New Heart and Vascular Center Opens

Through Memorial Hospital’s new Heart and Vascular Center, patients can receive care for numerous cardiac conditions, including coronary artery disease, chest pain or discomfort, shortness of breath, heart failure and peripheral vascular disease.

Memorial’s cardiologists are specially trained in invasive and non-invasive cardiac and vascular procedures. Non-invasive cardiac testing includes electrocardiograms, holter monitors, nuclear cardiac stress testing, echocardiography and vascular testing.

Invasive cardiology services include treating blocked heart, leg and arm arteries with balloons and stents. Memorial’s cardiologists specialize in opening blocked arteries in the lower leg, which may prevent the need for amputations.

MESSAGE
FROM SALLY…

When I receive questions about Memorial’s plans for the future, one area I always talk about is physician recruitment and how important that is to help Memorial’s growth. That is why I am so pleased to be able to share with you news about new physicians coming into our community and the Memorial family.

In July, Dr. M. Azeem Bhatti, a board certified urologist who specializes in minimally invasive surgeries with organ and function preservation, joined Memorial. His practice, York Urology Specialists, is located in the Sixth Avenue Professional Center.

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Congratulations!

Congratulations to Dr. Thomas Kurland who received the Attending Physician of the Year Award at the Intern/Resident Graduation in June. Pictured is Dr. Kurland receiving his award from Dr. Cynthia Meyer who represented the 2010 First-Year Class.

Congratulations to the other award winners:

Alumnus of the Year – Dr. Eric Barr
Charles H. Brimfield, D.O./Golden Lobman Award – Dr. Kyle Hubler
Emergency Medicine Resident of the Year – Dr. Nicole Peters
G. Fred Hunter, Ph.D. Memorial Award – Dr. Michael Chiarelli, Jr.
Medical Staff House Officer of the Year – Dr. Jordan Miller
Resident Recognition Award – Dr. Nicole Peters

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Welcome Dr. Ebro-Prokesh

The new professional home of Dr. Connie Ebro-Prokesh, who goes by Dr. Prokesh, is Memorial’s Greensprings Family Medicine practice.

Dr. Prokesh has lived in the U.S. since 1990. Prior to that, she practiced internal medicine and oncology in Romania. She is a graduate of the New York Institute of Technology and College of Osteopathic Medicine in Westbury, New York and completed her internship with Jamaica Hospital Medical Center, Jamaica, NY. While studying there she endured a four-hour commute daily. Dr. Prokesh completed her residency at Heart of Lancaster Regional Medical Center, and also worked with the Center City Family Clinic.

On board since early April, Dr. Prokesh enjoys working with everyone at Greensprings Family Medicine who she says “are professional and personable.”

When asked why she chose Memorial, she said, “This is a special place, a family place, where employees care about each other and their patients. Memorial is a place that balances business with compassion.”

When not at the office, she enjoys gardening, jazz music and visiting with her son who serves in the U.S. Navy.

Application for Appointment

The physicians listed below recently applied for medical staff appointment and/or privileges at Memorial Hospital. If you have any information about these individuals that may assist the Credentials Committee, please contact Bernadette Emig, Medical Affairs coordinator, or Kraig Sturtz, M.D., chairperson of the Credentials Committee.

Ali R. Bakhshalizadeh, M.D.
Anesthesiology

Roger W. Boatwright, M.D.
Obstetrics and Gynecology

Vivekkumar K. Shroff, M.D.
Family Practice

MESSAGE FROM SALLY…

Also last month, Dr. Ronald Savarese joined Dr. Manu Rajachandran in the York Heart and Vascular Specialists practice. Dr. Savarese is a board certified cardiologist who specializes in electrophysiology, including pacemakers, defibrillators and arrhythmias.

In September, we will welcome Dr. Roger Boateright, an OB/GYN, who will be opening a practice in York. We have also recruited a number of primary care physicians this year who will be working in various Memorial Hospital practices around the community.

We believe our efforts in physician recruitment are increasing the level of choice in our community and competition enhances quality and controls costs. I want to thank all of you for the role you have played in our recruitment efforts, whether that has been during interview processes, introductory meetings or simply by the way you have welcomed a new physician into our community. Every time you extend yourself, you are showing potential or new recruits what makes Memorial a special place.

