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Medical center lands at JFK

Airport opens onsite health clinic for its 50,000 workers and the occasional passenger with chest pains. Look! An isolation room for ebola outbreaks!

By [Hilary Potkewitz](#)

Published: August 5, 2010 - 12:49 pm

After a year and a half in limbo, John F. Kennedy International Airport's medical center reopened last month in a newer, bigger facility.

Called JFK Advanced Medical, the 5,000-square-foot office, located in Building 75 of the airport's cargo area, is open to the public but serves mainly as a health clinic for the airport. Between airline employees, ground crews, ticket agents, security personnel, tenants and vendors, about 50,000 people work at JFK.

"It's really its own city," David Rosenthal, the clinic's manager, said of the airport. His practice is the nearest emergency room serving the 45 million passengers who fly through the hub every year.

JFK Advanced Medical had a clinic at the airport for more than a decade, first privately managed, and then run by Mary Immaculate Hospital and St. John's Hospital. When the hospitals filed for bankruptcy about two years ago, the clinic was forced to close.

Mr. Rosenthal and his colleagues have spent the last year and a half building a new facility, this time affiliated with Jamaica Hospital Medical Center. "It's a more robust medical center than we've had before," said a spokesperson for the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, which owns and operates JFK.

With three doctors on staff—covering internal medicine, neurology and orthopedics—as well as several physical therapists and lab technicians, the clinic is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition to basic urgent care, the staff specializes in travel medicine such as immunizations, screenings, and drug and alcohol testing. They handle the annual physical exams for pilots as required by the Federal Aviation Administration and work with immigration services when there are medical issues.

The facility also has an isolation room, which could come in handy during the next outbreak of SARS or avian flu.

About 80% of the clinic's patients work at the airport, said Mr. Rosenthal. The most common complaints are shoulder injuries, lower back or neck pain, and of course people getting hit in the head with baggage—it is an airport, after all.

"We're not cracking open chests, but we do stitches for lacerations and have a crash cart," Mr. Rosenthal said. "We treat a lot of people coming in with chest pains." The team was recently called to a terminal for a passenger having an anxiety attack.

Anything requiring surgery, however, would get shuttled to nearby Jamaica Hospital. The clinic also works with Brookdale University Hospital and Flushing Hospital Medical Center.

The clinic is developing an Employee Assist Program which, in addition to providing support for employees dealing with addiction, offers anger-management counseling. That no doubt comes in handy when dealing with JFK travelers.

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JFK opens new medical center

5,000-square-foot facility boasts multiple rooms, staff of 20 professionals

BY IVAN PEREIRA

With hundreds of thousands of travelers, airline workers and other visitors using John F. Kennedy International Airport every

day, there are countless health risks faced by people at the airport, according to Dr. Manuel Ceja.

"It's like a small city here," he said. "There is a whole different side of medicine that people

