

practice notes

November 2010

NMMC & Cogent Announce New Affiliation for Hospitalist Practice

Cogent Healthcare recently announced a new affiliation with North Mississippi Medical Center.

“We are honored to be selected as the hospitalist partner for NMMC,” said Joanne Loeper, Cogent’s chief operating officer, Southeast. “NMMC is highly regarded nationally for its quality and service excellence. We look forward to collaborating with the well-established team to continue providing high quality care to the large region it serves.”

Cogent will lead and support the on-site comprehensive hospitalist services for NMMC, building on a program already in place. Common among all programs is Cogent’s System of Care that uniquely combines strong physician leadership with a constant measurement of performance indicators designed to demonstrate value to the hospital and benefit to patient care.

“Cogent truly understands the needs of our hospital and is willing to tailor its programs to meet those needs,” said Mark Williams, M.D., chief medical officer of NMMC. “Our arrangement with Cogent tightly aligns our organizations around key goals related to elevating quality and satisfaction, as well as reducing readmission rates. This partnership is reflective of NMMC’s main priority – providing access for our community to high quality, efficient healthcare.”

FMRC Chosen for Tobacco Cessation Pilot Project

North Mississippi Medical Center’s Family Medicine Residency Center was recently chosen to be part of the Mississippi Academy of Family Physicians Foundation Tobacco Cessation Pilot Project, funded by the Mississippi State Department of Health Office of Tobacco Control.

The new program encourages and teaches “Office Champions” to implement system changes to integrate tobacco cessation activities into daily office

routines. Ten family medicine practices, one in each of the MAFP’s 10 districts, were chosen for this project.

Saltillo Medical Clinic Welcomes New Doctor

Saltillo Medical Clinic is pleased to announce that **Richmond McCarty, D.O.**, has joined the clinic for the practice of family medicine.

Dr. McCarty, a Tupelo native, earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Mississippi and received his medical training from Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, where he was awarded a Health Professions Scholarship. He completed his internship at the Medical Center of Independence in Independence, Mo., and then went on to serve three years as a flight surgeon in the United States Air Force.

While on active duty, he was stationed at Beale Air Force Base in California, where he was deployed four times, and awarded the Air Force Commendation and Achievement Medal for his service.

Dr. McCarty completed his residency training at the NMMC Family Medicine Residency Center.

Calhoun County Medical Clinic Welcomes New Doctor

Calhoun County Medical Clinic welcomes new family practice physician **Ava Stegall, D.O.**

Dr. Stegall, who joins Paola Suarez, M.D., at the clinic, was a staff physician with the Florida Department of Health in the Florida Keys.

Dr. Stegall earned a bachelor’s degree in microbiology from Mississippi State University in Starkville, and completed her medical training at the University of Health Sciences in Kansas City, Mo., in 1985. She went on to complete a rotating internship at Humana Hospital of the Palm Beaches in West Palm Beach, Fla.

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 to read this newsletter online.



**NORTH MISSISSIPPI
MEDICAL CENTER**



She is board certified in family medicine, and is a member of the American Osteopathic Association and the American College of Osteopathic Family Practice.

Dan Warlick, M.D., Joins NMMC'S Advanced Wound Center and Hyperbarics

NMMC's Advanced Wound Center and Hyperbarics welcomes new physician **Dan Warlick, M.D.**

Dr. Warlick earned a bachelor's degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, Neb., and received his medical degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Medicine in Omaha, Neb.

He completed a flexible residency at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, and served a general surgery residency at Southwest Michigan Area Health Education Center in Kalamazoo, Mich. Dr. Warlick practiced general surgery for 24 years with a focus on advanced wound care for the last five years.

The center's mission is to improve the quality of life for patients with chronic wounds and to reduce the number of amputations and other chronic conditions associated with problem wounds. The center's approach is to accomplish the healing in partnership with medical providers, giving patients state-of-the-art care.

For more information, call (662) 377-2395 or 1-800-THE-DESK (1-800-843-3375).

CANM Employees Selected For National Committee

Cardiology of North Mississippi employees **Julie Bruce** of Blue Springs, a registered nurse and registered diagnostic cardiac sonographer, and **Karon Crowley** of Tupelo, a CT technologist, have been asked to serve on the Technologist and Nurses Committee for the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography (SCCT) from 2010-2013.

SCCT is the international professional society representing physicians, scientists and technologists advocating for research, education and clinical excellence in the use of cardiovascular computed tomography (CT).

NMMC to Host Live Well Health Fair at Tupelo Furniture Market

NMMC will host the 14th annual **Live Well Health Fair** from noon-7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 4, at the Tupelo Furniture Market, Building 1, 1879 N. Coley Rd.

NMMC and the District II Office of the Mississippi State Department of Health will give free seasonal flu shots. Pneumonia shots will be offered for \$60. Participants are asked to bring their Medicaid or Medicare card, if applicable, for the pneumonia shot.

A variety of free health screenings, including anxiety, blood pressure, glaucoma, depression, sleep apnea, peripheral vascular disease and body mass index will be available. A \$5 blood test is available to screen for total cholesterol (not a full lipid profile) and glucose (blood sugar). Hearing tests are available between noon and 4 p.m. for \$5.

For more information on the Live Well Health Fair, call (662) 377-3867 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375).

NMMC Employees Certified As Asthma Educators

Two respiratory therapists from NMMC have recently been certified as asthma educators. Pontotoc native **Sherry Fuqua** resides in Tupelo and is a respiratory therapist with NMMC's Women and Children's Services. **Angie Coggin** of Tupelo is also a respiratory therapist with NMMC's Women and Children's Services.

The certified asthma educators serve as a resource within the hospital and community. For more information, call 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375).

