

## SWRH Joins Governor to Promote Medical Technology

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Summa Western Reserve Hospital was one of four sites that recently joined a live video conference with Governor Kasich today to discuss a ten-fold boost to OARnet's statewide network bandwidth, an initiative to bolster an accelerated network to serve as a technological pipeline for the latest advancements in medical research and technology within Ohio's medical corridor. The extensive broadband network will benefit the state for training doctors on the newest clinical procedures, network physicians to allow experts to share their advances and innovations such as the ultrasound guided pain relief procedures pioneered by Dr. Samer Narouze, Chairman, Center for Pain Medicine at Summa Western Reserve Hospital.

"I am seeing patients from across the country and the globe," said Dr. Narouze. "The need to train other physicians in this, and other emerging patient care techniques will be greatly facilitated via the use of OARNet. Large files and data that now can be cumbersome and time-consuming to transmit and share, can move quickly and efficiently between physicians and researchers with OARNet's 100 Gbs broadband connection. By giving us the ability to collaborate more effectively, this will be a wonderful tool for improving patient care. Ohio is already a national leader both in advanced medical procedures, and increasing the speed and capacity of this network will help expand medical training and also make Ohio an advanced competitor for federal research grants."



Dr. Narouze discusses increased bandwidth in Ohio to facilitate better patient care and innovation.

Doctors and researchers at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Summa Western Reserve Hospital in Cuyahoga Falls and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine showcased the latest research technology during the video conference and discussed how Ohio's accelerated bandwidth of 100 Gigabits per second (Gbps) will allow them to collaborate on a global scale—greatly enhancing the state's medical corridor as a leading hub for clinical innovation, research, patient care and medical education.

"We are proud and enthusiastic to be part of Governor Kasich's announcement of a ten-fold boost to OARnet's statewide network bandwidth," said Dr. Robert Kent, President and CEO, Summa Western Reserve Hospital. "This accelerated network will provide for advancements in patient care, research and technology throughout Ohio's medical corridor, and all of the physicians and staff of Summa Western Reserve Hospital are excited about this positive expansion of technology. The high-quality and innovative care that Dr. Narouze and the physicians of the Center for Pain Medicine bring to our community has allowed Summa Western Reserve Hospital to serve as a hub of pain management excellence in the Northeast Ohio region."

Under a recently approved agreement with Cisco and Juniper, Ohio will invest approximately \$10 million to harness new innovative technology that will, in essence, "open the faucet" of Ohio's current broadband infrastructure, over 1,850 miles of fiber, from its current 10 Gbps capacity to an impressive 100 Gbps.

This expansion leverages the fiber optic network operated by OARnet, a member of the Ohio Board of Regents Ohio Technology Consortium. The 100 Gbps network will connect Ohio's major metropolitan areas to northern and southern connection points of Internet2, a nationwide advanced networking consortium led by the research and education community, spanning U.S. and international institutions who are leaders in the worlds of research, academia, industry and government.

For the network, \$8.1 million will fund hardware development for Phase 1, which will connect Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, Dayton and Toledo by June 2012 and Phase 2 markets of Akron, Athens and Youngstown by October 2012.

"Ohio has a rich history as a pioneer of innovation whether it's our role in aviation, the Space Race, or, today, in the information technology race," said Governor Kasich. "Our state has tremendous advanced resources in medical research that are the envy of the nation, and this is just the beginning. Enhancing our already impressive broadband network with minimal investment is certain to reap benefits for our next chapter in innovation and growth."

**For fact sheet and more information on**

**Ohio's 100 Gigabit Network and Innovation Center visit <http://www.oar.net/>**

*About the Ohio Technology Consortium (OH-TECH)*

*The Ohio Board of Regents Ohio Technology Consortium (OH-Tech) includes the Ohio Academic Resources Network (OARnet), the Ohio Supercomputer Center (OSC) and eStudent Services. OH-TECH serves as the umbrella organization for these three organizations, which offer innovative technology resources and services for Ohio higher education, K-12 schools and state and local government. <http://oh-tech.org>*