



The Care Patients Deserve

Fox Valley Surgical Associates provides subspecialist medicine close to home.

Each of Fox Valley Surgical Associates' 10 physicians is a fellowship-trained subspecialist, possessing extensive experience in his or her area of expertise. It's just one way the practice differentiates itself from other local medical groups.

David Duppler, MD, for example, is a surgeon with a subspecialty in surgical endoscopy. "Compared to generalists, fellowship-trained surgeons have spent extra time to acquire added training in their subspecialty," he explains. "This added training gives the surgeon a greater experience in their subspecialty than they would otherwise acquire during residency."

The group's status as independent from but affiliated with the ThedaCare community health system provides additional advantages to patients. "The ability to be treated by a subspecialist at a regional or community hospital means patients will receive top-quality medical intervention close to home," Duppler says. "Before such partnerships, it wasn't unusual for patients to have to make their way to Madison or Milwaukee for treatment."

Subspecialist Treatment

Fox Valley Surgical Associates (FVSA) counts among their roster subspecialists in gastrointestinal endoscopy and endocrine, breast, vascular, colorectal, laparoscopic, and oncological surgery.

Patients are referred to FVSA, he notes, for a number of reasons. Frequently a referring physician will desire more thorough diagnostics, such as stereotactic biopsy or sentinel lymph node biopsy in the case of breast cancer. And sometimes patients come with a diagnosis in hand and are in need specifically of treatment options most suitable for complex cases, those for whom subspecialist



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experience may be most valuable.

"Our physicians collaborate with patients' primary care physicians in a manner that affords each patient the care they deserve," says Duppler.

FVSA also performs minimal access surgeries when appropriate. "While not right for all cases, minimal access surgery continues to grow in popularity since it requires smaller incisions," Duppler says. "Recovery times are much shorter, allowing patients to get back to their day-to-day lives sooner."

Close to Home

The FVSA practice is based primarily at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center—Appleton, ThedaCare's largest hospital, with 147 beds and the most subspecialists in the system. The group also provides surgical services at St. Elizabeth Hospital. Through all partner facilities, more than 250,000 people have access to FVSA subspecialists.

"Access to medical treatment close to home relieves patients and their families of a considerable amount of stress," Duppler confirms. "It also increases the likelihood that patients will follow through with their prescribed courses of treatment."

The group's six midlevel providers—four advanced practice nurse prescribers and two certified physician assistants—provide patients even greater access to medical professionals as well as improve the continuity of care for those with more complex diagnoses or who are under the supervision of multiple doctors.

"With the partnerships we have formed in the last couple of decades, Fox Valley Surgical Associates can touch the lives of more patients than ever," says Duppler. "To ensure we can continue to do so while providing the care each patient deserves, we expect to onboard several new physicians to our practice. We plan by 2019 to have at least 12 subspecialists contributing to the improved health and well-being of patients throughout Wisconsin's Fox Valley."



Fox Valley Surgical
ASSOCIATES