



Immediate Release

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Christopher Mitchell, M.D., joins Brandywine Urology Consultants and is named Director of Robotic Surgery at the Christiana Care Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute

Wilmington, Del, July 1, 2015 – Christopher Mitchell, M.D., is Christiana Care's newly appointed director of Robotic Surgery at the <u>Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute</u>. He joins Christiana Care and the physicians at <u>Brandywine Urology Consultants</u> in Wilmington, having completed a two-year fellowship in laparoscopy/endourology at Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn.

Dr. Mitchell brings expertise in some of the most advanced and complex minimally invasive robotic surgical techniques in the field of urology today. With his arrival, Christiana Care is one of only a handful of centers in the United States to offer holmium laser enucleation of the prostate (HoLEP). This new procedure is shown to be highly effective in treating enlarged prostate or BPH (benign prostate hyperplasia), a non-cancerous condition that affects most men as they age.

"We are excited to welcome Dr. Christopher Mitchell to the Cancer Center and Christiana Care," said Nicholas J. Petrelli, M.D., Bank of America endowed medical director of the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute. "Dr. Mitchell's expertise in minimally invasive and robotic surgical techniques raises the bar in our region for treating complex genitourinary cancers and other diseases and is one more important reason why our community can rely on expert care close to home."

"Dr. Christopher Mitchell's experience and research interests in minimally invasive and robotic surgery will further enhance our capabilities to serve the urology needs of our patients in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey," said Andrew J. Glick, M.D., a senior partner at Brandywine Urology Consultants. "We are very fortunate that Dr. Mitchell has chosen to join our practice staff and physicians and to strengthen our commitment to offering the latest innovations and technologies in urologic care."

Dr. Mitchell graduated from Villanova University in 2004 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He earned his Medical Degree from the University of Maryland in 2008, where he received the Gold Medal Award, presented to one graduate with outstanding scholarly accomplishments.

Following a one-year internship in general surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., Dr. Mitchell completed residency training in urology (2009-2013) also at the Mayo Clinic. He completed a two-year fellowship in laparoscopy/endourology at Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn. (2013-2015).

During his residency, Dr. Mitchell collaborated with world renowned researchers at the Mayo Clinic to gain FDA approval as the first site in the U.S. to manufacture and administer a powerful imaging agent used with PET scans to detect recurrent prostate cancer earlier and more effectively than conventional imaging techniques. Dr. Mitchell presented on this work at national and international meetings, with his project being highlighted at the Society of Nuclear Medicine meeting in 2011. He also won First Place awards in 2012 in both the Minnesota Urologic Society's Kelalis Essay Contest and the Mayo Clinic's Joseph W. Segura Essay Contest.

His passion for research continues with focus on developing new robotics procedures and robotic technologies. He is collaborating currently with a team of surgeons and engineers to design and develop a new transurethral robot to improve surgery for benign prostate conditions.

"As director of robotic surgery at Christiana Care and a member of Brandywine Urology Consultants, I'm joining a great team dedicated to offering high quality, cutting edge, minimally invasive techniques for a broad variety of disease conditions, across many surgical specialties," said Dr. Mitchell. "With a highly trained team of surgeons, anesthesiologists, and surgical technicians dedicated to robotic surgery, I firmly believe that we will continue to demonstrate expertise on par with our nation's top hospitals."

Dr. Mitchell is board-eligible in urology and specializes in minimally invasive robotic surgery to treat benign and malignant diseases of the genitourinary tract, including partial nephrectomy for kidney tumors, prostatectomy for prostate cancer and complex ureteral reconstruction.

He has presented both nationally and internationally on the topics of kidney cancer, prostate cancer, BPH and stone disease. His work is published in numerous peer-

reviewed journals including the *Journal of Urology*, the *Journal of Endourology*, *Urology* and in *BJU International*.

About Christiana Care Health System

Christiana Care Health System is one of the country's largest health care systems, ranking as the 22nd leading hospital in the nation and 12th on the East Coast in terms of admissions. The health system includes The Christiana Care Medical Group, a network of primary care physicians, medical and surgical specialists as well as home health care, preventive medicine, rehabilitation services and patient/family advisors for core health care services. A not-for-profit teaching hospital affiliated with Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University, Christiana Care is recognized as a regional center for excellence in cardiology, cancer and women's health services. Christiana Care has an extensive range of outpatient services, and through Christiana Care Quality Partners, Christiana Care works closely with its medical staff to achieve better health, better access to care and lower cost. Christiana Care is home to Delaware's only Level I trauma center, the highest capability center and the only one of its kind between Philadelphia and Baltimore. Christiana Care also features a Level III neonatal intensive care unit, the only delivering hospital in Delaware that offers the highest level of nonsurgical care to the most critically ill newborns. Christiana Care includes two hospitals with 1,100 patient beds. For more information about Christiana Care, visit www.christianacare.org/whoweare.

About Brandywine Urology

Brandywine Urology Consultants was established in 1989 and has been serving the urology needs of patients in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey ever since. Brandywine Urology Consultants physicians are board certified diplomates of the American Board of Urology. Using the latest urological innovations, Brandywine Urology Consultants provides state-of-the-art diagnosis, treatment and cares for each patient as an individual and a partner in his or her medical care. For more information, visit www.brandywineurology.com/home.