

New Frontiers in Stroke Treatment at the CJW Neuroscience Center

Central Virginia's first placement of the Wingspan Stent for the treatment of brain blood vessel blockage successfully performed by Dr Spinos, a Neurointerventional Radiologist.

The most common type of stroke is caused by an obstruction within a blood vessel that supplies blood to the brain. It is known as an ischemic stroke, accounting for about 83 percent of all of strokes.

When an artery is blocked, the brain cannot receive oxygen and nutrients. Brain cells begin to die after only a few minutes of inadequate circulation. These blockages often occur in the carotid arteries in the neck, where they can easily be reached and fixed either with surgery or balloon angioplasty and stenting. However, blockages in the delicate blood vessels within the brain are much more prone to rupture and are most often treated with medicine, but if medications fail these patients have no other effective or safe alternatives.

Dr Spinos, the only Neurointerventional Radiologist in Richmond, and the only physician approved to perform this procedure, practices at the Neurovascular lab of the Neuroscience Center at CJW Medical Center, Johnston-Willis campus, in Richmond. He is now using this cutting edge technology, called the Wingspan Stent System, to clear blocked arteries and quickly restore blood flow to the brain tissue.

During the procedure, the physician threads a catheter from the groin up to the narrowed vessel in the brain. He inserts a balloon to partially open the artery, and then puts a stent in place to keep the vessel open. The Wingspan stent is especially designed for the delicate, tapered and curved vessels of the brain and the treatment is used for patients who have intracranial artery disease that have failed to respond to traditional therapies.

CJW Medical Center's Neurointerventional radiologist, Dr. Spinos is available for an on camera interview to discuss this state of the art, life-saving technology. We also invite you to interview a recent CJW patient who has benefit from this highly advanced procedure.



