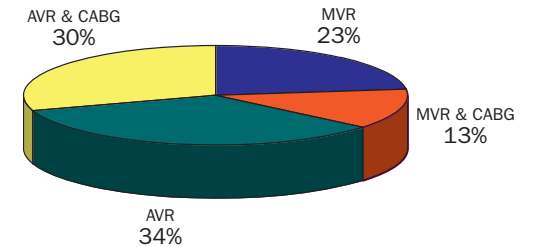
Source STS period ending 9/30/08

Valve Mortality: Mortality Excluding Redo, Multiple Valve, and Preop CR > 1.5



In 2008, McLeod Regional Medical Center had a mortality rate of 2.4 percent for valve procedures with patients who had a pre-operative creatine level of greater than 1.5.

Valve Surgery Distribution



In 2008, 43 percent of the valve procedures were in combination with heart surgery at McLeod Regional Medical Center.

What Patients Can Expect on the Day of their Consult

- Consult performed with Heart Surgeon
- For patients requiring surgery, the pre-admission testing is scheduled to offer the most consideration to the patient's anxiety and time constraints
- The severity of the patient's medical condition will guide the surgeon's decision as to when the surgery will be scheduled

What Patients Can Expect on the Day of their Surgery

- Once admitted to the hospital patient is taken to the Holding Area
- Meet the Anesthesia Team, Operating Room Staff and Nurses
- After surgery brought to the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CVICU)
- Progress assessed daily by patient's physicians
- Discharged to home in three to five days or to an inpatient rehabilitation facility if further therapy is needed

The Guest House at McLeod

Patients from outside the area may have the convenience of staying on the McLeod Campus at the Guest House the evening before their surgery. Family members may continue to take advantage of the accommodations to remain close while their loved one is recuperating in the hospital.

The McLeod Guest House, funded entirely by donors to the McLeod Health Foundation, has comforted more than 16,000 guests since its opening in 1995.

The room rates for the Guest House are only \$15 per night for the first registered guest and \$5 for each additional guest. Families unable to pay are eligible for "scholarships" to help fund their stay.

The House is located on Cheves Street directly across the street from McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence. Arrangements for accommodations can be made through a McLeod Patient Representatives, the Hospital Nursing Supervisor, or by a physician's office.

Valet Parking

Free valet parking is available Monday through Friday, for the convenience of our patients and visitors, at the following locations and times:

Outpatient Services	7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
McLeod Pavilion	8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
McLeod Main Tower	8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Emergency Department	7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

McLeod Resource Center

The McLeod Resource Center provides valuable health education material and resources for the community. Staff is available to assist individuals with questions they may have and provide help with particular concerns or service referrals. Staff may also research and print various health topics for individuals through the internet.

The McLeod Resource Center is located on the McLeod Regional Medical Center campus at 927 East Day Street. The Resource Center staff can be contacted at 843-777-2890.

Home Health Services HomMed System

The HomMed system collects clinical data such as heart rate, blood pressure, oxygen saturation levels, weight and temperature, all from within a patient's home. The data collected is then transmitted to McLeod Home Health via paging or modem.

McLeod Home Health uses the HomMed system to treat patients with congestive heart failure, hypertension and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, as well as certain post-operative cardiac patients. The HomMed system can also monitor the following conditions: myocardial infarction, coronary arterial bypass graft, diabetes and stroke.

McLeod Cardiac Rehabilitation

The McLeod Cardiac Rehabilitation Program helps heart patients improve their health and physical performance.

For patients who are recovering from a heart attack or open heart surgery, have stable angina or are at high risk for heart disease, a cardiac rehabilitation program can be of tremendous value for both the patient and their families.

The Cardiac Rehabilitation Program enables patients to exercise on a regular basis, in a supervised setting, as prescribed by their physician. Patients diagnosed with heart disease, with the guidance of their physician, are advised to take charge of their heart health and reduce their risk factors as much as possible.

Beyond the physical component, a cardiac rehabilitation program features education from health care providers experienced in cardiac matters. Support is offered by nurses, dieticians and exercise physiologists, allowing participants to learn about the various risk factors that contribute to cardiovascular disease.

The McLeod Cardiac Rehabilitation Program is located in the McLeod Health & Fitness Center at 2437 Willwood Drive in Florence. For more information on the McLeod Cardiac Rehabilitation Program please call 843-777-3080.