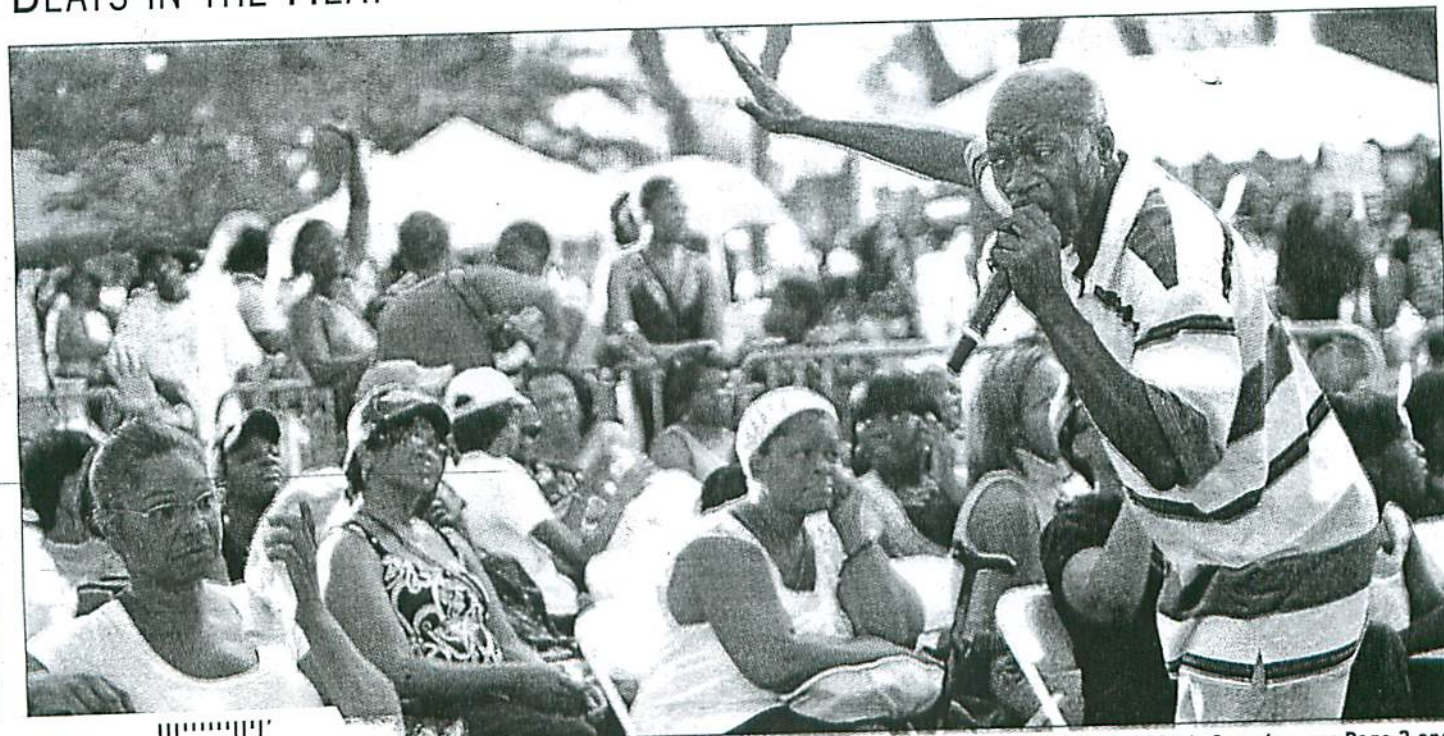
don't see."

A new medical facility located within the airport is designed to alleviate the problem by giving JFK users quick access to basic health needs. The 5,000-square-foot center that opened last week

at the airport's Building 75 has the latest technology for treating all sorts of ailments related to several fields, including occupational therapy, orthopedics and neurology.

Continued on Page 16

BEATS IN THE HEAT



crowd during his performance at the 5th Annual Gospel Fest in Baisley Pond Park. See story on Page 2 and Photo by Christina Santucci

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murder

the police came. The woman was not d as of press time, investigators released features of the victim lp with tracking down identity. She was ded as a black woman er 20s, 5 feet 4 inches and approximately 110 lbs. The victim was found ring a black T-shirt and n stretch pants, ac-

cording to police. She also had two tattoos, investigators said.

One was the name "Zoe" with two footprints on her lower right arm and the other was the word "Libra" on the right side of her chest, according to investigators.

This is the seventh murder to take place this year within the 113th Precinct's jurisdiction, according to recent NYPD statistics. Overall crime in the area has increased nearly

2.5 percent with 1,032 reported crimes this year compared to 1,007 in 2009, police stats show.

Anyone with information is urged to call Crimestoppers at 1-800-577-TIPS, text their tips to 274637 then enter TIP577 or log on to nypdcrimestoppers.com. All reports will be kept confidential.

Reach reporter Ivan Pereira by e-mail at iper-eira@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4546.

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Med center opens

Continued from Page 1

Ceja, the medical director of the facility, has worked for years as a senior medical examiner for the Federal Aviation Administration and said having a facility within the airport is crucial because it is an important lifeline for the city's commerce.

