



NEWS RELEASE

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Media Contacts:

Danielle LeBlanc
(480) 728-2040 office
Danielle.LeBlanc@DignityHealth.org

Julie Graham
(480) 728-9970 office
Julie.Graham@DignityHealth.org

DIGNITY HEALTH ANNOUNCES THE ADDITION OF TWO NEW RESEARCH STUDIES TO ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE AND TREATMENT OF HEART DISEASE

PHOENIX, Ariz. (March 28, 2012) – Chandler Regional and Mercy Gilbert Medical Centers, [Dignity Health](http://DignityHealth.org) Members, have announced their participation in two new research studies to advance knowledge and treatment of heart disease.

- **The Chemometric Observation of Lipid Core Containing Plaques of Interest in Native Coronary Artery (COLOR) Registry Study** will be led by principal investigator Nabil Dib, M.D., M.Sc., F.A.C.C., director of Cardiovascular Research at Mercy Gilbert and Chandler Regional Medical Centers. Its purpose is to obtain more information about plaques and their role in management of coronary artery disease (CAD). The study involves research participants who have been diagnosed with CAD, a condition in which plaque builds up inside the arteries that supply oxygen-rich blood to the heart muscle and may cause a heart attack or symptoms such as chest pain, pressure, tightness, or shortness of breath. [Infraredx](#) has developed a new device called the TVC Imaging System™ and Insight™ Catheter that uses both ultrasound and infrared laser light to assess the interior structure of and measure fatty plaques in coronary arteries. This device may help doctors determine if the plaque needs early treatment or additional monitoring to prevent rupture that could potentially cause a heart attack.
- **The Prospective, Open-Label Anti-Platelet Therapy Study (TRANSLATE – ACS POPS)** will help to determine whether availability of platelet function testing results will change a doctor's decision about which antiplatelet drug and dosage he or she prescribes to heart attack patients. Platelets are a type of blood cell formed in the bone marrow that assists in the creation of blood clots. A platelet function test is a blood test that tells how well a patient's platelets are responding to antiplatelet medication, which is used to prevent blood clots. The study will be led by principal investigator Georges Nseir, M.D., chairman of the Cardiovascular Department at Chandler Regional and Mercy Gilbert Medical Centers.

“Heart disease is a growing problem, and it’s taking a toll on our families, communities and businesses,” said Tim Bricker, president and CEO of Mercy Gilbert Medical Center. “Our cardiovascular research program explores new treatment options for those with heart disease.”

Patty White, president and CEO of Chandler Regional Medical Center, adds, “Heart disease still claims more lives than the next seven leading causes of death combined, and we’re working to reverse this trend by incorporating sophisticated technology gained from our research into the standard of care for our patients.”

Chandler Regional and Mercy Gilbert Medical Centers are two of the 33 hospitals and medical centers within the Dignity Health system to be involved in medical research. Dignity Health’s 16 Institutional Review Boards provide oversight for more than 1,000 clinical trials across the system. To qualify for these studies, participants will need to meet select criteria. As with all clinical research, it’s important for research participants to understand the general principles that apply to anyone taking part in the study:

- Participation is entirely voluntary;
- While research participants may not experience personal benefits as a result of taking part in the study, knowledge may be gained from their participation that may benefit others; and
- At any time, research participants may decide to discontinue their participation without any negative consequences.

For more information, please call **(480) 728-9979**. You may also visit our online listing of research studies at **ChandlerRegional.org/Research** or **MercyGilbert.org/Research**.

About Chandler Regional Medical Center

Chandler Regional Medical Center is located at 475 S. Dobson Road (corner of Dobson and Frye Roads) in Chandler. Chandler Regional Medical Center is a full-service acute-care facility with 243 beds. For more information, please visit ChandlerRegional.org or call 480.728.3000. Chandler Regional is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE). For employment opportunities, please visit CHWCareers.org/Arizona. For information on doctor referrals, community classes or support groups, please contact ResourceLink at (480) 728-5414.

About Mercy Gilbert Medical Center

Mercy Gilbert Medical Center is located at the intersection of Val Vista Drive and Loop 202 (south of Pecos Road and east of Val Vista Drive). Mercy Gilbert Medical Center is a full-service acute-care facility with 212 beds. For more information, please visit MercyGilbert.org or call 480.728.8000. Mercy Gilbert Medical Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE). For employment opportunities, please visit CHWCareers.org/Arizona. For information on physician referrals or community classes and support groups, please contact ResourceLink at (480) 728-5414.

About Dignity Health

Dignity Health, headquartered in San Francisco, Calif., provides integrated, patient and family centered care. It is the fifth largest health system in the country with 10,000 physicians and 55,000 employees across

Arizona, California, and Nevada. Through its network of more than 150 ancillary care sites and 40 acute care hospitals, Dignity Health is committed to delivering compassionate, high-quality, affordable health care services with special attention to the poor and underserved. In 2011, Dignity Health provided \$1.4 billion in charity care, community benefit and unreimbursed patient care. For more information, please visit our website at www.dignityhealth.org.

About Infraredx

Infraredx is focused on developing and delivering products and technologies that practitioners can harness for improved clinical decision-making. A privately funded medical device company, Infraredx has the distinction of being the only company with an intravascular imaging system that is FDA-cleared for the detection of lipid core plaques, which are known to complicate stenting. Since its founding in 1998, Infraredx has leveraged major advances in lasers and optics to develop intelligent catheter-based coronary imaging devices. Following on the successful 2008 launch of LipiScan NIR Coronary Imaging System, and the subsequent launch of the LipiScan IVUS Coronary Imaging System, Infraredx has now introduced the TVC Imaging System – a first-in-class intravascular imaging system that assesses vessel composition and structure via integrated NIRS lipid core plaque detection and enhanced IVUS imaging to provide true vessel characterization.