Expertise in Mitral Valve Repair at McLeod

A Desirable Choice over Valve Replacement

Mitral valve repair is used to treat leakage of the mitral valve. The mitral valve allows blood to flow into the heart's main pumping chamber, the left ventricle. When the mitral valve leaks, blood flows back into the lungs. To compensate, the ventricle must pump more blood with each contraction to produce the same output of blood throughout the body. With this condition, the heart eventually begins to fail, producing symptoms of shortness of breath or fatigue.

"Human heart valves are not designed to last forever," said Dr. Holland. "As lifestyle improvements and medical science enable people to live longer, the frequency of heart valve failure increases. In general, as we age, we are more susceptible to heart disease. Just as our skin sags and our eyes need glasses when we age, our heart valves tend to wear out."

When Hartsville resident Frankie Langston, 56, began to feel unusually tired and fatigued during the holidays she believed it was nothing more than the hustle and bustle of the season. Langston brought her symptoms to the attention of her primary care physician during her annual physical in February. Diagnostic testing requested by her physician uncovered Langston's leaking heart valve. Although both of her parents have a history of heart disease, Langston did not have any personal history of cardiac issues until her current diagnosis.

Often, the symptoms of heart valve disease are ignored. Patients simply dismiss their shortness of breath, easy fatigue, and reduced tolerance for exercise as simply a result of aging. A few, but not all, patients of heart valve disease experience chest pain.

Repair is often a desirable alternative to replacement of the faulty heart valve. Patients receiving a mechanical replacement valve are required to take blood thinners, such as Coumadin, every day. Blood thinners are mandatory to avoid blood clots attaching to the mechanical replacement, which could result in the patient suffering a stroke. Replacement with a tissue valve does not require the use of blood thinners, but tissue valves have limited durability and may require future replacement.

Langston's leaking heart valve was surgically repaired by Dr. Holland at McLeod Regional Medical Center. The procedure took about an hour. She was released three days later and returned to work in five weeks.

"Once we've corrected the problem of the mitral valve and the blood is going in the proper direction, the lungs will clear themselves of the water, allowing more oxygen into the blood stream," said

Dr. Holland. "Patients actually feel 10 to 15 years younger than they did before the operation and can quickly return to their everyday activity."

Frankie Langston with her husband, Donald.



Staff Biographies



Dr. Gregory H. Jones
Surgeon, Thoracic
and Cardiovascular
Surgery
McLeod Regional
Medical Center

Dr. Gregory H. Jones is a surgeon specializing in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery at McLeod Regional Medical Center, a Cleveland Clinic Cardiothoracic Surgery Affiliate Program. He is board-certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery.

Dr. Jones serves as the Chairman for many McLeod Clinical Effectiveness initiatives critical to improving patient outcomes and advancing clinical processes. For many years, Dr. Jones has served as the Chairman for the Clinical Effectiveness Cardiac Surgery Committee.

"Under his leadership in Clinical Effectiveness initiatives, Dr. Jones has worked diligently on improvements in cardiac surgery that have resulted in even better care being provided to our patients," said Donna Isgett, Vice President Clinical Effectiveness. "His guidance has helped to reduce mortality, complication and infection rates to below national averages in many areas of our program."

Dr. Jones began his medical career at McLeod after completing his Cardiovascular Surgery Residency at the University of Texas-Southwestern Medical School in 1988. He left briefly to practice in Dallas before returning to Florence in 1998. In reference to his return, Dr. Jones was quoted as stating, "Returning to Florence was not a hard decision for my family and I to make. We really enjoy the area and are happy to be back with our friends."

In 2008, Dr. Jones was elected as the Chief of Staff for McLeod Regional Medical Center. It is a six year leadership commitment for each physician who accepts the responsibility of Chief of Staff. The leadership path for McLeod Medical Staff begins as Secretary, then Vice Chief of Staff and ultimately Chief of Staff, with each position held for two years.

Dr. Jones is also a member of the McLeod Cancer Conference Board. Many people may not be aware that patients in need of surgery for lung cancer require the services of a cardiothoracic surgeon. "In that capacity, I work with the Cancer Conference Board and the McLeod Cancer Committee to determine the best course of treatment for patients diagnosed with lung cancer," stated Dr. Jones.

"At McLeod, we are committed to improving the health and wellbeing of our patients. As a Chairman for McLeod Clinical Effectiveness initiatives, I am directly involved in the planning goals for the hospital and working together to establish new services for the betterment of patient care," Dr. Jones added.

Staff Biographies



Dr. Jamie Holland
Surgeon, Thoracic
and Cardiovascular
Surgery
McLeod Regional
Medical Center

Dr. Jamie Holland of McLeod Cardiothoracic Surgical Associates is a Cardiothoracic Surgeon who specializes in surgeries related to heart disease. In addition to his advanced cardiovascular surgical training, Dr. Holland spent two years at the National Heart Blood Institute studying surgery for heart valve disease and the effect of valve disease on the heart muscle itself.

