

# practice notes



**NORTH MISSISSIPPI  
MEDICAL CENTER**

June/July 2022

A monthly  
newsletter for  
physicians, nurse practitioners,  
physician assistants & other  
health care professionals

## **Dr. Stewart Serving as NMMC Medical Staff Chair**

Robert Stewart, M.D., is serving as medical staff chairman for North Mississippi Medical Center for 2022. His term began in January.



Dr. Stewart has been a pulmonologist with Pulmonary Consultants in Tupelo for 19 years and has served as medical director of NMMC's Critical Care Unit since 2011. He previously served as chair of NMMC's Critical Care and Emergency Medicine Division and on the board of directors for Connected Care Partners. He served as vice chairman of the medical staff in 2021. Before moving to Tupelo in 2003, Dr. Stewart worked as a pulmonologist in Oxford for four years.

Dr. Stewart holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Millsaps College in Jackson and earned his

medical degree from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine in 1993. He completed residency training in internal medicine at University Hospital and Clinics in Jackson and served as chief medical resident 1996-1997. He completed a fellowship in pulmonology with University Hospital and Clinics in 1999.

Dr. Stewart is board certified in internal medicine and pulmonary diseases. He is a Fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians and a member of the Mississippi State Medical Association and Christian Medical and Dental Association.

## **NMMC Programs to Welcome New Residents**

NMMC-Tupelo is welcoming 20 new physicians to its residency programs this summer.

Joining the NMMC Family Medicine Residency Program are:

- Ramya Bhattaru, D.O., of Katy, Texas, William Carey University

- College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Kelsey Blundell, D.O., of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Lincoln Memorial University of DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Dana Ebb, D.O., of Rogersville, Arkansas, University of Pikeville Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Manjot Mashiana, D.O., of Dallas, William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Jenni Kate Miles, M.D., of Kosciusko, University of Mississippi School of Medicine
- Daulton Newman, M.D., of Eupora, University of Mississippi School of Medicine
- Jackson Teer, D.O., of Jackson, Tennessee, Lincoln Memorial University DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Justin Ward, D.O., of Taylor, Arizona, West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

Joining the NMMC Internal Medicine Residency Program are:

- Mohamed Benhammuda, M.D.,

To submit information, call (662) 377-3712 or email [drpugh@nmhs.net](mailto:drpugh@nmhs.net).

Visit [www.nmhs.net/practice-notes](http://www.nmhs.net/practice-notes) to read this newsletter online.

of Cordova, Tennessee, University of Tripoli and University of Tennessee transplant nephrology fellowship

- Jessica Clark, D.O., of Smyrna, Tennessee, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine-Auburn Campus
- Gene Gerlach, D.O., of Cordova, Tennessee, Lincoln Memorial University DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Ryan Gillentine, D.O., of Tupelo, William Carey University of Osteopathic Medicine
- Atif Ibrahim, M.D., Memphis, Ayub Medical College and University of Tennessee transplant nephrology fellowship
- Sumair Ozair, D.O., of Jackson, William Carey University of Osteopathic Medicine
- Terrell Potter, D.O., of Dothan, Alabama, Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Max Rash, D.O., of Kingsport, Tennessee, Lincoln Memorial University DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Hafiz Muhammad Ali Raza, M.D., of Memphis, King Edward Medical College and University of Tennessee transplant nephrology fellowship
- Noah Russell, D.O., of The Colony, Texas, Lincoln Memorial University DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Jacob Seils, D.O., of Little Rock, Arkansas, New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Ishwor Sharma, M.D., of Williamsville, New York, Rajshahi Medical College

## Global Contrast Shortage Prompts Limits

Because of a global shortage of iodinated contrast used primarily

for CT scans, clinicians should limit contrasted CT orders to necessary cases which cannot be deferred.

In April, a COVID-19-related lockdown in Shanghai, China, stopped production of Omnipaque (iohexol) at a major GE Healthcare production plant, disrupting supply chains and resulting in a global shortage of all types of ICM. GE Healthcare notified customers to expect an 80% reduction in order fulfillment that may last 6-8 weeks.

For updates and Patient FAQs, visit [www.nmhs.net/medical-professionals](http://www.nmhs.net/medical-professionals) and select “Iodinated Contrast Shortage.”

## Tupelo, Amory Hospitals Earn Leapfrog ‘A’

North Mississippi Health Services’ hospitals in Tupelo and Amory received “A” Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades for spring 2022. This national distinction recognizes the hospitals’ achievements in protecting patients from preventable harm and error in the hospital.

