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## Parrish Medical Center Offers the World's Smallest Pacemaker Which can now Treat Atrioventricular (AV) Block

*New Device Means More Patients are now Candidates for a Leadless Pacing Option*

Parrish Medical Center is one of the first hospitals in the state of Florida to offer Micra™ AV, the world's smallest pacemaker with atrioventricular (AV) synchrony. This new device, indicated for the treatment of patients with AV block, extends the most advanced pacing technology—at one-tenth the size of a traditional pacemaker—to more patients than ever before. The first procedure was performed by Interventional Cardiologist Rene Celis, MD, on December 19, 2019 and since then 14 have been performed at Parrish Medical Center.

AV block is a type of heart block in which the electrical signals between the chambers of the heart (the atria and the ventricles) are impaired. Pacemakers, the most common way to treat AV block, help restore the heart's normal rhythm and relieve symptoms by coordinating the electrical activity of the atria and the ventricles. When this process—known as AV synchrony—is achieved, patients are healthier and have decreased likelihood of pacemaker syndrome, improved quality of life, and increased blood flow from the left ventricle.



*The Parrish Medical Center cardiac cath lab team.*

Historically, patients with AV block have been treated with traditional dual-chamber pacemakers which are implanted in the upper chest, under the skin below the collar bone, and connected to the heart using thin wires called "leads." Micra™ AV has several internal atrial sensing algorithms which detect cardiac movement, allowing the device to adjust pacing in the ventricle to coordinate with the atrium, providing "AV synchronous" pacing therapy to patients with AV block.



The Micra AV, world's smallest pacemaker, is the latest cardiovascular advancement being offered as part of Parrish Medical Center's cardiovascular service line. Parrish Medical Center was also the first in Brevard to offer the minimally invasive Impella® heart pump, an advanced, percutaneous cardiac assist device that pumps for the heart, allowing the heart to rest during stent placement or balloon angioplasty. The Impella heart pump is for patients with advanced heart failure, cardiogenic shock or to assist with protected percutaneous coronary interventions.



*Dr. Celis is an interventional cardiologist and a member of the expert cardiovascular team at PMC dedicated to providing high-quality, medically advanced cardiovascular health care right here at home.*

**For more information visit**  
[parrishhealthcare.com/MicraAV](http://parrishhealthcare.com/MicraAV).

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### Heart Attack Signs & Symptoms

- Squeezing chest pain or pressure
- Shortness of breath
- Sweating
- Tightness in chest or recurring chest discomfort
- Pain spreading to shoulders, neck or arms



**Be Health Aware. Know your risk for heart disease. Take our FREE RISK ASSESSMENT at**  
[parrishhealthcare.com/heartaware](http://parrishhealthcare.com/heartaware).

## Life Style

*We believe every life is a colorful canvas styled with personality and heart.*

As your heart health care partners, we believe in blending the art of healing with the science of advanced cardiovascular medicine.

We believe in bringing together the best and brightest cardiovascular experts; including the expertise of Mayo Clinic.

This dedicated team focuses on you as an individual because every life is a work of art to us.



Visit [parrishhealthcare.com/heartaware](http://parrishhealthcare.com/heartaware) for a FREE Heart Health Assessment.



# News & Notes



## Celebrating 20 Years of Helping Children Grow!

In 2020 The Children's Center celebrated 20 years of meeting the health care, education and behavioral needs of our community, while providing an array of services to children of all ages and their families regardless of developmental ability and socioeconomic status.

"My husband and I often wonder where we would be today without The Children's Center. There was never a moment we questioned whether Mylah was receiving the care she needed. They exceeded our expectations in providing Mylah the absolute best care." stated Abigail Thompson, former Children's Center parent.

[Watch the full celebration video at parrishchildrenscenter.com.](http://parrishchildrenscenter.com)

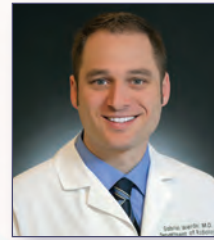


## Parrish Medical Center Board Votes No Taxes for the 26th Year in a Row

For the 26th straight year, no taxes will be assessed to support operations of the North Brevard County Hospital District d/b/a Parrish Medical Center (PMC). PMC's board of directors voted unanimously during public hearings on September 14, 2020 to establish the millage rate and budget for fiscal year 2021.

PMC is an independent, public, not-for-profit hospital, and state law gives the North Brevard Hospital District (d/b/a Parrish Medical Center) the authority to set a tax rate to support hospital operations. However, unlike most public hospitals, the PMC Board of Directors has for 26 years chosen not to use tax dollars as a means of funding the hospital.

## Parrish Healthcare Interventional Radiology Services Expanded



Dr. Gabriel Werder

Parrish Healthcare has expanded its interventional radiology services at Parrish Medical Center and Parrish Healthcare Centers in Port St. John and Titusville. The new interventional radiology services will enhance pre-existing

service areas to include, but not limited to, primary care, cardiology, oncology, orthopedic and emergency medicine.

Assisting in the expansion of services at Parrish Medical Center is Dr. Gabriel Werder. Dr. Werder is board certified in diagnostic and interventional radiology and has nearly 10 years of experience. He specializes in minimally invasive surgery guided by medical imaging and performs a wide variety of vascular and non-vascular interventions.

He has particular interest and expertise in:

- Dialysis access (e.g., fistula, graft, and catheter maintenance)
- Uterine fibroid embolization
- Venous disease (e.g., PE, DVT, IVC filter insertion/retrieval and central venous recanalization)
- Interventional oncology (e.g., tumor-directed therapy, chemotherapy ports, fiducial marker insertion for stereotactic radiosurgery, and all manner of biopsies)

A physician referral is required for interventional radiology services.

*For scheduling, call 321-268-6150, option 2.*



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## Life Wise

### March is Women's History Month

In March we join in commemorating and encouraging the study, observance and celebration of the vital role women have played in American history, including, their mark and influential role in health care. They've shaped the trajectory of US medicine and continue to do so today.



*Pictured (left to right): Dr. Pamela Tronetti, Dementia Care Specialist Janet Rooks and Senior Living Guide's Darleen Mahoney*

### Senior Living Podcasts with Parrish Healthcare Experts

Our medical experts from the Parrish Senior Consultation Center, Geriatrician Dr. Tronetti and Dementia Care Specialist Janet Rooks have teamed up with SeniorLivingGuide.com on their podcast to provide health information and resources for seniors and their care givers. The podcasts dive deep into how to get the best possible care when working with your health care and insurance providers. Our topics are designed to answer your questions and give you the tools that you need to provide you and your loved ones with a better understanding to pursue a better quality of life in your senior years.

*Give a listen to the podcasts at [seniorlivingguide.com/podcasts](http://seniorlivingguide.com/podcasts). New podcasts are added monthly.*



Where the Art of Healing Comes to Life

[parrishhealthcare.com](http://parrishhealthcare.com)