



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

From: Avita Health System  
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### **Retina Surgeries Now Available at Bucyrus Community Hospital**

BUCYRUS – January 12, 2012 – By partnering with Dr. John Christoforidis, Vitreo-Retinal Surgeon, from the Havener Eye Institute in Columbus, Ohio, retina surgery is now available at Bucyrus Community Hospital and complements the eye care services currently available, including cataract surgery.

The retina is an extremely thin tissue that lines the back, inside wall of the eye, and is often compared to the film of a camera. When light enters the eye through the cornea and lens, the retina reacts and sends nerve impulses along the optic nerve to the brain, which interprets them as a picture. However, just like pictures cannot be developed if a camera has defective film, clear vision is not possible in an eye with a defective retina.

Surgery is necessary if one develops a hemorrhage inside the eye or if there is a retina tear or a detachment of the retina from the back of the eye. Common symptoms of retinal tears or detachments are new floaters, flashes, shadows, or a decrease in vision.

“It isn’t uncommon for people to experience floaters or flashes,” comments Dr. Christoforidis. “However, if these conditions are noticeably different to you, or have you concerned, a safe bet is to have your eyes examined regularly. Prompt treatment often minimizes the damage to your eyes.”

Dr. Christoforidis completed his Retina Research Fellowship and Retina Clinical Fellowship at The Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary at Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts. Prior to this, he attended Medical School at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, and furthered his training through an Internship at Mount Carmel Medical Center in Columbus. He completed his Residency in Ophthalmology at Maryland General Hospital, in Baltimore, Maryland, and furthered his studies by completing a Fellowship at The National Eye Institute’s Ophthalmic Genetics and Clinical Services Branch in Bethesda, Maryland.

Patient consultations will be held in Avita’s Crestline Medical Office at 330 N. Seltzer Street, and retina surgery will be performed at Bucyrus Community Hospital. For more information about retina surgery or to schedule an appointment with Dr. Christoforidis, call 419-462-4537.

For more information on Avita Health System services, visit [www.avitahealth.org](http://www.avitahealth.org).

*\* Picture of Dr. John Christoforidis attached.*

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