

RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL

A Lifespan Partner

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Media Contact:

Andrea Barbosa

(401) 444-6863

abarbosa@lifepan.org

“Physician of the Year” Awarded to Michael Ehrlich, MD

PROVIDENCE – The Rhode Island Hospital medical staff presented its annual Milton Hamolsky Outstanding Physician Award to orthopedist Michael G. Ehrlich, MD, for his contributions to his patients, students and the hospital. The award is the highest honor the Rhode Island Hospital medical staff bestows on one of its own.

Ehrlich, a resident of Providence, RI, has been a physician at Rhode Island Hospital and its Hasbro Children’s Hospital for more than 15 years. He is the surgeon-in-chief of the Department of Orthopedics at Rhode Island Hospital/Hasbro Children’s Hospital, as well as The Miriam Hospital.

For nearly two decades, Ehrlich has received national recognition for his work with handicapped children, performing procedures to help them to walk for the first time. He also performed the first-of-its-kind procedure on a 9-year-old boy, growing bone in the child’s leg to avoid amputation. He is currently involved in a research project funded by the Department of Veteran Affairs to restore arm and leg function in amputee soldiers from the Iraq war.

Ehrlich serves as the Vincent Zecchino professor and chairman of the Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation at Brown Medical School. Before joining Rhode Island Hospital, Ehrlich was the chief of pediatric orthopaedics at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School for 18 years.

“It has been an honor for me work with the people of Rhode Island to have helped build one of the greatest departments of orthopedics in the nation,” says Ehrlich. “It’s leading edge technology is recognized by the fact that it is one of the top ten orthopedic departments in the nation in terms of support from the National Institutes of Health and other granting agencies. It has also been

recognized by Child Magazine as one of the top ten pediatric orthopedics centers in the country. I strongly feel that the people of Rhode Island are entitled to this first class care.”

The Hamolsky Outstanding Physician Award is presented annually to a physician who has made exceptional contributions to medicine, medical education and research, who has demonstrated leadership, and has been an exemplary role model, in honor of the physician for whom the award is named. Dr. Hamolsky, now retired, came to Rhode Island Hospital in 1963 and served as the first full-time physician-in-chief. He is also the retired chief administrative officer of the Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline and pioneer of medical education in Rhode Island.

Founded in 1863, Rhode Island Hospital (www.rhodeislandhospital.org) is a not-for-profit, 719-bed facility and the largest of the state’s acute care hospitals. It is a major trauma center for Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts and is the largest teaching hospital of Brown Medical School. The hospital provides comprehensive diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical services to inpatients and outpatients, with particular expertise in cancer, cardiology, diabetes, orthopedics and minimally invasive surgery, as well as pediatrics at its Hasbro Children’s Hospital. Many of its 1,200 physicians are recognized as leaders in their field. Rhode Island Hospital is home to the New England Gamma Knife Center and the largest kidney transplant program in New England. Rhode Island Hospital is a founding member of the Lifespan health system.

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