

Racanelli

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03:23:53 [Start of recorded material]

Interviewer: Are you one of the founding members?

Racanelli: Yeah.

Interviewer: As one of the founding members, you're one of the driving forces -- Describe the mission of the facility.

03:25:51 Racanelli: Well, in the beginning I was with the facility when it first started and we moved over from the other hospital and created this hospital, we built it for patient care. Uh, we were frustrated in taking care of patients. Patients were frustrated, and the time it took to have things happen in a day. And we tried to make it with the patients' interests in mind to where they would have surgery and essentially go home thinking that it was a pleasurable experience. People are very nervous when it comes to surgery. Uh, some people have had a lot. Some people haven't had any. And we did it with the patient in mind. And I think the patients appreciate that.

Interviewer: How is it four years later?

03:26:35 Racanelli: Well, after four years I think we tweak things every once in a while to continue to improve. We get patient feedback continually and we listen to the patients and what they tell

us to do, uh, the majority of the time we do instill that. It's a patient experience. That's what drives the hospital is the patient care and we want them to tell us where we go wrong and what we do right. And they're very willing to do that.

Interviewer: Tell us about the role of technology in the mission and your profession and patient care.

03:27:18 Racanelli: Well, here at TIS we're a very technology-oriented hospital. Uh, the majority of what we do we rely on a tremendous amount of electronics. And by continually updating our electronics, it allows us -- sounds just like a hospital, doesn't it?

03:27:42 Racanelli: Well, here at TIS we are a technology-oriented hospital. We have a tremendous amount of electronics and we depend on those electronics, especially with our arthroscopic surgery which is a majority of what we do in orthopedics and by staying in the cutting edge [unintelligible] and allows us to do the newer types of surgeries and newer implants; and to have the ability to have high definition, large screens -- it makes surgery a lot easier for a surgeon. And you have a tendency to do more things that, that you would in the past to make it easier for the patient.

03:28:20 If we can do things without opening a person up and continue to do an arthroscopic -- it makes their life a lot easier afterwards.

Interviewer: Tell us about the new OR's with the wireless HD video.

03:28:38 Racanelli: Well, our operating rooms have just been converted to, uh, new high definition, wide screen, uh, very large, uh, plasma systems with wireless capabilities which makes life much easier. Uh, it's almost attributed to watching your old TV shows on 13 inch black and white and then moving to a high definition, 50 inch plasma TV. Well, naturally the experience is nicer for the surgeon but the ability to see and to do things in very small areas -- it just makes life easier for the surgeon. It makes life easier for the patient.

03:29:14 Surgeries go quicker and it's just a more pleasant experience for everybody.

Interviewer: What's your impression on the quality of the image?

03:29:26 Racanelli: Well, the newer cameras that we're using, I'm taking those home to use at home. The picture is just amazing. Uh, and it truly is a, a big difference. When you -- it's attributed to watching TV at home. If you look at it in standard definition versus high definition you hate to watch anything in standard definition. And God forbid we ever have to go back to standard definition.

Interviewer: Can you measure how much it aids you?

03:30:03 Racanelli: Well, using the high definition equipment, it just makes life easier. It's something that's extremely noticeable the

instant you look at it. I mean even a, uh, a non-surgeon could look at the picture and the technology and say, "Well, that's very good." I mean it's very impressive just to look at the screen itself. But the ability to see more peripherally as opposed to exactly where your camera is looking, the, the quality of the lighting within a joint -- it just makes life much more tolerable. You get to see more and when you see more you have a tendency to handle situations a lot easier.

Interviewer: Can you see the impact of the lighting?

03:30:45 Racanelli: With the LED lighting on the new equipment it makes life much more tolerable and we actually turn down the lighting on these cameras as opposed to cranking them all the way up like we used to in the past. And, and our impression is with the LED lighting, uh, not having to fade as time goes on we don't have to worry about the equipment degradation as the bulbs get worse and worse as time goes on too.

Interviewer: Is this the first set of cases you've done today?

03:31:15 Racanelli: I didn't work on Monday, but we've used them in the past when we were testing them out.

Interviewer: Have you noticed increased efficiency, faster surgery times. . . ?

03:31:28 Racanelli: Well, I don't think it makes our surgery times any faster, but it definitely makes them a lot easier. Uh, just the

ability to see and it's like driving at dusk is a lot harder than driving in the daytime and we're essentially driving in the daytime when we're operating now.

Interviewer: How about the wireless aspect?

03:31:48 Racanelli: I don't know how to answer that because I haven't used the wireless part of it yet in that room.

Interviewer: Cables, installation, maintenance. . . .

03:32:00 Racanelli: Well, I think it's a good point. I mean I wasn't tripping over wires today so I didn't even think about that. So I guess I can answer that question. So, give me the question again.

Interviewer: The wireless aspect. . . .

03:32:13 Racanelli: Well, the ability to use wireless equipment helps us tremendously in the operating room because if you've ever been in an operating room, it is a, a monstrosity of cables. It looks like Christmas time in your Christmas tree. And the less cables we use the more ability it is for people to move around the room. And from a sterility standpoint, not having to worry about, you know, touching a cable or a wire, uh, it does make a big difference.

Interviewer: Have you had experience that there's a lot more flexibility in sending signals to other rooms?

03:32:51 Racanelli: Don't use that much. I can't comment on that. I don't want to say that we're going to use that to watch TV.

Interviewer: Do you think the advent of the HD and wireless technology represents any innovation breakthrough?

03:33:25 Racanelli: Well, my thought processes with HD versus standard definition is the coal-powered automobile versus the gasoline-powered automobile. It's something that once you use it you're not going back. And, uh, I would just hate to go -- I don't think I would ever use a standard definition system again.

Interviewer: Physician and patient experience -- in terms of what this technology means as far as representing what TIS is all about and why people should want to come here?

03:34:15 Racanelli: Well, the ability to upgrade our systems and go to high definition wireless systems like the Striker system we're using now, it allows us to do our surgeries at a higher capability and to do them more efficiently. The more efficient we are, the better patient care that translates to -- less surgical time, less invasive to the patient -- and it all goes back to the, the thought process with developing this hospital. Patient care, the ability to come here and do things efficiently and safely, uh, it all goes back to the original quest of being able to take care of patients and making it a

pleasurable experience even though it's a very frightening experience to them at times.

Interviewer: How is the Striker experience with service and meeting expectations?

03:35:16 Racanelli: Uh, the ability for Striker to be here and help take care of the equipment, and whenever you switch to something new there's, there's new pitfalls and new angles and new ways of doing things; and they've been extremely helpful in helping everybody in the operating room and even outside of the operating room. They take care of the equipment and instruct us how to use it and that's extremely important.

Interviewer: They've been living up to your expectations.

03:35:43 Racanelli: Absolutely, they've been living up to expectations.

Interviewer: Anything you want to say in conclusion?

Racanelli: No, I think they were great questions.

[End of recorded material]