

practice notes

August 2009

Dr. Moeller Joins Chickasaw Medical Clinic

Chickasaw Medical Clinic welcomes new physician **Derek Moeller, M.D.**, to Houston.

Dr. Moeller received his bachelor's degree in chemistry and zoology from the University of South Florida in Tampa. He completed his medical training in 1985 at the University of Florida College of Medicine in Gainesville, where he also completed his residency in internal medicine.

Prior to joining Chickasaw Medical Clinic, Dr. Moeller practiced at Access Family Health Clinic in Tupelo. He is board certified in internal medicine.

Dr. Arteta-Bulos Joins Calhoun County Medical Clinic

Calhoun County Medical Clinic welcomes new internal medicine physician **Rafael Arteta-Bulos, M.D.** He joins Paola Suarez, M.D., at the clinic.

Dr. Arteta-Bulos received his medical training and a master's degree in health policy in Lima, Peru. He completed his internal medicine residency at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Mich. Dr. Arteta-Bulos is board certified in internal medicine and is an associate member of the American Medical Association and the American College of Physicians.

Compliance Focus

Date and Time Medical Record Entries AND Limit Verbal Orders.

CMS (Medicare) and the Joint Commission have determined that the dating and timing of medical record entries and the limited use of telephone/verbal orders are of the utmost importance. We are describing these requirements and implementing the following monitoring programs to improve our compliance.

Date and Time Medical Record Entries.

EVERY entry (orders and notes by physicians, nurses and others) into the patient's medical record needs to be signed and accompanied by a date and time. This is a CMS and a Joint Commission requirement. Starting in late July, NMMC began auditing patient charts and notifying the physicians and staff members who have not dated or timed their entries. Beginning Aug. 24, penalties for non-compliance will be imposed.

Limit Verbal and Telephone Orders.

Verbal and telephone orders increase the risk of error and we need to reduce our use of them. Reserve verbal and telephone orders for urgent and emergent situations.

Physicians and other order givers:

NEVER give a verbal or telephone order when you have access to the patient's chart. Write the order yourself, or, better yet – use the computer to order it electronically. If you are in your office – write the order and fax it to the nurse. On-site you can dictate your orders to a nurse in your employ or assigned to you, as long as he/she signs it in the following manner: Jane Doe, RN, Scribe 7/20/09 0800 followed by the physician signing, dating and timing. You cannot dictate your orders to a staff nurse because it will be regarded as a verbal order.

Nurses and other order takers:

NEVER take a verbal or telephone order when the order giver has access to the patient's chart. As the situation allows, offer to procure the medical record and recommend the physician write the order. You may also want to write down a telephone order and then fax it to the physician for his/her signature, time and date.



NORTH MISSISSIPPI
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A monthly newsletter for physicians, certified nurse practitioners
and other health care professionals.

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NMMC Family Medicine Residency Center Welcomes New Residents

The North Mississippi Medical Center Family Medicine Residency Center is pleased to welcome six new residents.

Kevin Abel, M.D., graduated from Mississippi State University with a bachelor's degree in biological sciences. He received his medical training at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine, where he received the Henry O. Leonard Family Medicine Scholarship.

Alethea Barrino, M.D., graduated from Winston-Salem State University with a bachelor's degree in biology and minors in psychology and chemistry. She received her medical training at East Carolina University School of Medicine in Greenville. While in medical school, she was a member of the Student National Medical Association.

John Kanu, M.D., graduated from the University of Virginia with a bachelor's degree in biochemistry. He received his medical training at the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

Ben Kilman, M.D., graduated from Mississippi College with a bachelor's degree in biology. He received his medical training at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.

Amber Whitfield, M.D., graduated from Mississippi State University with a bachelor's degree in microbiology. She completed her medical training at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.

Arthur Wood, M.D., graduated from Mississippi College with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. He received his medical training at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.

NMMC Physicians Participate in IQH Discussion

Information and Quality Healthcare recently held its annual session. NMMC physicians Michael O'Dell, M.D., and Edward Hill, M.D., participated in a discussion on the federal stimulus package, drug safety and health information technology, along with other physicians from around the state.

