

# Meet Daniel Glunk, MD

Interim President, UPMC Cole and  
UPMC Wellsboro



## **Tell us a little bit about yourself.**

I have been a member of this community since 1960. I was born in Wellsboro, moved away, but eventually found my way back. Before UPMC was UPMC, I began my internship at UPMC Presbyterian and spent two years at Shadyside before its merger with UPMC Presbyterian. I moved back here, and I've been practicing internal medicine in Williamsport since 1989. Recently, I have taken on the responsibilities as the interim president of UPMC Wellsboro and UPMC Cole as well as the Chief Quality Officer for UPMC in north central Pa., and I am still seeing patients.

## **UPMC Cole and UPMC Wellsboro are Critical Access Hospitals. Why is this important for these communities?**

The Critical Access Hospital designation means a hospital is located more than 35 miles from the nearest hospital, has no more than 25 inpatient beds, has 24-hour emergency care services 7 days a week, and maintains an average length of stay of 96 hours or less for acute inpatient care.

I spent about a decade of my life in organized medicine. I was the chair of the Board and President of the Pennsylvania Medical Society. During my time, I made sure to advocate for rural health. I have a passion for making sure that the people of our Northern Tier get the same high level of care that we deliver in all our UPMC hospitals and communities. Growing up in Appalachia, I understand the challenges that come along with trying to do that.

Because of the Critical Access Hospital designation for both UPMC Wellsboro and UPMC Cole, we find this an extra benefit to helping us deliver that high level of care. We are able to provide patients with essential care, efficiently and effectively. If you need care for a serious infection, our team follows best practices to provide rapid treatment. UPMC Wellsboro is certified by The Joint Commission as an Acute Stroke Ready Hospital, meaning we provide immediate stroke care in those crucial moments following a stroke. Our connection to UPMC Williamsport and its Level II Trauma Center accreditation allows us to provide life-saving trauma care in our emergency departments with transfers to Williamsport.

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## What are the key services at UPMC Wellsboro and UPMC Cole?

It can be difficult to access advanced services in many rural areas. One service in particular that can be a challenge to access is maternity care. We offer women's services at both UPMC Cole and UPMC Wellsboro, and recognize that there are maternity deserts not too far away, so it is of the utmost importance that we maintain and enhance that care.

We also have the Hillman Cancer Center at both hospitals that provide medical treatment for those patients who have cancer. We're able to leverage the knowledge and skills that come along with a world-class cancer center.

Our other service offerings include orthopaedic care, surgical services, and physical, occupational, and speech therapies. We are always looking to expand these services to serve our patients and community even better.

## Why should the community choose UPMC?

Nothing is more important than making sure our patients get the right care at the right time in the right way — every time. Our dedicated doctors, nurses, and staff constantly review our processes for continual improvement, introducing new ideas and implementing best practices to enhance UPMC's already excellent record of care. We are committed to keeping patients safe while they receive care at any of our facilities — in the hospital, in the emergency room, in our skilled nursing facilities, or in their doctor's office. At UPMC Wellsboro and UPMC Cole, we are committed to having zero pressure ulcers, falls, hospital acquired infections. Our infection prevention outcomes meet or are better than the national standards.

We know being local helps support the needs of our communities. If there is a more complicated treatment or procedure that's needed, we can and will get them where they need to be, whether that is Williamsport or Pittsburgh. That's the beauty of being in a system like UPMC.



**I am an advocate for rural health and have a passion for making sure that the people living in the northern tier receive the same high level of care that we deliver in all our UPMC hospitals.**

## What other UPMC services are available in the community?

In the UPMC Cole region, we have an extensive network of primary care offices. We also have rural health care clinics in this region where patients can access lab and imaging services, as well as orthopaedics and rehabilitation.

Around UPMC Wellsboro, we have our specialty offices on the hospital campus, as well as family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatric services nearby. At the Mansfield Outpatient Center, patients have access to heart and vascular, lab and imaging services, neurosurgery, orthopaedics, and rehabilitation.

## What does UPMC mean to you?

Being a part of UPMC is being able to deliver a higher level of care to those who need it. I remember the discussion of deciding who we, at the time, were going to join as a health care system. The appeal of UPMC to me was that it wasn't just a health care system, but also an insurance company and its access to cutting edge knowledge and technology. Knowing we would be able to translate this knowledge and expertise into improving the health of the people we serve right here is very exciting to me.