

# practice notes

January 2011

## Dr. John Phillips Elected Chairman of NMMC Medical Staff

Gastroenterologist **John Phillips, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.G.**, was recently elected chairman of the North Mississippi Medical Center medical staff for 2011.

Dr. Phillips earned a bachelor's degree in biology and a master's degree in microbiology from the University of Memphis, and a doctorate in molecular cellular biology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He completed his medical training at the University of Alabama School of Medicine.

He completed a residency in internal medicine at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester, Minn., where he also completed a gastroenterology fellowship. Dr. Phillips completed a post doctoral fellowship in the Department of Microbiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and a clinical investigator fellowship at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine Division of Gastroenterology.

He is board certified in internal medicine and gastroenterology, and is a member of the American Medical Association, the Mississippi Medical Association, the American Gastroenterological Association, the American Association for Study of Liver Diseases, the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) and several other medical societies. He is immediate past governor of the Mississippi chapter of the ACG. Dr. Phillips is a physician at Digestive Health Specialists.

## National Quality Committee Recertifies Health Link in Credentialing

**Health Link**<sup>®</sup>, a preferred provider organization offered through North Mississippi Health Services' Center for Business Health, has been awarded credentialing recertification from the National Committee

for Quality Assurance (NCQA), an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to measuring the quality of America's health care. Health Link's certification is based on a voluntary review of how the preferred provider organization ensures that its members are receiving high-quality care.

The NCQA credentialing process focuses on consumer protection and improvement in service to customers. Standards recognize that organizations that apply for certification have open access to networks, can improve service quality and utilize customized structures to meet purchaser needs.

Achieving credentialing certification from NCQA demonstrates that Health Link has the systems, processes and personnel in place to conduct utilization management and/or credentialing in accordance with the strictest quality standards.

## Hamilton Medical Clinic Welcomes New Doctor

Hamilton Medical Clinic welcomes **Doug Martin, D.O.**, new family medicine physician.

Dr. Martin received his bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He completed his medical training at the University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City, Mo., and his family medicine residency at the University of Tennessee Health Sciences.

Dr. Martin previously served as a physician in the United States Air Force. He is a member of the American Osteopathic Association, and is a board certified family physician.

Dr. Martin joins Drs. John Kerr and Cesar Romero, and Jeannie Miller, CRNP, at the clinic. Hamilton Medical Clinic is located at 1336 Military St. South.



**NORTH MISSISSIPPI  
MEDICAL CENTER**

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

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

Visit [www.nmhs.net/physicians\\_portal](http://www.nmhs.net/physicians_portal) to read this newsletter online.



## NMMC Wellness Center Earns Medical Fitness Certification

NMMC Wellness Center has recently been recognized as the first certified medical fitness facility in Mississippi by the Medical Fitness Association (MFA), the nation's leading organization dedicated solely to medically integrated fitness facilities. This certification is a significant step forward in the health of the entire community.

A 50,000-square-foot facility founded in 1989, the NMMC Wellness Center is the most comprehensive health and fitness facility in north Mississippi. All fitness instructors are specially trained, degreed and American College of Sports Medicine certified.

"We provide a degreed and certified staff during all hours of operation in the safest environment possible," Boerner said. "The guidelines that we set for ourselves are higher than they have to be."

## Maben Medical Clinic to Move to New Location

Maben Medical Clinic will be closed Jan. 6-7 before opening Jan. 10 in its new location at 49 Turner St.

Maben Medical Clinic has been at its current location, 798 Second Ave., for 16 years. The local clinic affiliated with North Mississippi Medical Clinics 14 years ago. Seeing patients at the clinic are Sue H. Simmons, M.D, and Kathy R. Johnson, CFNP.

Dr. Simmons is a graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Medicine. She completed her post graduate training at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Dr. Simmons is a member of the Mississippi State Medical Association, Prairie Medical Society and American Academy of Family Practice. She serves on the medical staff at NMMC-Eupora.

Johnson completed her undergraduate work and nurse practitioner training at Mississippi University for Women in Columbus. She is a member of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, the American Nurses Association and the Mississippi Nurses Association.

## Spirit to Kick Off New Year with Biggest Loser

NMMC's Spirit of Women will kick off the new year with "**Small Steps... Big Changes**" at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 27, at the Summit Center in Tupelo.

The guest speaker will be Helen Phillips, winner of the seventh season competition on NBC's hit show

"The Biggest Loser." At 48 years old, Phillips went from a size 22 to a size 2 and lost 54.47 percent of her body weight – breaking all The Biggest Loser's past six seasons' records for age and percentage of weight loss. Phillips believes it's never too late to change, claiming, "You can change your life even in the middle of it."

Phillips weighed in at 257 pounds when she stepped onto the ranch. After eight grueling months, she left 140 pounds lighter and with a wealth of knowledge on how to balance nutrition, fitness and real life at home.

Flirting with diabetes herself, Phillips was able to reverse the onset by making wise food choices and exercising. Because of her personal experience and a husband who has been battling diabetes for six years, Phillips has a strong interest in the disease. She put her husband on a diet and exercise program, and now he has lost 55 pounds, stabilized his blood sugar and requires no medication.

Phillips will speak about how taking small steps can lead to making big changes – which is the key to finding balance within healthy living and family responsibility.

