

practice notes

October 2011

NMMC Earns QRCR Recognition

North Mississippi Medical Center has earned **Quality Respiratory Care Recognition** (QRCR) under a national program aimed at helping patients and families make informed decisions about the quality of the respiratory care services available in hospitals. About 700 hospitals or approximately 15 percent of hospitals in the United States have applied for and received this award.

This is the fourth time NMMC has earned QRCR recognition. The program was started by the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) in 2003 to help consumers identify those facilities using qualified respiratory therapists to provide respiratory care. Hospitals earning the QRCR designation ensure patient safety by agreeing to adhere to a strict set of criteria governing their respiratory care services.

Hospitals that meet the QRCR requirements provide a level of respiratory care consistent with national standards and guidelines, and are committed to their quality care. A list of QRCR hospitals is maintained at the association's website for consumers, YourLungHealth.org.

The AARC is a membership organization representing more than 46,000 health professionals involved in respiratory care nationwide.

2010 Community Report

The **2010 Community Report** offers a snapshot look at how NMMC is fulfilling its mission to improve the health of the people of our 24-county region. The report shares specifics on how NMMC is helping people in its service area receive the care they need.

The report's contents reflect achievements within NMMC's Critical Success Factors: People, Service, Quality, Financial and Growth.

The easy-to-read report, available at www.nmhs.net/communityreport.php, provides an overview of accomplishments for its workforce, community outreach, charity care, quality initiatives, financial strength, new services and physician recruitment. Each page includes

a link to pages on our website, www.nmhs.net, for those who would like to learn more about the work in these areas

New Pediatrician Joins Children's Clinic

Children's Clinic welcomes new pediatrician **LaKesha Tables, M.D.**, to West Point.

Dr. Tables earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Saint Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, before pursuing her medical degree at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis. She completed a residency in pediatrics at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Dr. Tables practiced in Alexandria, La., and at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center and Regional Medical Center in Memphis prior to coming to West Point.

She joins Dr. Keith Watson and certified family nurse practitioner Keicia Lynn at the clinic. Children's Clinic is open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday at 720 Medical Center Drive. For appointment information, call (662) 494-1620 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375).

Tupelo Pathology Welcomes New Physician

Tupelo Pathology Group is pleased to announce that **Cohra Mankey, M.D.**, is joining their medical practice.

Dr. Mankey graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree from Boston University. She received her medical training at the University of Texas Southwestern. She then completed an anatomic and clinical pathology residency at the University of Michigan Health System, where she also completed fellowships in hematopathology and surgical pathology. She is a member of the American Society for Clinical Pathology and the College of American Pathologists.



**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 to read this newsletter online.



Premier Radiology Welcomes New Physician

Premier Radiology in Tupelo welcomes **Sandra Kochanski, M.D.**, to their practice.

Dr. Kochanski earned bachelor's degrees in psychology and biology, with a minor in chemistry, from University of Arkansas in Little Rock. She obtained her medical degree from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

She completed an internal medicine internship, as well as a diagnostic radiology residency at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. She completed a fellowship in neuroradiology at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, and another fellowship in breast imaging at Faulkner Sagoff Center in Boston, Mass.

She is board certified by the American Board of Radiology, and is a member of the American Medical Association and the American College of Radiology, among others. In 2000, she was named in the Top Three Doctors for Breast Care, and in the Top 50 Women who Make a Difference in Memphis by the Memphis Women's Journal

NMMC Hospice to Sponsor Seminar for Area Ministers

The NMMC Hospice program is sponsoring "**The Last Mile of the Way**" seminar Thursday, Sept. 29.

The seminar, which is primarily geared toward area ministers but is also offered to anyone interested in becoming a lay volunteer, will be held from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the NMMC Home Health and Hospice conference room, 422-A E. President St. A complimentary breakfast and lunch will be provided to participants.

"It is our hope that through this seminar area ministers will be encouraged to become NMMC Hospice volunteer chaplains," said Jerry Grammer, NMMC Hospice chaplain.

The seminar will offer insight and suggestions for providing spiritual care to terminally ill patients and their families who are struggling with death and dying faith issues. During the seminar, participants will discuss faith issues that the dying face, ways the dying express their fears and concerns, and common spiritual questions asked by the terminally ill and their families.

To register or for more information, contact Grammer at (662) 377-2144 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375).

14th Annual Susan G. Komen North Mississippi Race for the Cure

The 14th annual **Susan G. Komen North Mississippi Race for the Cure** will be held at 8 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 29, at Fairpark in downtown Tupelo and will include a 5K (3.1 mile) run and a one-mile Fun Run/Walk.

The Susan G. Komen for the Cure promise is to save lives and end breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality of care for all and energizing science to find the cure. Born in a promise between two sisters, Nancy Brinker to her sister, Susan G. Komen, who died from breast cancer at the age of 36, Komen for the Cure is the world's largest and most progressive grassroots network fighting to end breast cancer forever.

"Funds raised during the Komen Race for the Cure Series support the organization's promise to eradicate breast cancer as a life-threatening disease. Seventy-five percent of the net income from this Race stays in our community and is used to fund breast health education and breast cancer screening and treatment projects in 15 counties in northeast Mississippi," said Pam Hadley, Race chair. "Twenty-five percent of the net income supports Komen for the Cure's Award and Research Program to find a cure."