The Leapfrog Group, an independent national watchdog organization, assigns an “A,” “B,” “C,” “D,” or “F” grade to general hospitals across the country based on more than 30 national performance measures reflecting errors, accidents, injuries and infections, as well as systems hospitals have in place to prevent harm. Grades are updated twice annually, in the fall and spring. Since 2018, both the Tupelo and Amory hospitals have earned seven “A” safety ratings.



## Maben Medical Clinic Welcomes Jones

Maben Medical Clinic recently welcomed nurse practitioner Angela Jones, FNP, to the clinic staff.



Jones joins Drs. Craig Moffett and Sue Simmons in offering primary care services at the clinic serving east Webster County and west Oktibbeha County.

Jones has more than two decades of experience in health care. She earned her associate degree in nursing from Holmes Community College in 2000. She earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in nursing from Western Governors University in 2018. She completed post-graduate training as a family nurse practitioner at the University of Memphis in 2021. She is also a certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist.

The clinic is located at 49 Turner Street in Maben and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For an appointment, call (662) 263-5900 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375).

## Middleton Joins Neurology Consultants of North Mississippi

Angela Middleton, CFNP, recently joined Neurology Consultants of North Mississippi.



Middleton earned her associate degree in nursing from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, in 2004 and her bachelor’s degree in nurs-

ing from the University of Missouri in Columbia in 2006. She completed her master's degree in nursing and nurse practitioner training at the University of Missouri in 2011. She graduated from Walden University in 2019 with a doctorate in nursing practice.

With many years of nursing and nurse practitioner experience, Middleton joined the NMMC family in April 2019 as a hospitalist in Pontotoc and Tupelo. She joins neurologists Drs. Esther Fischer, Mark Fletcher, Waqas Gilani and Sam Newell and nurse practitioners Jeanne Benson, Lisa Dabbs, Paige Sanders and Erin Smith at the clinic, which is located at Longtown Medical Park in Tupelo.

For appointment information, call (662) 377-3008 or 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375). Referral is required.

## Staff Celebrates TAVR Milestone

Congratulations to the physicians and staff of NMMC's Heart and Vascular Institute for recently performing their 500th transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) procedure.

In February 2012, NMMC became the first hospital in Mississippi and the seventh nationwide to offer TAVR, a promising alternative for high-risk patients for whom heart surgery was not an option. TAVR has been a huge breakthrough for high-risk patients



who suffer from aortic stenosis, a narrowing of the aortic valve opening that limits blood flow from the heart out to the rest of the body.

In TAVR, a cardiologist and cardiothoracic surgeon work together to replace a diseased valve without open-heart surgery and without stopping the heart. For more information, visit [www.nmhs.net/heart-vascular](http://www.nmhs.net/heart-vascular).

## NMMC Heart Surgeon Performs State's First Transcatheter Tricuspid Valve Replacement

On May 17, cardiothoracic surgeon Dr. David Talton performed Mississippi's first transcatheter tricuspid valve replacement at NMMC-Tupelo.

Dena Coleman, 53, of Sturgis was diagnosed with Ebstein anomaly, a rare heart defect, at birth but didn't really experience difficulty until her mid-20s. She had open-heart surgery to repair the valve then, and in 2002 had open-heart surgery to replace it with an artificial valve.

"Around the beginning of this year, I knew something was wrong," Coleman says. "I couldn't do anything without giving completely out – even going to the mailbox, picking up a load of clothes to wash or walking my dog. You don't realize how valuable that next breath is until you can't get one."

Her doctor referred her to Dr. Talton, who felt a third open-heart surgery was risky because she had such profound heart failure. He proposed using the Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) technique to replace Coleman's tricuspid



Dena Coleman (center) with Dr. David Talton and Leanne Presley, MSN, RN

valve. His partner, cardiothoracic surgeon Dr. Vishal Sachdev, assisted with the procedure.

Dr. Talton went through Coleman's femoral vein, requiring only a small incision in her leg. Next, a balloon catheter was placed across the faulty valve and stretched open so he could place the new tricuspid valve. When the balloon was inflated, it pushed the new valve into position inside the old one. The balloon catheter was then removed, and the new valve started working immediately.

After an overnight hospital stay, Coleman was discharged home with only a small bandage on her leg. She says she had "virtually no downtime" and right away could tell a difference "like night and day."

For more information about NMMC's Heart and Vascular Institute, call 1-800-THE DESK (1-800-843-3375) or visit [www.nmhs.net/heart-vascular](http://www.nmhs.net/heart-vascular).



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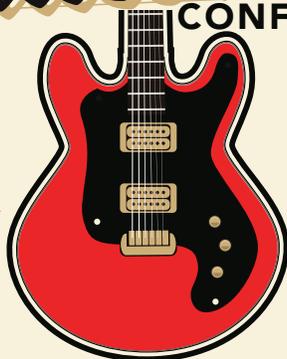
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