



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Baptist Health Care Welcomes New VP, Chief Medical Officer

PENSACOLA, Fla. (June 23, 2022) – Baptist Health Care has welcomed Dennis C. Szurkus, Jr., M.D., MBA, FACOG, CPE, as vice president, chief medical officer.

Dr. Szurkus is responsible for directing the office of medical affairs, clinical performance, physician leadership development and leading the clinical direction for BHC. Dr. Szurkus provides professional guidance and collaboration to the medical staff and develops and implements strategic goals related to quality improvement, case management and accreditation standards.

Dr. Szurkus comes to Baptist from HCA Healthcare, Inc., in Richmond, Virginia, where he served as chief medical officer for Henrico Doctors' Hospital, Parham Doctors' Hospital and Retreat Doctors' Hospital. In that position, he held direct responsibility for 1,360 medical staff, care excellence agenda, quality, medical staff affairs, risk management, regulatory compliance, infection prevention, pharmacy, hospitalist physicians, intensivist physicians, obstetrical hospitalist physicians and clinical informatics. He led a number of safety and care excellence initiatives.

Dr. Szurkus graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Engineering in biomedical engineering from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, where he was a member of the varsity cross-country team. He also earned his medical degree from Vanderbilt. Dr. Szurkus completed obstetrics and gynecology residency at Naval Medical Center San Diego where he served as chief resident. Dr. Szurkus also holds an Executive Master of Business Administration in Health Policy and Management degree from the University of Miami in Miami, Florida. He is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dr. Szurkus is a veteran decorated lieutenant commander whose assignments included Spain, Iceland, Pensacola, and a deployment to Kuwait.

For more information about Dr. Szurkus, visit ebaptisthealthcare.org.

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For more information about this press release or to schedule an interview, please contact Kathy Bowers at BHCMediaRelations@bhcpns.org or 850.791.5254

About Baptist Health Care

Baptist Health Care is a not-for-profit health care organization based in Northwest Florida that is committed to helping people throughout life's journey. The organization is a proud member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network. Baptist continuously strives to be a national leader in quality and service. Baptist Health Care includes three hospitals, four medical parks, Andrews Institute for Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine and a large network of primary care and specialty physicians. Baptist Health Care is one of the largest non-governmental employers in Northwest Florida.

Baptist Health Care • Baptist Hospital • Gulf Breeze Hospital • Jay Hospital • Baptist Medical Parks Airport, Nine Mile, Navarre and Pace • Andrews Institute • Baptist Medical Group • Baptist Heart & Vascular Institute • Baptist Health Care Foundation • Mayo Clinic Care Network