

AV Hospital introduces new Comprehensive Wound Care Center

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by Krista Daly

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LANCASTER – Antelope Valley Hospital celebrated the grand opening of its Comprehensive Wound Care Center Tuesday evening.

The center, which opened December 27, 2011, has a staff equipped to deal with every kind of wound.

“The number of people who may be in need of a wound center is in the millions,” said Dr. Gary Boghossian, Medical Director of the Comprehensive Wound Care Center.



AV Hospital board members and representatives from local government offices cut the ribbon in celebration of the grand opening of the Comprehensive Wound Care Center Tuesday evening.

The Wound Care Center serves the doctors and the patients in the com-

munity because it provides an awareness of the severity of the problem, he said.

Diabetic wounds are one of the most common medical problems to be seen in a wound care center, Dr. Boghossian said. Every person who is diabetic is at a high risk of forming an ulcer.

With limb loss, a person’s chance for survival is 50 percent if they don’t get the proper care, he said.

“It’s what we call a limb salvage center,” Dr. Boghossian said.

Patients using the Comprehensive Wound Care Center will be there for severe burns, venous stasis ulcers, post-surgical wounds, traumatic wounds, and other chronic non-healing wounds that need to be checked on a regular basis, said Dr. Boghossian.

“The good thing with the Wound Care Center is that people can live at home with their families, the hospital frees-up beds, and there is less money being spent on insurance,” Dr. Boghossian said.

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Take a peek inside one of five rooms dedicated to specialized wound care in the Comprehensive Wound Care Center.

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Currently there are two doctors, two registered nurses (RN), one technician and administrative staff working in the Wound Care Center, said Wound Center RN Rachel Rhoten. They are hoping to gain another doctor for the center soon, she added.

There are five rooms total in the Wound Care Center, each specialized for the different kinds of wounds, Dr. Boghossian said. The funding for the facility is provided completely by the AV Hospital, he added.

AV Hospital Chief Executive Officer Edward Mirzabegian said he thinks it is important to take care of the community members in the community in which they live.

Dr. Boghossian said the AV Hospital was very diligent and swift in getting the Wound Care Center up and running.

“This project has been on the plate for the last two years,” Mirzabegian said.

The hospital is a very busy facility, he said. In one day, they’ve seen 45 cases of surgery, in one week they’ve

seen 12 trauma patients, and in one month they’ve seen about 350 patients in the ER.

“This is who we are and this is what we do,” Mirzabegian said.

They are also continuously adding programs and facilities to accommodate the growing number of people in the AV, Mirzabegian said.

“We are doers. We do things,” Mirzabegian said.

AV Hospital Marketing Manager Ellen Driscoll said the building that houses

the Wound Care Center has been used for a number of things in the past, such as a mammogram center and a lower level ER.

“I’m hoping this one will stay for awhile,” Driscoll said. “It’s a good service for the community.”

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