Dr. Holland has highly concentrated experience in mitral valve repair and replacement. Mitral valve repair is used to treat leakage or stenosis (narrowing) of the mitral valve. The mitral valve allows blood to flow into the heart's main pumping chamber, the left ventricle. When the mitral valve leaks, blood flows back into the lungs.

"Human heart valves are not designed to last forever," said Dr. Holland. "As lifestyle improvements and medical science enable people to live longer, the frequency of heart valve failure increases. In general, as we age, we are more susceptible to heart disease. Just as our skin sags and our eyes need glasses when we age, our heart valves tend to wear out."

As a McLeod Cardiac Surgeon, my goal for heart valve problems is to help return patients to a quality of life they once knew. That's why at McLeod our focus is most often on repairing rather than replacing a patient's heart valve. Valve repair, when appropriate, eliminates the need for very expensive blood-thinners and reduces the risk of infection."

Mitral valve repair is unique to every patient. Successful repair requires experience and an understanding of how the heart's valve and muscle structure function as one. That's why mitral valve repair requires competent heart and valve surgeons. My success rate for mitral valve repair exceeds 81% compared to the national rate of 64%."

I believe being a surgeon is a special charge. It's a privilege because patients come to us for guidance on a decision that they need to make relatively soon. In most cases, these situations are not one where there has been a long term patient/physician relationship. Those patients trust their lives, their souls, and their future to us. So, we make a decision to use the skills of our surgeon's hands to help heal their bodies. It is a very reverent profession. We become personally attached with each and every individual. We make it a point to look in their eyes and just imagine what their aspirations are going to be," added Dr. Holland.

Staff Biographies



Dr. Christopher G. Cunningham
Surgeon,
Vascular Surgery
McLeod Regional
Medical Center

As a member of McLeod's nationally recognized cardiovascular team, fellowship trained, board-certified vascular surgeon, Dr. Christopher G. Cunningham with his experience in both minimally invasive endovascular treatments as well as complex surgery is helping fight the battle against stroke, peripheral arterial disease and aneurysms.

With 22 years of experience in both minimally invasive endovascular treatments, such as carotid artery stenting as well as complex surgery, Dr. Cunningham is also fellowship trained and board certified in vascular surgery.

Dr. Cunningham received his medical degree from the Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts. His general surgery residency was completed at the Naval Regional Medical Center, San Diego, California and a Vascular Surgery Fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Cunningham also served as the Head of the Section of Vascular Surgery, NNMC-Bethesda Navy Hospital and the Assistant Professor of Surgery where his duties included instructing residents and medical students in vascular surgery.

Dr. Cunningham is a member of the American Medical Association, the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, The International Society of Vascular Surgery, the Society for Clinical Vascular Surgery and the International Society for Endovascular Surgery. He received a Navy Commendation Medal for outstanding emergency and trauma surgical contribution in Middle Eastern, Indian Ocean, and Western Pacific deployment as Battle Group Surgeon, USS Ranger CV-61 Battle Group.

"I am very excited about being a member of the McLeod Heart & Vascular Institute team," said Dr. Cunningham. "There is such a need in this region for the exemplary level of cardiovascular care as offered at McLeod.

"There is a real need in this community for vascular care education and I want to do my part to help by teaching the sign and symptoms of Peripheral Vascular Disease, who is at risk and treatment options. The thing I enjoy the most about my work is taking care of my patients."

CONTACT INFORMATION

McLeod Heart & Vascular Institute

1-877-777-5330

843-777-5330

www.McLeodCardiac.org

McLeod Cardiothoracic Surgical Associates

305 E. Cheves Street, Suite 270

Florence, SC 29506

843-664-0220

This is the cardiothoracic surgeon's office.

*Office support personnel will help expedite requests
for surgical consults.*

Cardiovascular Surgery Liaison

Emily Blackburn, RN

843-777-2134

eblackburn@mcleodhealth.org

McLeod Vascular Associates

305 E. Cheves Street, Suite 230

Florence, SC 29506

843-777-3850

This is the vascular surgeon's office.

*Office support personnel will help expedite requests
for surgical consults.*

HeartReach

*The HeartReach Mobile Cardiac Unit is a
Coronary Care Unit on wheels that provides cardiac
intensive care during emergency transport services, for
hospital to hospital transfer, throughout the region.*

McLeod

Heart & Vascular Institute