

practice notes

December 2009

Exercise is Medicine

Have you prescribed a dose today? Call your local Wellness Center for more information on this national program being sponsored by the American College of Sports Medicine, the American Medical Association and the Medical Fitness Association.

Gray Matters Support Group

The **Gray Matters Support Group** is open to patients who have been diagnosed with brain tumors and their family members. It meets the last Tuesday of each month at the North Mississippi Medical Center Cancer Center, 990 S. Madison St. Call (662) 377-4049 for more information.

New Physician Recognition Program

NMMC is kicking off a new physician recognition program.

The **Physician Quality Recognition Program** is designed to recognize and commend our physician partners for providing high quality, evidence-based care to our patients. Physicians achieve recognition by demonstrating that they provide high quality care to this patient population via the application of “care bundles” more commonly known as the CMS core measures.

The core measure areas include:

- Acute myocardial infarction
- Heart failure
- Pneumonia
- Stroke

- Deep vein thrombosis prophylaxis
- Surgical Care Improvement Project, including:
 - Cardiac
 - General
 - Women’s Hospital

Physicians will be recognized quarterly and annually based on a minimum number of patients and the most currently available core measure data for all measures listed above. A cumulative score with each core measure set per physician will be used, and each category will have a recipient.

“Our physicians are working very hard to provide quality care, and this is a great way to reward them for that, as well as try to encourage them to keep striving for the best in each core measure,” said Karen Koch, director of NMMC’s Patient Focused Improvement Department.

NMMC Hospice Preparing Care Baskets

NMMC Hospice is currently accepting donations of items and funds to prepare **care baskets** for hospice patients and bereaved families throughout 14 counties in north Mississippi.

Hospice patients are those with a life-limiting illness whose life expectancy is measured in weeks or months, not years. Each December, the Hospice staff and volunteers compile and deliver 100-125 care baskets. Items requested include:

- Snack food items such as raisins, nuts, cookies, snack crackers and microwave popcorn
- Bottled water, hot chocolate and tea mix



NORTH MISSISSIPPI
MEDICAL CENTER

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

To submit information, call (662) 377-2371.



- Regular and sugar-free candy
- Personal care items such as shampoo, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpaste and individual packs of tissue
- Inspirational books, bookmarks, devotion books, music CDs
- Notepads, pens and pencils
- Handmade items (especially from children)
- Christmas ornaments or decorations
- Pill dispenser boxes
- Coffee mugs

The Hospice staff can also use monetary donations to purchase the containers, ribbon, tissue paper and other items for the care baskets.

Items may be delivered through Friday, Dec. 11, to the NMMC Hospice office located in President Plaza at 422A President St., Tupelo. For more information, call Chris Maynard or Jerry Grammer at (662) 377-3612 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375).

Compassionate Friends to Hold Candlelight Service

A **Compassionate Friends Candlelight Service** for families who have experienced the death of a child or grandchild is planned for 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, in the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 300 North Church St.

Families are invited to join others in this nationwide simultaneous service to remember these children during the Christmas season. A “remembrance table” will be in place for those who want to remember their child with a picture. Refreshments will be served.

For more information about the candlelight service, call First Baptist Church at (662) 842-1327. This service will replace the monthly Compassionate Friends chapter meetings held at NMMC hospitals in Tupelo and West Point.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward resolving grief following the death of a child of any age and to help others be supportive. Bereaved parents, siblings, grandparents and immediate family members are welcome to attend.

NMMC Behavioral Health Counselor Named Addiction Professional of the Year

Pat Baggett, addiction counselor at NMMC’s Behavioral Health Center, was recently named Mississippi’s Addiction Professional of the Year.

The Mississippi Association of Addiction Professionals (MAAP) is a certifying and training body for addiction professionals. The Katherine Turcotte Addiction Professional of the Year award is given each year to a certified chemical dependency counselor who continuously goes above and beyond to help patients with addictions.

Baggett has worked at the NMMC Behavioral Health Center for 24 years. She has extensive experience working with adolescents and adults with chemical dependence and adults with psychiatric problems. For more information on the NMMC Behavioral Health Center, visit www.nmhs.net/behavioral_health, or call 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375).

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 November meeting.

New Studies

Study: A Phase III, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study of the Safety and Efficacy of Two Doses of CP-690,550 in Patients with Active Rheumatoid Arthritis on Background Methotrexate with an Inadequate Response to TNF Inhibitors (A3921032)

Investigators: Charles King, M.D. (PI); IMA-Tupelo Rheumatology and Osteoporosis Center

Summary: The purpose of this study is to determine the safety and effectiveness of CP-690,550. CP-690,550 is hoped to 1) control disease activity; 2) improve symptoms; 3) allow subjects to keep up normal, everyday functions and activities; and 4) slow down joint damage.



Study: A Long-term, Open-label, Follow-up Study of CP-690,550, a Moderately Selective Janus-Kinase-3 Inhibitor, for Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis (A3921024)

Investigators: Charles King, M.D. (PI); IMA-Tupelo Rheumatology and Osteoporosis Center

Summary: This is an extension study to the previous study. The purpose of this study is to determine the long-term effectiveness and safety of CP-690,550 for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.

Study: A Phase III, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Multicenter Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of Budesonide Foam (2 mg/25 ml BID for Two Weeks, Followed by 2 mg/25 ml QD for Four Weeks) versus Placebo in Subjects with Active Mild to Moderate Ulcerative Proctitis or Proctosigmoiditis (BUCF3002)

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

Summary: The purpose of this study is to determine the safety and effectiveness of budesonide foam applied rectally as compared to placebo.

Study: MOBILITY – A Prospective, Non-randomized, Two-arm, Multicenter Clinical Trial to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of the Absolute Pro Peripheral Self-expanding Stent System and the Omnilink Elite Peripheral Balloon-expandable Stent System in Subjects with Atherosclerotic DeNovo or Restenotic Lesions in the Native Common Iliac Artery and/or Native External Iliac Artery (08-107)

Investigators: Barry Bertolet, M.D. (PI); Cardiology Associates of North Mississippi

Summary: The purpose of this study is to determine if the two stent systems (Absolute Pro Peripheral Self-Expanding Stent System and Omnilink Elite Peripheral Balloon-Expandable Stent System) are safe and effective when used to treat a narrowing in the iliac artery.





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.**

December 10

Medial Ethics Committee

What are we Going to Do? Case Studies in Medical Ethics

The Rev. James Richardson and David Garrett

7:30 a.m., NMMC North Education Center

830 South Gloster
Tupelo, MS 38801



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