



Community Connection

www.acmconline.org

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A Message from Our CEO:

Dear staff and friends of Ashley County Medical Center,

What an exciting last quarter we have had at Ashley County Medical Center! ACMC has welcomed two new physicians, Board Certified General Surgeon, Dr. Sarahrose Webster, and Dr. Kenneth Prather who is working in our ER and Wound Clinic. We are blessed to have had them join our ACMC team!

I celebrated my tenth anniversary at ACMC this summer. As I have reflected over the course of the past decade, I am blessed to have been part of such a great healthcare team. We have increased our number of clinics in Hamburg and Crossett, Board Certified Orthopedic Surgeon, two Board Certified OB/GYNs, two Board Certified Pediatricians, four Board Certified Family Practice Physicians, one Board Certified Internal Medicine, 6 nurse practitioners, 4 CRNAs, recently acquired all new beds, TVs, and patient furniture, joined the Arkansas Children's Hospital Nursery Alliance, CARTI Alliance, a number of partnerships with UAMS, state-of-the-art radiology and lab equipment, level 4 trauma center, designated a "Stroke Ready Hospital," 8 hospital owned clinics - 4 rented clinics to specialist, financially in the black for the last 9 out of 10 years, revitalized revenue cycle program, renovated patient rooms, Wellness Center, and Home Health, hospitalist program, economic impact of \$42.3 million in 2015, ¼ cent Sales Tax passed with 83%, modernized lighting to lower energy cost, security provided by off-duty police officers, disaster preparedness, infant security system, Arkansas Rural Health Partnership member, diabetic education, sleep studies, affiliation between 3 medical schools, and more.

We officially started our partnership with CARTI the first of August, and it is running smoothly. We are excited about this partnership. Rex Nelson Senior Editor of the Arkansas Democrat Gazette spent the morning with us in early August. He wrote an article featuring Ashley County Medical Center, view his article here:

https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2019/aug/18/prioritizing-rural-health-20190818/?news-columnists&fbclid=IwAR0Rk6qyHE7FgFf8g9wLYJ9o1Atpz2hh20y-3Oa7vn0zE4GFxMnqAYmDD_w

-Phillip Gilmore, Ph.D, FACHE, CEO



Physician Availability After Hours

At ACMC Clinic's we have a physician available to speak to you 24/7. You can call the clinic number you are a patient of, and that number directs you to the doctor's answering service. Information will be taken and the physician on call will be notified. One of our physicians will return your call. In the event of an emergency, please call 911.

ACMC Welcomes New Board Certified General Surgeon

Ashley County Medical Center welcomes Dr. Sarahrose Webster to their team. A native of Seattle, Washington, Webster received her medical degree from the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. Her residency training in General Surgery was completed at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock. Dr. Webster is certified by the American Board of Surgery. She is ATLS, ACLS, and PALS certified. Dr. Webster has been a practicing surgeon at Jefferson Regional Medical Center and served as a surgical instructor for UAMS-South Central Family Practice Residency Program.

As a General Surgeon, Dr. Webster offers a wide variety of surgical services including lap and open cholecystectomies (gallbladder), lap and open appendectomies, placement of central lines, breast surgery- both benign and malignant, lower extremity amputations up to above the knee, amputation as needed for nonhealing wounds or infections from vascular disease or diabetes, repair of hernias, port placements, colon surgeries, endoscopies, removal of skin lesions and cancers, drainage of abscesses, and more. She specializes in general surgery and digestive care (G. I. Services).

Ashley County Medical Center's Chief Executive Officer, Phillip Gilmore, says "Having board certified general surgeon, Dr. Sarahrose Webster, join our ACMC team is a tremendous asset not only to Ashley County Medical Center, but to our region. Dr. Webster joining our community will enable families to continue to have their surgical care close to home."

When Dr. Webster isn't caring for her patients, she enjoys time outdoors with her children.

Ashley Specialty General Surgery is located on the campus of Ashley County Medical Center, 1015 Unity Road, Crossett, AR 71635. Call 870-364-0514, for more information.



