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Radiologist Spotlight: Deepak Raghavan, MD



Cancer Care in Hampton Roads Gets Boost with Advanced PET/CT

A next-generation PET/CT scanner, now available at Chesapeake Regional Healthcare's new Priority Toyota Cancer Center, offers faster testing along with notable improvements in early detection, tumor staging, and patient comfort and safety.

Radiologists are using the scanner to image an average of five to six patients a day and, because scans are completed up to 40% more quickly than with older systems, they have the capacity to handle even more, said Chris Snyder, COO of Dominion Radiology Associates. The practice's radiologists serve patients at the center. In addition, this technology provides more clinical information for the treatment and early detection of various cancers, while giving the patient a more satisfying experience with a larger bore gantry and shorter scan times.

PET/CT is short for positron emission tomography/computed tomography. Along with faster speed, the center's new Biograph Vision PET/CT system from Siemens Healthineers offers two major benefits:

Improved early detection and tumor staging. The system provides high image quality and resolution for visualizing small lesions and metastases. The images also reveal detailed anatomy and biological processes at the molecular level.

Increased comfort and safety for patients. The new technology is wide enough and strong enough to image larger patients, up to 500 pounds. It also offers low-dose radiation capabilities.

Few of us know at the age of 12 what career we'll choose. Dr. Deepak Raghavan — a board-certified, fellowship-trained radiologist with Dominion Radiology Associates — is an exception to the norm. He was certain he would be a doctor, and by the age of 15, he knew he wanted to be a radiologist.

As a high school student, he had an opportunity to shadow a radiologist at the Veteran's Affairs Medical Center in New Jersey. He was instantly hooked. "Watching the doctor look at images and diagnose problems — that was so cool," he said. "I could definitely see myself doing that."

Although his parents were both primary care physicians, they did not lead him to a career in medicine. "They worried a doctor's life would be very difficult for me," he said. "But I love what I do so much that it doesn't really feel like work at all."

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About Dominion Radiology Associates

Dominion Radiology Associates is a physician-owned practice providing high-quality, high-value medical imaging services to residents of Virginia and Northeastern North Carolina. The group has more than 45 providers, including board-certified, fellowship-trained physicians who have graduated from some of the most respected radiology programs in the U.S., with training and experience in neuroradiology, musculoskeletal/body imaging, oncology, cardiac, breast imaging and other subspecialties. Through its collaboration with Chesapeake Regional Healthcare, the practice serves patients at Chesapeake Regional Medical Center, Chesapeake Regional Imaging's Kingsborough and Kempsville locations and the Jennings Outpatient Center. For more information, visit dominionradiology.com.

Referring providers interested in learning more can call DRA's Concierge Line at (855) 723-5463, or e-mail concierge@dominionradiology.com. ■

Dominion Radiology Associates Welcomes Dr. Rafael Pacheco



Dominion Radiology Associates (DRA) welcomes Dr. Rafael A. Pacheco to the practice. He is serving patients in the Hampton Roads area.

Dr. Pacheco graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and completed his residency at the University of Connecticut Health Center. He then completed his fellowship in musculoskeletal imaging and interventions at the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology in St. Louis, MO.

Dr. Pacheco is board-certified in diagnostic radiology. He previously practiced in Connecticut. ■

Dr. Michael Petruschak Retires; Setting Sail for New Adventures



With extensive expertise in women's imaging, Dr. Michael J. Petruschak has helped countless patients and referring providers in the Hampton Roads area. This summer he retired after 40 years in medicine. Word has it that the avid sailor plans to spend more time on the open waters. He and his wife, Miriam, are also looking forward to more adventures with their children and grandchildren.

Dr. Petruschak joined our radiology practice in 2005. He served as medical director of breast imaging for Chesapeake Regional Breast Care, located in the Jennings Outpatient Center, from 2008 to 2020.

Born in Newark, NJ, Dr. Petruschak earned his medical degree at the University of Medicine of New Jersey. He completed his internship in obstetrics/gynecology at SUNY Upstate Medical University; residency in diagnostic radiology at

Shands Teaching Hospital of the University of Florida; and fellowship in body imaging at the University Hospitals of Cleveland, an affiliate of Case Western Reserve University.