Tickets are available online at [www.nmhs.net/spirit\\_of\\_women](http://www.nmhs.net/spirit_of_women).

## NMMC Plans Asthma Super Saturday for Children & Adults

NMMC-Iuka will host **Asthma Super Saturday** from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, at the hospital's Education Room, 1777 Curtis Drive.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. The event is free and will also feature light refreshments and door prizes. Participants are encouraged to bring their asthma medication.

For more information or to pre-register for Asthma Super Saturday, call (662) 423-4571 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375).

## Build-A-Bear Donates First 100 Bears

Bearemy, the Build-A-Bear Workshop Huggable Mascot, recently visited NMMC to deliver furry friends to pediatric patients. The bears were made by guests during the Build-A-Bear Workshop grand opening festivities at The Mall at Barnes Crossing and donated to NMMC's pediatric unit and the Le Bonheur Outreach Program specialty clinic as part of the store's "Stuffed with Hugs" program.



## 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 December meeting.

### New Studies

**Study:** *A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study to Investigate the Efficacy and Safety of GSK1605786A in the Treatment of Subjects with Moderately to Severely Active Crohn's Disease (CCX114151)*

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

**Summary:** The primary purpose of this study is to review the efficacy and safety of GSK0605785A in the treatment of subjects with moderate to severe active Crohn's Disease.

**Study:** *A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Parallel-group, Multinational Trial, to Assess the Prevention of Thrombotic Events with Ticagrelor Compared to Placebo on a Background of Acetyl Salicylic Acid (ASA) Therapy in Patients with History of Myocardial Infarction (D5132C00001)*

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

**Summary:** The purpose of this study is to determine if ticagrelor given twice daily in addition to aspirin therapy decreases the frequency of cardiovascular events.

**Study:** *A Phase IIb, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Trial Evaluating 16 and 24 Weeks of a Four-drug Regimen and 24 Weeks of a Three-drug Regimen of GS-9451, Peginterferon Alfa 2a (PEG, Pegasys) and Ribavirin (RBV, Copegus) with and without Tego buvir (GS-9190) Followed by Response Guided PEG and RBV in Treatment Naïve Subjects with Chronic Genotype 1 Hepatitis C Virus Infection (GS-US-196-0140)*

**Investigators:** John Phillips, M.D. (PI); Digestive Health Specialists

**Summary:** The purpose of this study is to identify patients who are most likely to respond to hepatitis C treatment and compare the study drug to standard of care in the treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus infection.

**Study:** *Subject Enrollment and Sample Acquisition Protocol for the ADVIA Centaur ELF Test Validation Studies (MCSA-Centaur-201002)*

**Investigators:** John Phillips, M.D. (PI); Digestive Health Specialists

**Summary:** The purpose of this study is to establish a repository of samples that will be used to evaluate the performance of Siemens ELF test, and may also be used for the development and evaluation of other diagnostic devices.

### Study Renewals

**Study:** *CRYSTAL AF – Cryptogenic Stroke and Underlying AF*

**Investigators:** Keith Kyker, M.D. (PI); Cardiology Associates of North Mississippi and Tupelo Neurology Clinic

**Summary:** The purpose of this study is to compare the continuous monitoring by the Reveal XT Insertable Cardiac Monitor to standard of care optimal medical treatment in subjects after diagnosis of cryptogenic stroke. Enrollment is open.

**Study:** *A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-blind, Parallel-group Study of the Safety, Remission and Prevention of Structural Joint Damage during Treatment with Tocilizumab (TCZ), as a Monotherapy and in Combination with Methotrexate (MTX), versus Methotrexate in Patients with Early, Moderate to Severe Rheumatoid Arthritis. (Protocol – WA19926)*

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

**Summary:** The purpose of this study is to assess the safety, disease remission and prevention of structural joint damage on treatment with tocilizumab as monotherapy or in combination with methotrexate, versus methotrexate in patients with early moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis. Enrollment is open.

**Study:** *A Golimumab Phase IIIb, Multicenter, Switch Assessment of Subcutaneous and Intravenous Efficacy in Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients who have Inadequate Disease Control Despite Treatment With Etanercept (ENBREL) or Adalimumab (HUMIRA) (Protocol – CNT0148ART3002).*

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

**Summary:** The purpose of this study is to assess the effects (good and bad) of golimumab for rheumatoid arthritis in patients previously treated with another tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitor. 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.** Visit [www.nmhs.net/physicians\\_portal/cme.php](http://www.nmhs.net/physicians_portal/cme.php) for more information.

**Jan. 14**

## Neuro/Radiology Case Studies

1 p.m., NMMC North Education Center, Room 7/8

**Jan. 20**

## Medical Ethics Committee

*Personal Privacy in Healthcare vs. Society's Right to Know*

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

**Jan. 28**

## Emergency Medicine and Trauma Conference

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., NMMC Cora B. Fields Auditorium

**Feb. 11**

## ACLS 1-Day Recertification

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., NMMC North Education Center

**Feb. 17**

## Medical Ethics Committee

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

[www.nmhs.net/physicians\\_portal](http://www.nmhs.net/physicians_portal)

Non Profit  
US Postage Paid  
North MS  
Medical Center  
38801

830 South Gloster  
Tupelo, MS 38801

