

# MEDICAL STAFF

Newsletter

May, 2009

## Election of Officers 2009 - 2011

VOTE

Nominees:

Leigh Taliaferro, M.D., Chief of Staff  
Gary Goodnight, D.O., Vice Chief of Staff

General Staff Meeting  
Tuesday, May 19, 2009  
6:00 P. M.

Tom Roberts Conference Center

Agenda Items:

1. Compensation for ER Call
2. Transfers from the region to Hendrick
3. Decreasing UTIs - Removal of catheters
4. Bubble graphs
5. Health care reform

Eat

Hors d'oeuvres

*Please Note – This meeting was  
scheduled for May 26 and has  
been rescheduled for **May 19**.*

Greet

**Come and meet the physicians who have  
joined the Active Medical Staff since the  
last meeting:**

Rachel Anderson, M.D., Pediatrics  
Elpidia Balbastro, M.D., Hematology-Oncology  
Gary Binkley, D.O, Hospitalist  
Steve Brown, M.D., Neurosurgery  
Russell Burns, M.D., Cardiology  
Sarah Ferguson, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Steve Gao, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Jeremie Perry, M.D., Anesthesiology  
Luis Zegada, M.D., Hospitalist

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**New Medical Staff Members**

Elpidia Balbastro, M.D., Hematology-Oncology  
2000 Pine Street, Abilene, TX 79601  
Phone: 673-0100 Fax: 673-0174  
NPI #1386614345

Steven Brown, M.D., Neurosurgery  
1850 Hickory Street, Suite 101, Abilene, TX 79601  
Phone: 670-4730 Fax: 670-4736  
NPI #1396947776

Sarah Ferguson, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Hendrick Provider Network  
1100 N. 19th Street, Suite 200, Abilene, TX 79601  
Phone: 670-5570 Fax: 670-5574  
NPI #1366489908

**New/Updated Address/Phone**

Cardiology Consultants (Drs. Bargainer, Blackwood, Burns, Chant, N. Daggubati, Lin, Nik Patel, Swarna, Thorp and Zhang)  
Effective 05/04/09, pagers for the cardiologists were eliminated. All calls during and after office hours should be directed to the office numbers 793-3100 or 793-3300.

Joseph Dixon, M.D.  
Corrected answering service number - 671-5268

Steve Gao, M.D.  
Updated fax number - 670-4773

Dell McKnight, M.D.  
Corrected fax number - 701-4429

Taylor Tidmore, M.D.  
Corrected fax number - 437-3873

Talmadge Trammell, M.D.  
Corrected office phone number - 670-4736  
(misprinted in the physician directory)

**Resignations**

Mark Santman, M.D., effective 05/31/09

**Physician Hot Line**

Need to report an incident or adverse event?

Call the Physician Hot Line  
670-6677.

Leave the patient's name, medical record and/or room number and someone from the Performance Improvement Department will investigate.

***NOTICE!!***

The CME activity entitled, "Ethical Issues in the Management of Bipolar Patients" that was scheduled on May 19 and then moved to May 26 has been canceled.

***Munch 'n Learn***

Wednesday, June 3, 2009

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Tom Roberts Conference Center

*Medical Decision-Making:*

*Driving the CPT Code*

James E. Vance, MD, MBA

Associate Medical Director, BCE Technology  
Highlands, North Carolina

## Medicare Health Information Technology (HIT) Incentive Payment

Physicians who are meaningful users\* of a certified EHR (electronic health record) system will qualify for incentive payments paid on a phased-out schedule over a set number of years, for a maximum of five years. Medicare HIT incentives:

\$15,000 if 2010 is first year;  
\$18,000 if 2011 or 2012 is first year.

Physicians who are not meaningful HIT users will be subject to financial penalties through reductions in the Physician Fee Schedule amount – phased in over three-year period beginning in 2015. Penalties begin in 2015:

1% reduction in fee schedule amount;  
2% in 2016;  
3% in 2017.

To qualify, at least thirty percent (30%) of a physician's volume must be attributable to Medicaid patients and the physician must have in place a certified EHR system that will exchange healthcare information and report on quality measures.

Physicians may only qualify for HIT payments from one payer – either Medicare or Medicaid.

Uncertainties abound and will be defined as part of the regulatory process. Hendrick is working to understand more about the HIT stimulus funds, and we are pleased to share information with you and help you find answers to questions you may have.

Hendrick also has options to assist you with establishing an EHR system.

\*meaningful user – a provider who has adopted an electronic system that includes e-prescribing and is able to exchange health information and report on clinical quality measures to HHS using the EHR technology