

practice notes

September 2011

NMMC Pathology Department, Women's Hospital Lab Accredited by College of American Pathologists

North Mississippi Medical Center's Department of Pathology and the Women's Hospital laboratory have been awarded accreditation by the Commission on Laboratory Accreditation of the College of American Pathologists (CAP), based on the results of a recent onsite inspection.

When presenting this national recognition, the inspectors congratulated both labs for the excellence of services being provided. NMMC's Pathology Department and the Women's Hospital lab are two of more than 7,000 CAP-accredited laboratories nationwide.

The federal government recognizes the CAP Laboratory Accreditation Program, begun in the early 1960s, as being equal to or more stringent than the government's own inspection program.

"This demonstrates that our laboratories at North Mississippi Medical Center and at the NMMC Women's Hospital consistently meet the highest standards and levels of performance," said laboratory medical director Mark Huffman, M.D. "A rigorous self-inspection is performed every other year to assure continuous readiness and compliance with new standards. Much work and preparation goes into this process."

During the CAP accreditation process, inspectors examine the laboratory's records and quality control of procedures for the preceding two years. CAP inspectors also examine the entire staff's qualifications, the laboratory's equipment, facilities, safety program and record, as well as the overall management of the laboratory. This stringent inspection program is designed to specifically ensure the highest standard of care for the laboratory's patients. NMMC has been accredited by CAP for 27 years.

New Residents Begin NMMC'S Family Medicine Residency Program

The NMMC Family Medicine Residency Program has eight new residents beginning the program:

William Darsey III, M.D., of Natchez, who graduated from Millsaps College in Jackson. He received his medical training at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine, where he was a member of the Family Medicine Interest Group and the American Academy of Family Physicians, and served as a Jackson Free Clinic volunteer.

Sarah Anderson Grabmiller, D.O., of Meridian, who graduated from Millsaps College. She received her medical training at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Sewanee, Ga., where she was a member of the Family Medicine Club, the OB/GYN Club, and served as an ambassador.

Eugene T. Kim, M.D., of Saks, Ala., received his bachelor's degree in biochemical sciences from Harvard University. He received his medical training from Duke University School of Medicine in Durham, N.C., where he was co-chair of the Pediatrics Interest Group and the Emergency Medicine Interest Group, and served as community chair of the American Medical Student Association.

Frank Norfleet Laughlin, M.D., of Memphis, Tenn., received his bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville. He completed his medical training at the University of Alabama-Birmingham School of Medicine, where he was in the Honor Council.

Kit Melton, M.D., of Clute, Texas, received bachelor's degrees in chemistry and biology from East Texas Baptist University. He completed his medical training at the University of Texas Health Science Center Medical School in Houston.

Steve Sherman, M.D., of Los Angeles, Calif., received his bachelor's degree from the University of California-



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Berkeley. He completed his medical training at the University of Kansas in Kansas City.

Amy Tucker, M.D., of Athens, Ala., received her bachelor's degree in biology from the University of North Alabama. She completed her medical training at the University of Alabama-Birmingham School of Medicine, where she was a member of the Family Medicine Interest Group and served as Student Government Association campus representative.

Christopher N. Webb, M.D., of Philadelphia, received his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Mississippi in Oxford. He completed his medical training at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine in Jackson.

For more information on the NMMC Family Medicine Residency Program, call (662) 377-2189 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375).

NMMC and Urology Professional Association to Offer Free Prostate Screenings

In an effort to promote the importance of men's health, NMMC and Urology Professional Association will offer **free prostate screenings** for men over age 40 Saturdays, Sept. 17 and 24.

The free screenings will be available by appointment beginning at 8 a.m. at the NMMC Cancer Center, located at 990 S. Madison St. This screening is for men who do not see a urologist on a regular basis.

"Excluding skin and lung cancer, prostate cancer continues to be the most common cause of cancer among American men," said Kristopher Whitehead, M.D., a local urologist. "Although breast cancer awareness has made tremendous strides, national focus for topics affecting men's health are lagging. We are excited to participate in this campaign to increase awareness and early detection of prostate cancer."

Screenings will consist of a prostate exam by a urologist and a prostate specific antigen (PSA) test. The test requires drawing blood to measure the body's level of prostate specific antigen. PSA is a protein produced by prostate cells that can be elevated in the blood of men with prostate cancer.

New guidelines from the American Urological Association now recommend that men be offered an initial screening PSA and rectal exam at age 40.

Physicians associated with Urology Professional Association will conduct the screenings. Test results will be mailed to participants. Urology Professional Association will contact individuals who need to seek follow-up care. The screenings are free, but

individuals or their insurance carriers will be responsible for covering the cost of any follow-up office visits and treatment.

For more information on the free prostate screenings, call (662) 377-7100 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375).

Scaling New Heights in Patient Safety

NMMC will host the "**Scaling New Heights in Patient Safety**" **Summit** Sept. 29-30.

Thursday, Sept. 29, the event will be held from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the NMMC East Tower Education Center, Room 21. The agenda includes dinner, a safety overview from Mark Williams, M.D., North Mississippi Health Services Chief Medical Officer, and a presentation by keynote speaker Paul O'Neill.

Paul O'Neill served as CEO of Alcoa and worked tirelessly to reduce employee safety events in that organization. He later served as the 72nd U.S. Secretary of Treasury under President George W. Bush. He has been a staunch advocate for patient safety efforts and serves as a board member for the National Patient Safety Foundation.