"It's a 24-hour operation and there are working people who are in the airport, so problems occur all the time," he said.

The medical center has a staff of 20 medical professionals from doctors and nurses to mental health specialists. It boasts seven medical exam rooms, an audiology room and a small emergency room used for dealing with small traumas.

The facility is equipped with state-of-the-art technology used to speed up the physicians' work, according to Dr. Raymond Kayume, the practice manager for the center. One of the advanced tools is the digital X-ray machine that does not waste time processing film.

"It has been built from

the ground up to fit the needs of the community," Kayume said.

The center is open to patients who do not frequent the airport as well, according to administrators. After Mary Immaculate Hospital in Jamaica closed down last year, southeast Queens residents have been searching for a strong medical facility to fit their needs and the JFK center can fill some of that void, according to Kayume.

"If someone is traveling [overseas], they might need shots so they can come here to get it," he said.

The center is affiliated with MediSys Health Network, the parent company of Jamaica, Flushing and Peninsula hospitals, and Kayume said his staff would use that partnership to help patients.

"Since Jamaica Hospital is the closest, if there is an emergency and we can't handle it here, we'll send it to Jamaica," he said.

Reach reporter Ivan Pereira by e-mail at iper-eira@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4546.

Gospel fest

Continued from Page 2

nity's artists.

"It's outdoors, it's fun and it's all about friends," she said.

State Assemblyman William Scarborough (D-St. Albans), who was also on hand for the show, agreed. The elected official said the program has been growing in popularity over the last half decade because of the great sounding tunes.

"Every year I come out here and they have good acts. People seem to come in, see it and embrace [Gospel Fest]," he said.

Clemency Cooke, who lives in Brooklyn, ventured out to Baisley Pond Park with her friend, Lucy Herbert of Manhattan, to catch the acts. Cooke, who like her friend is originally from England, said it was her first time to visit the southeast Queens greenspace and that she enjoyed the decor along with the soul music.

"This place seems very nice," she said. "It's nice to go to somewhere new that you don't know about."

Reaching by e-mail at inereira@cn-

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THURSDAY, JULY 29, 2010

Medical Facility Opens At JFK Airport



General Manager of JFK Airport Gerry Spomponato cuts the ribbon at JFK Advanced Medical as Assemblyman William Scarborough (left) and Dr. Raymond Kayume and Dr. David Rosenthal (right) look on.

By Eric Yun

JFK Advanced Medical held a grand opening ceremony for a new 4,800 square-foot facility at John F. Kennedy Airport. The ribbon cutting celebrated the opening of the facility, which occurred several weeks ago, and commemorated JFK Advanced Medical's new partnership with the MediSys Health Network, which includes Jamaica and Flushing Hospitals.

At the ceremony, Dr. David Rosenthal, Practice Manager of JFK Advanced Medical, thanked the community and airport staff for supporting the facility. He also thanked his employees for "making

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THE QUEENS COURIER/Photo by Ken Maldonado
Cutting the ribbon at the opening of JFK Advanced Medical, a multidisciplinary center located inside JFK International Airport, were Assemblymember William Scarborough, General Manager of JFK Airport, Gerry Spomponato, and Practice Managers Dr. Raymond Kayume and Dr. David Rosenthal.

JFK Advanced Medical opens inside airport

A new facility offering a wide range of health care services has opened to serve the community.

JFK Advanced Medical is a multidisciplinary center located inside JFK International Airport. It offers not only the community, but also airport employees, employers and visitors, a wide range of services including general medical services, occupational therapy, orthopedics, neurology, chiropractic services, as well as substance abuse and anger management counseling. The center also offers a secure medical center inside the airport and provides a response system for developing emergencies and potential terrorist events.

The spacious 4,800-square-foot facility boasts an on-site emergency room, seven exam rooms, and audiology treatment area and other diagnostic and drug testing amenities. JFK Advanced Medical is also affili-

ated with the MediSys Health Network (Jamaica Hospital Medical Center and Flushing Hospital Medical Center) and all the world-class services it has to offer, including imaging technology, cardiovascular, pulmonary and other services.

