



Vitruvian Health

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INFORMATION

Daryl Cole: 706-272-6168

Hamilton Medical Center chosen to make presentation at ACS conference

DALTON, Ga. (August 14, 2026) – Madison Mills, Surgical Services director for Hamilton Medical Center, and Rod Rodriguez, MD, surgeon for Hamilton Physician Group – General Surgery, were selected to present an abstract poster at the American College of Surgeons (ACS) National Quality, Safety, and Cancer Conference in Orlando on Aug. 1.

Mills authored the abstract, which represented the success of Surgical Services with the hospital's Colon Bundle and Electronic Medical Record dashboard. More than 800 organizations applied to present, and Hamilton's was selected for demonstrated work in the Surgical Site Infection Prevention category.

The Colon Bundle and Electronic Medical Record dashboard initiative, led by Rodriguez (chair of the Quality and Safety Committee) and Mills was a multidisciplinary approach for colon procedures that visually displays the patient's journey. The initiative included frontline staff, hospitalists, intensivists, an infectious disease physician, surgeons, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, anesthesiologists, surgical administration, educators, bedside staff, post-surgical administration, dietitians, diabetes specialists, Infection Prevention specialists, quality specialists and executives.

"This was a huge team effort and success!" said Mills.

Rodriguez also recently published an article in the American Journal of Infection Control, titled ["A Replicable Colectomy Surgical Site Infection Prevention Bundle: Implementation and Electronic Health Record Enabled Compliance Monitoring."](#) The article represents the same work with the Colon Bundle. Andrea Cromer, Infection Prevention director, and Courtney Jones, Epic Business Intelligence developer, were included in the article.

The inaugural ACS Quality, Safety & Cancer Conference (QSCC) was a unified event that combined the former ACS Quality and Safety Conference with the ACS Cancer Conference into a single multidisciplinary program. The integrated conference brought together surgeons,

clinicians, administrators, quality leaders, data experts and multidisciplinary care teams committed to improving patient care. Through practical education, peer learning and collaboration, attendees explored how data, innovation and evidence-based strategies can support measurable improvements in quality, patient safety, cancer care and outcomes across hospitals and healthcare systems.

“This recognition highlights what is possible when multidisciplinary teams come together around a shared vision,” Mills said. “By combining evidence-based practices with data-driven monitoring through our electronic medical record dashboard, we created a sustainable approach to improving patient safety. I am proud of our team’s accomplishments and grateful for the opportunity to share our success with healthcare leaders from across the country.”

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Photo: From left are Joann Jackson, HMC surgical clinical reviewer; Madison Mills, Surgical Services director; Rod Rodriguez, MD, HPG – General Surgery; and Emily Porupski, medical student; at the recent American College of Surgeons National Quality, Safety, and Cancer Conference in Orlando.

About Hamilton Medical Center

The flagship affiliate for Vitruvian Health’s Northwest Georgia region, Hamilton Medical Center (HMC) is a 255-bed regional acute-care hospital that offers major medical, surgical and diagnostic services, including accredited stroke and chest pain centers. Advanced technology and wellness are two significant areas of focus for HMC. Services include the freestanding Hamilton Ambulatory Surgery Center, Hamilton Diagnostics Center, and Bradley Wellness Center, as well as a Level II trauma center, Peebles Cancer Institute, Heart & Vascular program (including open heart surgery), Hamilton Spine Health and Sport, Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and more.

About Hamilton Physician Group – General Surgery

Hamilton Physician Group – General Surgery specializes in general surgery techniques with an emphasis on minimally invasive procedures. The practice provides a comprehensive program to ensure successful outcomes. The expert team provides a full range of surgical services, including general, laparoscopic, breast cancer surgery, and new technologies to treat acid reflux and hernias. Services are coordinated with doctors in other specialties as well as your primary care physician to ensure everyone is working together to provide you with the best possible care.

About Vitruvian Health

Vitruvian Health, formerly Hamilton Health Care System, is a not-for-profit, fully integrated health system serving the Northwest Georgia and Southeast Tennessee regions. Vitruvian includes Hamilton Medical Center in Dalton, Ga., and Bradley Medical Center in Cleveland, Tenn., affiliated physician

practices, walk-in care centers, retirement and skilled nursing centers, a diagnostic center, a cancer institute, an institute for children with developmental delays, and more. Known for its advanced care and personalized service, Vitruvian Health offers innovative treatment options in state-of-the-art facilities while maintaining a compassionate, friendly and tranquil healing environment.

The Vitruvian name draws from the organization's recognizable da Vinci-inspired Vitruvian Man icon, which has been a prominent part of Hamilton's logo since 1976. Da Vinci's Vitruvian Man represents harmony, balance, and the interconnectedness of all aspects of health, perfectly aligning with Hamilton's integrated system of care.