Sincerely,
Sally J. Dixon
President and CEO

PLEASE REMIND YOUR PATIENTS TO PRE-REGISTER

One call scheduling and pre-registration, 717-815-2351.
Pre-registration appointment cards are available for your office by calling Jeri Lowery at 815-2797.
Memorial Offers Breast Health Education

Memorial Hospital will begin providing breast health education to the community thanks to a partnership with the Philadelphia Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The Breast Center received a $39,976 grant from Susan G. Komen for the Cure for a breast health educator. The breast health educator program will be a resource for the community by providing education, presentations and support services for individuals diagnosed with breast cancer.

Safe at Home

In 2002, 1.6 million Americans were treated in emergency departments due to falling at home. Memorial Hospital’s Rehabilitation Department is committed to reducing the number of falls in our community through a new fall prevention initiative.

A physician referral is all that is required for a patient to be seen for a thorough evaluation during the first visit. Those who do well on the objective tests and are determined to be at low risk for falls may receive educational literature and a list of appropriate home exercises. Patients who may be at increased risk for falls at home may receive one-on-one personalized care from experienced and licensed staff in Memorial’s Rehabilitation Department.

The referring physician is part of the treatment team and receives copies of the initial evaluation, balance assessments, plan of care and goals as well as status updates for follow-up appointments. The Safe at Home program includes:

- The initial evaluation with individualized plan of care and goals.
- An objective and standardized balance assessment at initial evaluation and completion of the program.
- Specific flexibility and strengthening activities.
- Endurance activities appropriate for medical condition.
- Education on fall risks at home.
- Balance training activities.
- Training on appropriate ambulatory assistive devices if necessary.
- Transfer training, with suggestions for home modifications, as needed.
- Discussion of vision and the importance of regular eye examinations.

For information, please call Troy Smyser, Rehabilitation Services manager, at 849-5597.

Elaine Grobman, center, executive director of the Philadelphia Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, presents an award to Connie Yobe, right, Breast Center coordinator and Sally Dixon, president and CEO, to congratulate Memorial on receiving the grant.
Treating Patients with Diabetes

By Gregory W. Otte, D.O.

Hospitalized patients with diabetes present a myriad of problems, including increased risk of infection, myocardial infarction, renal insufficiency or failure and prolonged hospitalization. In these days of increased cost and decreased reimbursement, with looming government intervention looking at every medical complication and re-admission, it is increasingly important to manage diabetic patients pre-operatively, in the ICU and during a general medical or surgical stay.

Studies previously suggesting an aggressive insulin approach to every operative and ICU patient have shown mixed results. Early studies have shown a decreased incidence of infection and ICU stay, but later studies have shown an increased mortality at 90 days. These studies had target blood glucose values of 80-110 mg/dl.

Studies with less stringent glucose values have shown a target blood glucose of 140-180 mg/dl to be safer with less hypoglycemia and less mortality, but no increase in infection, length of ICU stay or mortality.

Currently, it is recommended to maintain reasonable but not excessively tight control in pre-operative patients. Patients may take oral agents until the day of surgery, holding sulfonylureas due to risk of hypoglycemia and metformin if any volume depletion is suspected.

Patients on insulin glargine may take their current dose up to the night before surgery. The basal insulin provided should carry patients through surgery without risk of hypoglycemia or ketoacidosis due to lack of insulin. Patients on short-acting insulin should only take half the usual dose the night before and none the morning of surgery. Intermediate-acting insulin should be given at half the usual dose the morning of surgery.

For long and complex cases, frequent monitoring of blood glucose during the case is paramount, with intravenous insulin infusion providing the most stable control of blood glucose.

Diabetes Center Recognized

Memorial’s Diabetes Center received the prestigious American Diabetes Association (ADA) Education Certificate for quality self-management education. The Center was originally recognized in 2001, but recently went through the recertification process. According to the ADA, our program offers high-quality education that is an essential component of effective diabetes treatment. Congratulations to Diabetes Educators Terri Epler and Peg Organ and Outpatient Dietitian Kara Parrish for continuing to hold the Diabetes Center to the highest standards.

Shape the Future

KidShape, a program for pediatric weight management, begins a new session in September at Stillmeadow Church, 400 Stillmeadow Lane, York. The nine-week evening program starts September 23 and runs to November 18, 2010.

A family-based program for children six to 14 years old and their parents, KidShape activities are fun and promote healthy behavior changes, like increasing activity and choosing more nutritious snacks, drinks and meals.

KidShape is funded through a grant from the Highmark Foundation. For more information, please call 849-5492.
Dr. M. Azeem Bhatti, a board certified urologist, joined Memorial Hospital in July. His practice, York Urology Specialists, is located at the Sixth Avenue Professional Center.