He is certified by the American Board of Radiology.

Early in his career he served as an emergency room doctor and later spent several years as a radiologist in Florida before moving to the Hampton Roads area.

Looking back on his career, Dr. Petruschak recalls many patient cases but one in particular. "My most memorable moment was finding an early breast cancer in the very first patient screened on our mobile mammography unit," he said.

His colleagues at Dominion Radiology Associates (DRA) are thankful for his dedicated service.

"Dr. Petruschak's vast experience, skill, and focus on excellence made him well respected and well-liked by his physician colleagues and technology staff as well," said Dr. David Cohen of DRA, current medical director of breast imaging. "He represented the breast center in public media and to other departments with professionalism and a wealth of knowledge. We are sorry to see him go but wish him 'fair winds and following seas.'" ■



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He charted a steady path forward, graduating from New York University and receiving a medical degree from the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Piscataway, NJ. He completed his internship at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, NJ; his radiology residency at Brown University in Providence, RI; and his fellowship at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, a teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School in Boston. In his final year of fellowship he was appointed chief fellow in neuroradiology.

In 2014, he joined the practice that would later form Dominion Radiology Associates. His expertise in the clinical subspecialty of neuroradiology is helping patients and their referring providers in the Hampton Roads area and beyond.

Neuroradiology includes reading magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) scans of the brain, spine, head, and neck. Dr. Raghavan also reads cardiac CT and positron emission tomography (PET) CT scans.

A variety of symptoms can lead a patient to need the services of a neuroradiologist, from tension headaches and back pain to stroke, tumors, dementia, spinal injury, and trauma. "It's a field that comes with a steep learning curve," Dr. Raghavan said. "And it continues to evolve, especially with advances in technology that provide sharper images and more detailed functional information. As a result, we as radiologists have to evolve as well and always strive to learn more." He is an avid reader of neuroradiology research and has co-authored articles for several publications, including the *Journal of Neurological Surgery*.

Dr. Raghavan's wife, Dr. Darshana Alle, is an allergist and immunologist. The couple has two sons, Parth, age 6, and Avik, age 4. Family leisure time is devoted to "whatever our children want to do," Dr. Raghavan said. He also enjoys playing the piano in his spare time. Selections range from classics (Bach's "Prelude in C Major" is a favorite), to Broadway tunes including "Edelweiss" from *The Sound of Music* and "Memory" from *Cats*.

No singing, though. "If I could sing *and* play piano, I may not have gone on to be a radiologist. I might have auditioned for 'American Idol' instead!" ■

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"This advanced diagnostic scanner provides our patients and our treating physicians with a new level of precision in the early detection of cancer and specific neurologic and cardiac diseases. It is unique in its digital capabilities, allowing reduced scan times and decreased patient radiation exposure. We are excited to bring this powerful imaging technology to our cancer center," said Dr. Neil B. Green, PET/CT medical director for Dominion Radiology Associates.

The new PET/CT system was installed this spring.

For Scheduling or Questions

Health care providers can call 757-855-9700 to schedule a scan or contact the Physician Concierge at concierge@dominionradiology.com, 855-723-5463, to consult with a radiologist. ■



**dominionradiology.com/
locations/chesapeake
(855) 723 5463**

Ed Swager, Chief Executive Officer

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DRA publishes *Imaging Advances – Chesapeake* periodically for referring physicians and the greater medical community. For more information, please contact Tammy Gressly, Director of Administrative Operations, at tgressly@dominionrad.com.



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High-Value Expertise

We're ready to serve you and your practice with our wide variety of expertise:

- Diagnostic Radiology Services
- Interventional Radiology Services
- Women's Imaging
- Vascular Lab Services
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- Comprehensive Medical Treatments and Continuity of Care
- Screening Services
- Physician Concierge Support
- Professional Services
- PACS and VNA Solutions
- Information Technology
- Infrastructure and Technical Support
- Corporate Compliance Program Support
- Revenue Cycle Management
- Utilization Management
- Affiliations and Partnerships
- Clinical Quality Radiation Safety