

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **SETON HEALTH INTRODUCES NEW ST. MARY'S EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT STAFF**

### **Pegasus Medical Group Hired to Staff Department; Renewed Focus on Efficiency and Quality**

TROY, NY April 15, 2004 -- Seton Health System and St. Mary's Hospital has assembled a new team of health professionals to revitalize the hospital's emergency department. In addition to the staffing changes, St. Mary's has reorganized a number of other systems to provide patients with a faster, more compassionate emergency department experience.

Pegasus Medical Group, hired to staff the new Department and modify systems and procedures, has brought on Dr. Jeffrey Ruzich to serve as the St. Mary's Emergency Department Medical Director. Prior to joining Seton Health, Dr. Ruzich practiced at Putnam Hospital Center in Carmel, NY.

"I'm extremely excited to join the Seton Health team and help to bring increased efficiencies and quality of care to the people of the Capital District," said Ruzich. "The doctors and medical staff at St. Mary's are determined to provide this community with a top-notch emergency department."

Other new staff physicians in the St. Mary's Emergency Department include Dr. Elliot Justin, a graduate of Boston University of Medicine; Dr. Steven Guillen, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania medical school; Dr. Abdul Elfar, a graduate of Cairo University (Egypt) Medical School; Dr. Colleen Kelley, a graduate of Dartmouth Medical School and Dr. Robert Holterman, a graduate of Jefferson Medical College.

All of St. Mary's Emergency Department physicians are board-certified in emergency medicine. "Having physicians who are experienced in emergency medicine and have

already provided patient care in that setting is very important to us,” said Maureen Carnevale, St. Mary’s Clinical Coordinator for Emergency Services.

In addition to the staff changes, St. Mary’s has also implemented new technologies and systems to assist in quality care. More ancillary and support staff has been hired to ensure that patients are served in a timely fashion. Express Care hours have also been extended so that minor injuries and illness are diagnosed, treated, and discharged with almost no delay.

The hospital plans on continuing to expand their emergency department by introducing additional products and services to meet the demands of patients within the community.

“This is a significant step for our hospital as we refocus our Emergency Department on providing quality care in the most efficient manner possible while still giving the compassionate caring the community expects from St. Mary’s Hospital,” said Seton Health CEO Gino Pazzaglini.

#### About Seton Health

Seton Health is a comprehensive, integrated health care system anchored by St. Mary’s Hospital in Troy, and a member of Ascension Health, the largest Catholic health care system in the country. Seton Health provides health care services from more than 20 sites in Rensselaer, Saratoga and Albany counties

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#### About Pegasus Emergency Group

Pegasus Emergency Group is a rapidly growing emergency medicine company with a commitment to excellence. We are dedicated to exceptional patient care,

outstanding opportunities for physicians, and superb performance for our partner hospitals. With 100% growth in the last year alone, stay tuned for more exciting news about the company.

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