



Bassett neurosurgeon Mark Hornyak, MD, in the operating room.



Dr. Mark J. Hornyak



Dr. Larry R. Shannon

Neurosurgery Close to Home

Bassett's program is rare in rural America

Brain and spinal tumors are relatively rare. But if you or a loved one is ever diagnosed with a benign or malignant tumor, finding a skilled, experienced surgeon who can perform surgery with state-of-the-art technology is crucial. Equally essential—but often not thought of until after surgery—is the proximity of your surgeon and other rehabilitative services you may need.

Bassett Healthcare Network offers this expertise and technology in a mostly rural community. “It is quite rare to find a neurosurgery program in a rural region of the United States, and even more remarkable to have such a highly skilled and experienced team of specialists,” explains Reginald

Knight, MD, president of the medical staff for Bassett Healthcare Network.

According to the New York State Department of Health, about 1,350 men and women in the state are newly diagnosed with cancer of the brain or spine annually. Of the approximately 3,000 neurosurgeons in the U.S. available to surgically remove these

tumors, the vast majority practice in large, urban communities.

“It is not unusual for me to see a patient who has gone to another facility hours away for surgery who is now experiencing complications,” says Mark J. Hornyak, MD, chief of neurosurgery for Bassett Medical Center. “We see better outcomes and satisfaction for patients who have surgery close to the services they often need after surgery, as well as their home and family.”

Dr. Hornyak specializes in brain and spine tumor surgery. He completed a fellowship in skull base surgery and is board-certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery.

For benign (noncancerous) tumors, surgery is the primary remedy. Surgery, radiation treatment and chemotherapy are typically combined for malignant (cancerous) tumors that either originate in the brain or have spread to the brain from another location in the body.

“We have developed a complete neuro-oncology service line that provides the best, individualized care for each patient, from surgery, radiation and chemotherapy to nutritional counseling, social work and other support services,” Dr. Hornyak says. •

TALK TO A SURGEON

Mark J. Hornyak, MD, and neurosurgeon Larry R. Shannon, MD, see patients at Bassett Medical Center, Oneonta Specialty Services, Cobleskill Regional Hospital, Little Falls Hospital and Herkimer Health Center. For more information, call **607-547-3334** or **800-BASSETT (800-227-7388)**.



Bassett Healthcare Network

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