Wages Receives Statewide Award

The Mississippi chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) recently presented **Gerald Wages, FACHE**, with the 2009 Senior Healthcare Executive of the Year.

Wages, North Mississippi Health Services' executive vice president for external affairs, received the award at the ACHE meeting held during the Mississippi Hospital Association's 78th Annual Leadership Conference. Wages is an ACHE fellow.

The ACHE award is presented annually to a healthcare executive with more than 20 years of healthcare experience who has made significant contributions toward the achievement of ACHE's goals and the advancement of healthcare management excellence.

Sarah Cannon Research Institute Partners with Digestive Health Specialists

Sarah Cannon Research Institute (SCRI), one of the largest clinical research programs in the nation, has signed an agreement with **Digestive Health Specialists** in Tupelo to become a SCRI strategic site.

Digestive Health Specialists will be the ninth strategic site in SCRI's non-oncology network.

"Digestive Health Specialists' commitment to increasing involvement in clinical research fits well with SCRI's goal to enhance our gastroenterology therapeutic initiative," SCRI's CEO Dee Anna Smith said. "Our partnership allows both organizations to increase the number and types of clinical trials offered in the Tupelo area."

At Digestive Health Specialists, seven physicians focus on gastrointestinal, liver and pancreatic diseases such as Crohn's disease, hepatitis and irritable bowel syndrome. "Our patients will benefit from access to more clinical trials and to the latest advancements in disease therapy," said Stephen Amann, M.D., physician and director of clinical research at Digestive Health Specialists.

As part of the agreement, SCRI will help manage quality assurance and regulatory compliance as well as provide information technology capabilities and support. In addition, the staff of Digestive Health Specialists will have access to SCRI's physician experts and clinical research team.

SCRI conducts community-based clinical trials in oncology, cardiology, gastroenterology and other therapeutic areas through affiliations with a network

of nearly 600 physicians in 25 states. Additionally, SCRI offers management, regulatory and other research support services to drug development sponsors and 15 strategic investigator sites across the country.

Acclaim P&T Committee Announces Tier Changes

During the July Acclaim P&T committee meeting, the following medications were added to Tier 2:

Avodart® for benign prostatic hyperplasia

Terximen® for migraines

Valtrex® for viruses

Avandia® for diabetes

Janumet® and Januvia® for diabetes

Enjuvia® for hormone replacement

IRB Approves, Renews Studies

The NMHS Institutional Review Board (IRB) currently oversees more than 90 biomedical and behavioral studies. The IRB meets monthly and the following studies were approved and renewed at the July meeting.

New Study:

A Phase III, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Parallel-group Trial of Linaclotide Administered Orally for 26 Weeks in Patients with Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation (MCP-103-302)

Investigators: Stephen Amann, M.D. (PI); Digestive Health Specialists

Summary: The purpose of this study is to test the safety and effectiveness of linaclotide in patients with irritable bowel syndrome with constipation.

Study Renewal:

LC Bead Registry for Unresectable Vascular Tumors of the Liver

Investigators: Julian Hill, M.D. (PI); Hematology and Oncology Associates; Jeffrey Howard, M.D.

Summary: The purpose of this research is to increase the understanding of patients with unresectable liver tumor(s) that are being treated with LC beads plus chemotherapy. Enrollment is open.





Continuing Medical Education

The CME Program is based in the NMMC Education Department and works to provide quality educational programming that will meet general as well as specific professional needs. Please call (662) 377-3826 or the Consult Line at 1-800-952-8101 if you have CME comments and/or suggestions. Select CME programs are by invitation only and are also subject to change. **Please RSVP upon receipt of invitation.**

August 14

Infection Control Conference

8 a.m., NMMC North Education Center
Cora B. Fields Auditorium
For more information, call (662) 377-3604.

August 20

Medical Ethics Committee

Challenges: Ethical Issues in the Emergency Department
Arthur Chambers, M.D., NMMC ED Medical Director
7:30 a.m., NMMC North Education Center

August 27-29

Aiming for the Best Outcomes 2009

6 p.m. Thursday, 8 a.m. Friday and Saturday
Pickwick Landing State Park
For more information, call (662) 377-3826.

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