Friday, Sept. 30, the event will be held from 8 a.m.-noon at the BancorpSouth Conference Center at the Hilton Garden Inn. Breakout session topics range from "Creating a Culture of Safety" to "Teamwork: A Physician's Perspective."

NMMC is accredited by the MSMA to provide CME for physicians. NMMC designates the Thursday program for a maximum of 1.25 *AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)*[™], and the Friday program for a maximum of 2.5 *AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Registration is due by Sept. 9. For more information, call (662) 377-3826.

NMMC Behavioral Health Center Changes Phone Options

In response to several requests by referring providers, the NMMC Behavioral Health Center has changed the way **phone calls from physicians and clinics** are handled.

To make a referral to NMMC Behavioral Health, or for questions regarding a patient, call (662) 377-3161, and press #8. All transfers from other hospitals will continue to call the Transfer Center at 1-800-442-2238, but will now be put through to the Behavioral Health physician on call.



Dr. King Elected National Rheumatology Committee Chair

Charles King, M.D., a rheumatologist with IMA-Tupelo, has been elected as chair of the American College of Rheumatology's Committee on Rheumatologic Care.

The Committee on Rheumatologic Care is responsible for keeping the ACR informed on the economic, technical and ethical issues that impact the practice of rheumatology nationwide. The committee also provides the ACR membership with information concerning the future changes in medical care organization, health care delivery, health care financing and health care technology. Dr. King will serve a three-year term as chair.

Dr. King has served on a number of other ACR committees including the Government Affairs Council, the Affiliated Societies Council, the Registries and Health Information Technology Committee, and he is the current chair of the Health Information Technology subcommittee.

Dr. King has practiced rheumatology with IMA-Tupelo since 1996. He currently serves as president of the Mississippi Arthritis and Rheumatism Society and as chair of the North Mississippi Medical Center Institutional Review Board. He serves as medical director for NMMC Outpatient Infusion and the North Mississippi Arthritis Research Center. He is a recent graduate of the Physician Leadership Institute.

NMMC Clinical Pastoral Education Program Seeks Participants

NMMC is currently accepting students for the new session of the **Clinical Pastoral Education** program, which begins in September.

This seminary-level course advances pastoral care skills for ministers and seminary students of all faiths through supervised encounters with individuals in crisis. Students of NMMC's Clinical Pastoral Education program attend two full-day sessions each month for eight months.

Students become intensely involved with persons facing health crises and their families, and they receive helpful feedback from peers and their supervisor. Through these meaningful encounters, CPE students gain a new understanding of ministry, develop their interpersonal skills and strengthen professional relationships.

The CPE process includes didactic presentations, verbatim case studies, peer group interaction, reflection and research papers, individual supervision and related reading. For more information, call

NMMC's Pastoral Care Department at (662) 377-3439 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375), or email sculpepper@nmhs.net.

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 August meeting.

New Study

Study: *A Multicenter, Open-label, Surgical Surveillance Trial to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of a Shortened Infusion Time of Intravenous Ibuprofen (CPI-CL-016)*

Investigators: Stephen Southworth, M.D. (PI)

Summary: The purpose of this study is to see how well Caldolor works for reducing pain after surgery when given to patients as a five to 10-minute infusion before surgery.

Study Renewals

Study: *A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study to Evaluate the Long-term Safety and Efficacy of Darbeoetin Alfa Administered at 500 mg Once Every Three Weeks in Anemic Subjects with Advanced Stage Non-small Cell Lung Cancer receiving Multi-cycle Chemotherapy (20070782)*

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

Summary: The purpose of this study is to determine the safety of darbepoetin alfa, including effects on survival and cancer progression, as well as the need for blood transfusions. Enrollment is open.

Study: *A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Trial of Neratinib (HKI-272) after Trastuzumab in Women with Early-stage HER-2/neu Overexpressed/Amplified Breast Cancer (3144A2-3004-WW)*

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

Summary: The purpose of this study is to investigate whether neratinib can reduce the risk of previously diagnosed HER-2 positive breast cancer from returning after treatment with trastuzumab. Enrollment is open.

Study: *A Phase III, Open-label, Randomized, Multicenter Study of the Effects of Leukocyte Interleukin, Injection [Multikine] plus Standard of Care (Surgery plus Radiotherapy or Surgery plus Concurrent Chemoradiotherapy) in Subjects with Advanced Primary Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Oral Cavity/Soft Palate versus Standard of Care Only (CS001P3)*

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

Summary: The primary purpose of this study is to determine whether Leukocyte Interleukin Injection (LI) in combination with Cyclophosphamide, Indomethacin and nutritional supplementation with multivitamins plus zinc, given prior to standard of care therapy, will increase the overall survival of subjects beyond that currently achieved with standard of care alone. 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.

Sept. 9

Neuro/Radiology Case Studies

1 p.m., NMMC North Education Center
Room 7/8
Hunt Bobo, M.D., and Robert Becker, M.D.

Sept. 15

Medical Ethics Committee

Health Care: Is it a Privilege or a Right for Every American?
David Sparks, JD
7:30 a.m., NMMC North Education Center

Sept. 16

2011 Geriatric Conference

8 a.m., NMMC Cora B. Fields Auditorium
Register online or call (662) 377-3900.

Sept. 30-Oct. 1

Multidisciplinary Rehab Conference

Addressing Rehabilitation Needs Across the Life Span
8 a.m., NMMC North Education Center
Register by mail or fax to (662) 377-7231 by Sept. 16.
For more information, call (662) 377-7221.

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