Dr. Ben Moore Retires From Pulmonary Consultants

After 30 years in practice, **Ben Moore, M.D.**, has retired from Pulmonary Consultants.

When Dr. Moore joined IMA Foundation and the medical staff at NMMC in 1980, he was the only pulmonary specialist in Mississippi north of Jackson. A native of Jackson, he had recently completed medical school at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine there, as well as residency training in internal medicine and a fellowship in pulmonary medicine.

As additional pulmonologists joined the practice, the group separated from IMA and became Pulmonary Consultants with its own location in NMMC's East Tower. Both clinics are affiliated with North Mississippi Medical Clinics. Earlier this year Pulmonary Consultants moved to a new facility on South Madison Street near NMMC.

Dr. Moore is board certified in internal medicine, pulmonary medicine and critical care medicine. Since October 2006 he and his partners have also served as



“intensivists,” providing 24-hour daily care to NMMC’s Critical Care Unit patients.

“I will miss seeing all my patients in both the office and hospital, but I know that I leave them in good hands,” Dr. Moore said. Pulmonary Consultants has eight pulmonologists and two certified nurse practitioners.

NMMC Plans Asthma Super Saturday for Children & Adults

NMMC will host **Asthma Super Saturday** from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 6, at the NMMC Women’s Hospital, 4566 S. Eason Blvd.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. Asthma education and entertainment will be provided for children. Education will also be offered for ages 13 and older, including parents of children with asthma.

The event is free and will also feature light refreshments and door prizes. For more information or to pre-register, call (662) 377-4706 or 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 October meeting.

New Studies

Study: *SOLID – TIMI 52 – The Stabilization of Plaques using Darapladib Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction 52 (SB-480848-033)*

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

Summary: The purpose of this study is to test the investigational drug, darapladib, and its effects on stabilizing plaque inside the arteries caused by acute coronary syndrome.

Study: *PREVAIL – Prospective Randomized Evaluation of the WATCHMAN LAA Closure Device in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation versus Long-term Warfarin Therapy (CT1004)*

Investigators: James Stone, M.D., (PI); Cardiology Associates of North Mississippi

Summary: This study will investigate the clinical benefit of the WATCHMAN left atrial appendage closure device versus gold standard Coumadin therapy for treatment of atrial fibrillation.

Study Renewals

Study: *A Randomized, Double-blind, Phase III Trial Comparing Docetaxel Combined with Dasatinib to*

Docetaxel Combined with Placebo in Castration-resistant Prostate Cancer (CA180-227)

Investigators: Christopher Croot, M.D., (PI); Hematology and Oncology Associates

Summary: To determine whether survival can be prolonged in patients with castration-resistant prostate cancer who receive dasatinib in addition to docetaxel and prednisone. Enrollment is open.

Study: *A Prospective, Multicenter, Randomized, Double-blind Trial to Assess the Effectiveness and Safety of 12 versus 30 Months of Dual Antiplatelet Therapy (DAPT) in Subjects Undergoing Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) with Either Drug-eluting Stent (DES) or Bare Metal Stent (BMS) Placement for the Treatment of Coronary Artery Lesions (IDE #G080186)*

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

Summary: The purpose of this study is to collect information about how dual anti-platelet therapy following a percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) keeps subjects free from death, heart attack, stroke, bleeding, blood clots and another PCI. Enrollment is open.

Study: *CHOICE – Carotid Stenting for High Surgical Risk Patients; Evaluating Outcomes Through the Collection of Clinical Evidence (06-717)*

Investigators: Vishal Sachdev, M.D., (PI); Barry Bertolet, M.D.; Amit Gupta, M.D.

Summary: The purpose of this study is to collect data about patients’ medical experiences and conditions following treatment of carotid stenosis using one of Abbott Vascular’s carotid stent systems and embolic protection systems. Enrollment is open.

Study: *ACCESS - Patent Foramen Ovale Closure with the Amplatzer PFO Occluder in Patients with Recurrent Cryptogenic Stroke due to Presumed Paradoxical Embolism through a Patent Foramen Ovale who have Failed Conventional Drug Therapy (AGA-011)*

Investigators: Barry Bertolet, M.D., (PI); Joseph Adams, M.D.

Summary: The Amplatzer PFO Occluder is a percutaneous, transcatheter occlusion device intended for the non-surgical closure of patent foramen ovale (PFO). The purpose of this registry is to allow access to the Occluder in subjects with a PFO who have already experienced at least two strokes due to presumed embolism passing through a patent foramen ovale and who have failed conventional drug therapy. 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 for more information.

November 1-2

Med-Surg Conference

Changing Treatments for Unchanging Problems

8 a.m., NMMC North Education Center

For more information, call Lana Burnett at (662) 377-3546.

November 4

PALS Course

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

NMMC North Education Center

\$25 for NMMC employees; \$120 for others

For more information or to register, call (662) 377-3421.

November 12

Oncology Conference

Cancers of the Reproductive System

8 a.m., NMMC North Education Center

For more information, call Tracie Conwill at (662) 377-3826.

November 18

Medical Ethics Committee

Ethical Dimensions of Dealing with a Defiant Patient

Renee Sutton, Director of Case Management

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

November 18-19

ACLS 2-Day Provider Course

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

NMMC North Education Center

\$25 for NMMC employees; \$120 for others

For more information or to register, call (662) 377-3421.

November 19

Neuro/Radiology Case Studies

Hunt Bobo, M.D., and Robert Becker, M.D.

1 p.m., NMMC North Education Center

December 9

Medical Ethics Committee

Medical Errors: A Question of Disclosure

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

December 15

ACLS 1-Day Recertification Course

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

NMMC North Education Center

\$25 for NMMC employees; \$120 for others

For more information or to register, call (662) 377-3421

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830 South Gloster
Tupelo, MS 38801



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