JFK Advanced Medical opened its doors only recently, but its staff has been providing expert care for much longer. The well-credentialed staff has many years of experience providing quality health care in the airport. Practice Managers Dr. Raymond Kayume and Dr. David Rosenthal have worked in the airport for over 10 years and have a large patient base. Medical director Dr. Manuel Ceja is a senior aviation medical examiner with credentials ranging from medical review officer to FAA safety counselor.

To learn more about JFK Advanced Medical, call 718-656-9500.

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Monday, July 26, 2010

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Monday, July 26, 2010 2:30 PM EDT

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THE QUEENS COURIER/Photo by Ken Maldonado
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To learn more about JFK Advanced Medical, call 718-656-9500.

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New medical center opens at Kennedy Airport

By Ivan Pereira
Thursday, July 29, 2010 12:11 PM EDT



State Assemblyman William Scarborough (from l.), Jerry Spanphonato, the general manager of JFK Airport, Dr. Raymond Kayume, practice manager of the new medical center at the airport, and Dr. David Rosenthal, another practice manager, cut the ribbon to the new facility. Photo by Christina Santucci

from doctors and nurses to mental health specialists. It boasts seven medical exam rooms, an audiology room and a small emergency room used for dealing with small traumas.

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"Since Jamaica Hospital is the closest, if there is an emergency and we can't handle it here, we'll send it to Jamaica," he said.

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August 03, 2010

Flushing Hospital Remembers Dr. Joseph Pennisi



On July 16, Flushing Hospital hosted a morning of remembrance for Dr. Joseph Pennisi, former Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Acknowledging his dedication to Flushing Hospital, his family presented the facility with a plaque in his honor.

"Dr. Pennisi was a kind and generous mentor, who befriended me at the start of my affiliation with the hospital" explained Dr. John Pellettieri, Vice Chairman of Flushing Hospital's OB/GYN Department. "He wholeheartedly enjoyed his work and was a great example to those under his leadership."

Dr. Pennisi began his commitment to Flushing Hospital in 1956, when he was accepted into the OB/GYN residency program. Once completed, he joined the staff as a voluntary attending, serving on several committees, most notably as Chairman of the Credentials Committee and President of the Medical Board. For the next 20 years, he would serve as the Chairman of the department, before passing away in 2009.

The event was attended by Dr. Pennisi's family, David Rosen, President and CEO of Flushing Hospital, Bruce Flanz, Executive Vice President and COO of Flushing Hospital, and several members of the OB/GYN Department, including Dr. Allan Jacobs, Chairman of the OB/GYN Department and Dr. John Pellettieri, Vice-Chairman of OB/GYN Department.

Posted on August 03, 2010 at 11:48 AM | [Permalink](#)

July 30, 2010

MediSys Health Network and JFK Medical Brings Healthcare to Airport



JFK Advanced Medical, the newest affiliate of the MediSys Health Network, held a ribbon cutting ceremony on July 21 to celebrate the opening of the new medical center. The 4,800 square foot facility offers a wide range of services to airport employees, employers, visitors, and the community. Its list of services include physical therapy, orthopedics, occupational health services, neurology, chiropractic services, substance abuse, management counseling, and general medical services, to name a few. The center also provides a response system for developing emergencies and potential terrorist events.



"We are happy to support the physicians at JFK Advanced Medical with services not offered on-site and we welcome them into the MediSys family," said Fred Beekman, Vice President of Ambulatory Care for the MediSys Health Network. "It should prove very beneficial to the airport community and the Queens community in general."

The spacious medical center boasts an on-site emergency room, seven exam rooms, and an audiology treatment area, along with other diagnostic and drug testing amenities. Though the facility opened a few weeks ago, the airport medical staff has been providing quality healthcare in the airport for over 10 years.

Posted on July 30, 2010 at 12:15 PM