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## **SSM Rehabilitation Hospital Opens with Ribbon Ceremony**

BRIDGETON, MO. (January 6, 2012) -- A new 60-bed SSM Rehabilitation Hospital on the campus of SSM DePaul Health Center is now open to the public. The facility expands the number of general rehabilitation beds available locally, making it a regional referral center for patients with brain and spinal cord injuries.

The hospital hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Jan. 6, 2012, to mark its opening. The three-story, 66,914-square-foot SSM Rehabilitation Hospital is located at 12380 DePaul Drive at the confluence of Interstate 70, Interstate 270 and St. Charles Rock Road in Bridgeton, Missouri.

“There is a growing need for inpatient medical rehabilitation services,” said Doug Brewer, president and chief executive officer of SSM-Select Rehabilitation. “Many acute care hospital patients still require sophisticated care before they are ready to go home. We are able to deliver this specialized care in a setting that provides the needed therapy and training that will help patients recover as fully as possible.”

The rehabilitation patient population also has grown due to improvements in trauma and stroke care, Brewer said. “People who would not have made it ten years ago are surviving because they are using seat belts and because our emergency services are giving them immediate access to trauma centers and stroke centers of excellence.”

The facility’s innovative design reflects the specialized needs of patients, families and clinicians and creates an environment that supports healing and recovery. Its staff will provide comprehensive inpatient medical rehabilitation care to patients with stroke, brain injury, spinal cord injury, amputation, and neurological and orthopedic conditions. It also will hold the SSM Day Institute, a specialized outpatient rehabilitation program for individuals who are recovering from a traumatic injury or illness but who no longer require 24-hour nursing or acute rehabilitation care.

The facility opens with 125 to 150 employees and will employ 250 when it reaches full occupancy.

The hospital’s services are designed for patients who require assistance in regaining life skills and independence, said Chris Gonzalez, director of rehabilitation at SSM Rehabilitation Hospital. “We’re here for people who have had an illness or injury that prevents them from doing things they need to do, whether it is walking and dressing themselves or thinking clearly so they can process their day.

“One area that will differentiate us is our care of people who have dual diagnoses – a spinal cord injury and a brain injury,” said Chris Gonzalez, director of rehabilitation. “Many times when there are traumatic injuries, especially in car accidents, both of these injuries occur.”

SSM Rehabilitation Hospital is operated by SSM-Select Rehab LLC, a joint venture of SSM Health Care-St. Louis and Select Medical. Its brain injury rehabilitation program will be relocated from SSM St. Mary's Health Center in Richmond Heights, Mo., to the new site. The SSM Rehabilitation network will continue to operate general inpatient rehabilitation programs at both St. Mary's and St. Joseph Health Center

The SSM Rehabilitation Network provides various levels of rehabilitative care at more than 50 locations throughout the St. Louis market while employing almost 1,000 people. In addition to the new hospital, the network operates the SSM Day Institute (four locations), SSM Physical Therapy (32 locations), SSM Homeward Bound (11 locations) and SSM WorkHealth (three locations). The network also provides therapists to SSM Home Care and acute hospital therapy services for patients in all five SSM Health Care-St. Louis adult acute-care hospitals -- DePaul Health Center, St. Clare Health Center, St. Joseph Health Center, St. Joseph Health Center-Wentzville, St. Joseph Hospital West and St. Mary's Health Center.

The joint venture with Select Medical provides the hospital staff with access to peers at the New Jersey-based Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation, which is consistently rated as one of the top providers of rehabilitation care and is part of Select Medical.

“Many of our clinicians have spent time training at Kessler Institute and Kessler experts visit us here,” Brewer said. “We have access to their treatment programs and protocols, which is invaluable.”

## **The Partners**

**SSM Health Care – St. Louis** serves the comprehensive health needs of St. Louis-area residents through a network that includes seven hospitals, nearly 12,000 employees and 2,500 staff physicians. Key service lines include heart, cancer, neurosciences, pediatrics, weight loss, sleep, imaging, behavioral health and rehabilitation.

**Select Medical**, based in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, is one of the nation's leading providers of specialized health care encompassing long-term acute care, inpatient medical rehabilitation, outpatient physical rehabilitation and contract therapy. The company has 28,500 employees and operates hospitals and outpatient clinics in 41 states and the District of Columbia.

## **Fact Sheet**

### **SSM Rehabilitation Hospital**

12380 DePaul Drive, Bridgeton, Missouri 63044

60 beds, all in private suites

Three floors covering 66,914 square feet

Owned and operated by SSM-Select Rehab STL, a partnership of SSM Health Care-St. Louis and Select Medical of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

At full occupancy the hospital will employ approximately 250 people, including physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians, certified rehabilitation nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, respiratory therapists, registered dietitians, neuropsychologists, case managers and activities coordinators.

#### **Featured Programs**

**Inpatient:** Comprehensive inpatient medical rehabilitation care for patients with stroke, brain injury, spinal cord injury, amputation and neurological and orthopedic conditions.

**Outpatient:** The SSM Day Institute is a specialized outpatient rehabilitation program for individuals who are recovering from a traumatic injury or illness but who no longer require 24-hour nursing care or acute rehabilitation care. These individuals benefit from a multi-disciplinary approach to treatment that focuses on building skills and maximizing independence in daily activities at home, work or in the community.

#### **Key Facility Features**

Expansive therapy gyms with floor-to-ceiling windows and numerous spaces designed for group therapy sessions and private treatments

Patient rooms with large windows offer plenty of light and outside views for patients and families. Individualized controls can adjust lighting and temperatures to minimize stimulation of patients recovering from brain injuries and strokes.

A large dining area with indoor and outdoor seating

An outdoor ambulation course for patient therapies

A courtyard for the enjoyment of patients and families

The facility's design results from decades of care for this patient population and reflects the specialized needs of patients, families and clinicians.