He said he is looking forward to practicing in our community. Dr. Bhatti has extensive experience in organ preservation and minimally invasive surgeries. “I see this as an opportunity to bring my expertise to York County and meet an underserved need,” said Dr. Bhatti.

Before coming to Memorial, Dr. Bhatti was the chief of Urology at Guthrie Healthcare System in Sayre, Pennsylvania.

He said he always knew he wanted to be a physician and in medical school decided Urology was the specialty for him. “Urology appealed to me because it was a combination of medical and surgical skills. I also liked that my patient population could be everything from pediatrics to geriatrics,” said Dr. Bhatti. “It is gratifying when I treat someone who comes to me with a disease and I am able to perform surgery and provide immediate good outcomes.”

Eighty percent of the surgeries Dr. Bhatti performs are minimally invasive. For example, in the past a patient with kidney disease may have had their kidney removed, but Dr. Bhatti is able to remove the cancer and the kidney is still intact and able to function normally. For bladder surgery, Dr. Bhatti is able to remove a bladder and recreate a new bladder with a piece of the patient’s intestines. This means the patient does not need to use an ostomy bag. When treating patients with prostate cancer, he is able to preserve the nerves, so the patient maintains erectile function and continence.

“What these minimally-invasive procedures mean to patients is less pain, less bleeding, less time in the hospital and a quicker recovery. Patients are able to get back to their normal daily living a lot sooner,” added Dr. Bhatti.

Dr. Bhatti’s move to Memorial was also a good decision for him personally. He and his wife, Dr. Zehra Siddiqui, and five-year-old son, Yusuf, are closer to their family in New Jersey.

Dr. Bhatti said everyone at Memorial has been very welcoming to him, and he is looking forward to working with the physicians and associates to provide innovative urological procedures to our community.

For more information or to refer patients, please call:

York Urology Specialists
1600 Sixth Avenue, Suite 108 • York, Pennsylvania 17403
Office Phone: 717-815-2562 • Fax: 717-815-2563
Email: mbhatti@mhyork.org
Dr. Ronald Savarese Joins
York Heart and Vascular Specialists

Memorial Hospital welcomes Dr. Ronald Savarese to York Heart and Vascular Specialists.

Dr. Savarese received his medical degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed a medicine residency at Graduate Hospital in Philadelphia. He continued with his training at Deborah Heart and Lung Center in New Jersey where he completed a cardiology fellowship and a cardiovascular electrophysiology fellowship.

Dr. Savarese is board certified in internal medicine and cardiology and specializes in electrophysiology, which includes pacemakers, defibrillators and arrhythmias.

“I enjoy cardiology because of the complexity of the cardiovascular system,” he said. “I particularly enjoy electrophysiology because the procedural component allows me to work with my hands.” Dr. Savarese is also interested in preventative care and has had success working with patients on risk factor modification. He looks forward to educating the community about heart health and when to seek medical treatment.

Dr. Savarese said he came to Memorial to help build a cardiovascular service line. “This is an exciting opportunity to help build a program of excellence. There is so much opportunity here. I am also intrigued by the plans for the new hospital. This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to put my fingerprint on the design of a new lab,” he added.

Location was another factor that attracted Dr. Savarese to York. His immediate family is located in Philadelphia and New Jersey and York is still close enough for day trips back home with his wife, Deirdre, and two children: Nolan, three, and Helena, six months. In his spare time, he enjoys watching sports. As a loyal Philadelphia native, his favorite teams are the Eagles and the Phillies.

“I am looking forward to meeting more of the physicians, nurses and associates at Memorial. Everyone has been so incredibly nice,” said Dr. Savarese.

For more information or to refer patients, please call:
York Heart & Vascular Specialists
1600 Sixth Avenue, Suite 105 • York, Pennsylvania 17403
Office Phone: 717-849-5576 • Fax: 717-718-9972

In Memory

Memorial Hospital recently lost a special member of our family. Dr. Dorothy Gentzler passed away on June 6. Dr. Gentzler was the first female intern at West Side Osteopathic Hospital, which is now Memorial Hospital. She was a graduate of Grove City College and received her D.O. degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1949. She was an anesthesiologist at Memorial for 25 years. After retiring in 1975, she became a medical consultant for the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

“Dr. Gentzler was kind, considerate and a dedicated osteopathic physician. She was always well-prepared and had favorable results,” said Dr. Thomas McGraw. “Dr. Gentzler certainly contributed to the overall success of Memorial Hospital.”