



DMC EMBARKS ON NEW ERA IN URBAN HEALTH CARE: ROBOTS **Hospital system launches nation's largest deployment of mobile robots**

DETROIT, March 23, 2005 – The Detroit Medical Center (DMC) today launched an unprecedented mobile robot initiative that allows its physicians to interact with patients on demand and from remote locations. The DMC will deploy 10 mobile robots throughout six of its hospitals, the largest such deployment in the nation.

The RP-6™ robot, developed by California-based InTouch Health®, allows physicians to virtually consult with patients, family members and health care staff at a moment's notice. The launch of the robots into trauma, ICU, pediatrics, medical/surgical and general medicine, also represents the broadest such deployment by any health care system in the country.

The robot initiative further bolsters the DMC's commitment to technology as a critical tool in reshaping the delivery of urban health care, said Mike Duggan, DMC president and CEO.

"Leading edge technology, like robotics, is allowing us to build a platform that enables us to deliver health care more efficiently, thus increasing patient satisfaction, driving up volumes and ultimately reducing our costs," he said.

Embracing cutting-edge technology like the RP-6 robot is why the DMC's 29-minute guarantee has been successful, Duggan said. The guarantee states that patients entering its hospital emergency departments will be seen by a physician in fewer than 29 minutes.

"Technology is a tool that is allowing our physicians and nurses to be able to do their jobs better and faster," he added. "Our 29-minute guarantee is not a campaign; it's how we do business. And we are continuously looking at new technologies that will help us achieve and exceed our business goals."

The DMC's robot initiative marks a new shift in how the use of technology in the health care industry will be viewed, said Dr. Yulun Wang, chairman and CEO of InTouch Health.

"The DMC's introduction of this unprecedented number of robots marks a new paradigm for the way health care will be delivered in the near future," said Dr. Yulun Wang, chairman and CEO of InTouch Health. "The DMC's deployment of robots into the full spectrum of care underscores their commitment to innovative solutions that enhance the quality of care."

The Detroit Medical Center operates 10 hospitals and institutes, including Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit Receiving Hospital and University Health Center, Harper University Hospital, Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Hutzel Women's Hospital, Michigan Orthopaedic Specialty Hospital, Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan, Sinai-Grace Hospital, Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and Kresge Eye Institute.

Established as a nonprofit corporation in 1985, the Detroit Medical Center is a leading regional health care system with a mission of excellence in clinical care, research and medical education. The Detroit Medical Center is the academic health center for Wayne State University and its schools of medicine, nursing and allied health services. Wayne State University School of Medicine is the fourth largest medical school in the United States.

InTouch Health is a privately held company based in Santa Barbara, Calif. InTouch Health provides technology solutions which dramatically increase the effectiveness of health care professionals. The company is addressing the impending demographic crisis in acute care by pioneering the use of Remote Presence in health care with its RP-6 robotic system. Through a proprietary communications and mobile robotic platform, skilled medical professionals are projected to other settings where a patient or caregiver is located to provide care, coach and train staff, or monitor health care services. The InTouch Health solution leverages the time and expertise of health care professionals across multiple care facilities, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of care delivery.