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**WEST BOCA MEDICAL CENTER ANNOUNCES NEW PELVIC FLOOR  
MEDICINE PROGRAM**

*New Pelvic Floor Medicine program led by Dr. Amir Shariati, fellowship trained urogynecologist, to improve quality of life for women suffering from pelvic floor disorders*

**BOCA RATON, Fla. – March 8, 2011** — According to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, an estimated one-third of all U.S. women are affected by one type of pelvic floor disorder in her lifetime. With the prevalence of pelvic floor disorders on the rise, West Boca Medical Center developed a new Pelvic Floor Medicine program to meet the specific health needs of women in its local community. The new program led by Dr. Amir Shariati, urogynecologist, offers specialized urogynecological services to patients suffering from symptoms related to pelvic floor disorders, such as urinary incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse.

“West Boca Medical Center is pleased to now offer specialized urogynecological services to patients in our community,” said Mitch Feldman, CEO, West Boca Medical Center. “We welcome Dr. Shariati to our team at West Boca Medical Center, and look forward to developing this program at our hospital.”

The term “pelvic floor” refers to the group of muscles that support the opening of a woman’s pelvis. These muscles and their surrounding connective tissues keep pelvic organs functioning correctly by holding them in place. When these muscles or connective tissues weaken or become injured, a pelvic floor disorder can result. Patients commonly develop pelvic floor issues after childbirth or a hysterectomy, and many are not aware that treatment options are available.

The Pelvic Floor Medicine program at West Boca Medical Center offers a full array of treatment options for: urinary and fecal incontinence; pain during urination or intercourse; urinary urgency and frequency; recurrent bladder infections; pelvic organ, uterine, and vaginal

vault prolapse; cystocele; rectocele; enterocele; constipation; chronic pelvic pain; and pelvic floor muscle dysfunction.

West Boca Medical Center's full continuum of pelvic floor disorder care even includes a unique and highly specialized rehabilitation program. Physicians and physical therapists, which are specifically trained in pelvic floor rehabilitation and women's health, collaborate to provide individualized evaluation and treatment planning. Physical therapy treatments incorporate exercise and strengthening to improve pelvic floor muscle function. Each pelvic floor therapy session is generally one hour, and the length of treatment depends on the severity of the pelvic floor condition and each patient's individual medical needs.

For patients that need surgical intervention, West Boca Medical Center offers minimally invasive pelvic floor surgical techniques, including the advanced da Vinci® Robotic Surgical System.

Dr. Shariati earned his M.D. from the Medical College of Georgia and completed his female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery fellowship at Indiana University Health Methodist Hospital.

#### **About West Boca Medical Center**

West Boca Medical Center, part of Tenet South Florida, is a 195-bed acute care hospital located at 21644 State Road 7 in Boca Raton, Florida. West Boca Medical Center has been serving the medical and healthcare needs of its community and surrounding areas for over 20 years.

West Boca Medical Center offers a broad array of services, including general medical and surgical care, orthopedics and sports medicine, a robotic surgery program offering minimally invasive surgery for gynecological, urological and general surgical procedures, a state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging center featuring open MRI and digital mammography, cardiac and surgical intensive care, outpatient surgery services, 24-hour emergency services for adults and children, diabetes education, a cystic fibrosis program for adults and children, outpatient rehabilitation services and a specialized sleep diagnostic center with a dedicated lab for infants and pediatrics as well as adults. West Boca Medical Center is also a Certified Primary Stroke Center, and received the 2010 American Stroke Association/American Heart Association's *Get With The Guidelines*-Stroke Bronze Performance Achievement Award, and the *Get With The Guidelines*-Heart Failure Silver Performance Achievement Award.

The hospital also offers several specialties, including a level III neonatal intensive care unit, the BirthCare Pavilion, a pediatric unit and a pediatric intensive care unit. It is also a recipient of the HealthGrades Maternity Care Excellence Award five years in a row (2006-2011). In addition, HealthGrades has ranked West Boca's maternity program among the top 5% five percent in the nation for four years in a row (2007-2011).

The hospital is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on the accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the nation's oldest and largest hospital accreditation agency. For more information about West Boca

Medical Center or for physician referral, call 866-904-WBMC (9262) or visit the website at [www.westbocamedctr.com](http://www.westbocamedctr.com).

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