Advance registration is \$20 per person for the 1-mile Fun Run and 5K not scored, and "Sleep in for the Cure" runners who are unable to participate on Race day, and \$25 for the 5K electronically scored with chip devices. Beginning Oct. 26, registration fee will go up to \$30, with an additional \$5 for chip timing. Race day registration will be \$35 for the Fun Run or the 5K. Race day registrants are not eligible for chip timing. Registration is available online only at www.komennorthms.org.

While supplies last, registered participants will receive a high-quality, 100 percent cotton, long-sleeve Komen North Mississippi Race for the Cure T-shirt.

All registered participants will be eligible to win door prizes. All breast cancer survivors who wish to be recognized are asked to sign in Race day at the Survivor Tent, sponsored by Zeta Tau Alpha. A survivor group photo will be taken at 7 a.m. near the starting line, and a complimentary photo will be available at the Survivor Tent following the awards ceremony.

For more information about Komen North Mississippi Race for the Cure, call (662) 377-4903 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375). Anyone interested in being a Race day volunteer is encouraged to call (662) 377-4903.

IRB Approves, Renews Studies

The NMHS Institutional Review Board (IRB) currently oversees more than 100 biomedical and behavioral studies. The IRB meets monthly and the following studies were approved and renewed at the September meeting.

New Studies:

Study: *Phase III, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study of the Effect of GTx-024 on Muscle Wasting in Patients with Non-small Cell Lung Cancer on First Line Platinum Plus a Taxane Chemotherapy (G300504)*

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

Summary: The purpose of this study is to determine if the investigational drug GTx-024 can help subjects with non-small cell lung cancer to increase physical function and maintain or gain muscle (lean body mass).

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Study: *A Phase III, Open-label Study of Once Daily BI 201335 240 mg for 24 Weeks in Combination with Pegylated Interferon-a (PegIFN) and Ribavirin (RBV) in Patients with Genotype 1 Chronic Hepatitis C Infection who Failed a Prior PegIFN/RBV Treatment (1220.48)*

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

Summary: The purpose of this study is to test the investigational drug BI 201335 plus pegylated interferon and ribavirin in subjects who have previously failed pegylated interferon plus ribavirin treatment alone.

Study: *A Phase III, open-label trial of TMC435 in combination with peginterferon alpha-2a and ribavirin for HCV genotype-1 infected subjects who participated in the placebo group of a Phase II/III TMC435 study (C201, C205, C206, C208, C216 or HPC3007), or who received short-term (up to 14 days) direct-acting antiviral treatment for hepatitis C infection in a selected Tibotec-sponsored Phase I study (TMC435-TiDP16-C213)*

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

Health Specialists

Summary: The purpose of this study is to evaluate the antiviral efficacy of TMC435 in combination with pegylated and ribavirin, with respect to the proportion of subjects who participated in the placebo group of a phase II/III study, and subjects who participated in a phase I study.

Study: *A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Phase II Study to Assess the Immune Response following Administration of Influenza and Pneumococcal Vaccines to Subjects with Rheumatoid Arthritis receiving CP-690,550 or Placebo CP-690,550 with and without Background Methotrexate (A3921129)*

Investigators: Charles King, M.D. (PI); Amit Prasad, M.D.; Brandon Young, FNP

Summary: The purpose of this study is to determine the good and bad effects of CP-690,550, and control disease activity, slow down joint damage, improve symptoms and allow subjects to keep up normal, everyday activities.

Study Renewals:

Study: *The IMPACT of Biotronik Home Monitoring Guided Anticoagulation on Stroke Risk in Patients with ICD and CRT-D Devices (Y-91135-2)*

Investigators: James Stone, M.D. (PI); Chris Bell, ACNP; Karl Crossen, M.D.; Keith Kyker, M.D.

Summary: This study will investigate the clinical benefit of the combined use of Biotronik Home Monitoring technology and a predefined anticoagulation plan compared to conventional device evaluation and physician-directed anticoagulation in patients with implanted dual-chamber defibrillators or cardiac resynchronization therapy devices. Enrollment is open.

Study: *A U.S. Post-Approval Study of the Taxus Liberte' Paclitaxel-Eluting Coronary Stent System (H7T-MC-TADN)*

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

Summary: This study is designed to observe clinical outcomes in patients receiving the Taxus Liberte'-Paclitaxel-Eluting Coronary Stent and prasugrel as part of a dual antiplatelet therapy drug regimen. 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.

October 7

2011 Endocrine Conference

8 a.m., NMMC North Education Center Auditorium
CME credit will be issued.
For more information or to register, call (662) 377-3900.

November 11

2011 Oncology Conference

8 a.m., NMMC North Education Center
CME credit will be issued.
For more information or to register, call (662) 377-3900.

October 20

Medical Ethics Committee

2011 Status of Health Care in America – Ethical Issues and the Proposed Solutions
Gerald Wages, NMHS Executive Vice President for External Affairs
7:30 a.m., NMMC North Education Center

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