

For Immediate Release

Jan. 20, 2009

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## **SAINT FRANCIS NAMES CHIEF OF CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY**

*Thomas A. Schwann, M.D., To Fill Post*

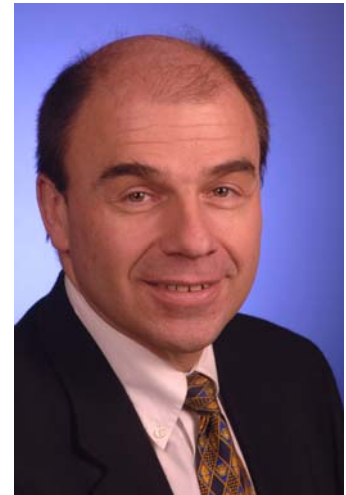
(HARTFORD, Conn.) – Thomas A. Schwann, M.D., of Farmington, has been named Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Vice Chairman of Surgery for Quality at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center.

Dr. Schwann served for ten years as Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Saint Vincent Mercy Medical Center, Toledo, Ohio, and held an appointment as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at the University of Toledo Medical Center.

He received his undergraduate degree summa cum laude from Columbia College at Columbia University, New York, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and the Phi Lambda Epsilon Chemistry Honor Society. Dr. Schwann received his medical degree from the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, and served as an intern and resident in general surgery and a fellow in cardiothoracic surgery at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

A diplomate of the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, Dr. Schwann is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the American College of Cardiology and the American College of Chest Physicians. He is a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgery, International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery, The Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education and the American Medical Association.

Dr. Schwann has published more than 45 articles in professional journals and served as a co-investigator in multiple clinical research trials. Dr. Schwann completed The Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University as part of the Alley-Sheridan Scholarship. He previously



served as a Captain in the United States Army Reserve Medical Corps and was attached to the 455<sup>th</sup> General Hospital, Providence, R.I.

Dr. Schwann's clinical interests are minimally invasive techniques in cardiac surgery with particular emphasis on application of robotic technology to valvular and cardiac artery bypass graft surgery. In addition, he has extensive experience in radial artery utilization as a means of maximizing arterial grafting and thus optimizing durability of coronary reconstruction. His work with radial arteries was honored by selection for presentation in the prestigious *The President's Choice Forum* of the 2007 Annual Conference of the European Association of Cardiothoracic Surgeons in Geneva.

"Dr. Schwann is both a distinguished surgeon and academician. Thanks to the breadth of his experience, he will make a significant contribution to the continued advancement of cardiovascular services at Saint Francis," said Christopher M. Dadlez, President and Chief Executive Officer.

"Dr. Schwann has amassed an impressive track record in the course of his stellar career. We anticipate that he will provide the dynamic leadership that will advance our already renowned cardiovascular program to the next level of clinical excellence," said Rolf Knoll, M.D., Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs.

Founded in 1897, Saint Francis is a major teaching hospital licensed for 617 acute inpatient beds and 65 bassinets. It is the largest Catholic hospital in New England.