Prather to Lead ACMC Wound Clinic

Ashley County Medical Center welcomes Dr. Kenneth Prather to their team. A native of El Dorado, Arkansas, Prather received his medical degree from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in 1981. At the start of his career, Dr. Prather worked in El Dorado and other small surrounding towns' Emergency Departments, and has been Medical Director for the Wound Care and Hyperbaric Center in El Dorado the past 11 years.

Dr. Prather is our new team leader in the ACMC Advanced Wound Healing Center, Wound Clinic. The clinic consists of physicians and registered nurses who have received special training in wounds. All staff are dedicated to the common goal of healing your wounds.

Dr. Prather and his team will assess your wound and discuss treatment options with you. ACMC Advanced Wound Healing Center believes it is imperative that you be involved in the decision making regarding your care. A wide range of wounds are seen such as; radiation tissue damage, soft tissue infections, osteoradionecrosis, compromised skin grafts, osteomyelitis, non-healing surgical wounds, diabetes related wounds, trauma wounds, radiation cystitis/proctitis, various types ulcers: pressure, venous, arterial, and more.

Ashley County Medical Center's Chief Executive Officer, Phillip Gilmore, says "Dr. Prather is a tremendous asset not only to ACMC, but to our region. We are excited to have Dr. Prather join our ACMC family in Emergency Medicine and as our Wound Care Specialist. We are looking forward to growing our Wound Care program in an effort to better serve our community."

Dr. Prather is married to Claudia Prather, and have two sons, Dr. Brenton Prather, DDS, and Kyle Kennerly. Dr. Prather and Claudia have two beloved pets, Norwich Terriers, Abey and Madie. Outside of work Dr. Prather enjoys traveling, sports, hunting, and spending time with family and friends.

ACMC Wound Clinic is located in Ashley Specialty Clinic on the campus of Ashley County Medical Center, 1015 Unity Road, Crossett, A R 71635. For more information call 870-364-1299.



CARTI Expands Statewide Presence, Partnering with Ashley County Medical Center to Open CARTI Crossett

CARTI (Central Arkansas Radiation Therapy Institute) announced that its newest clinic, CARTI Crossett, opened today, Thursday, Aug. 1. Featuring medical oncologist Bilal Malik, M.D., the clinic will continue to offer infusion services, including chemotherapy. The clinic is located in Ashley County Medical Center, 1015 Unity Road, Crossett, and will be open Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

“We are thrilled to expand our oncology services into the southeast corner of the state,” said Adam Head, president and chief executive officer of the statewide network of cancer care providers. “Our mission is to bring our world-class physicians and cancer care into the communities where patients live. Thanks to a partnership with Ashley County Medical Center, and with Dr. Malik at the helm, we look forward to bringing the most advanced technologies and expertise to the patients living in and around Ashley County.”

Phillip Gilmore, chief executive officer of Ashley County Medical Center stated, “We have been blessed to have Dr. Malik part of the ACMC team for the past 21 years, and providing chemotherapy to our communities in southeast Arkansas for more than 15 years. The partnership between Ashley County Medical Center and CARTI presents a tremendous opportunity for our region. We are honored to join together and provide our community members with the most advanced cancer treatment. We are thankful for Dr. Malik and the job he has done for ACMC and our patients, and look forward to continuing to work with him and CARTI.”

Dr. Malik has run his own solo practice, South Arkansas Hematology & Oncology Clinic, in Pine Bluff for more than 20 years. He is a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, Arkansas Blood and Cancer Society, American Can Society and the Association of Pakistani Physicians in North America.

“I have been fortunate to practice in south Arkansas for the past 20 years,” said Dr. Malik. “In that time, I’ve treated mothers, fathers, farmers, professionals, students and public servants; all good people who deserve the highest level of cancer treatment options available. By joining CARTI’s network of cancer care providers, I’m able to align my patients with our state’s most respected cancer physicians. To have the expertise of my fellow physicians, plus the most advanced technologies, will be invaluable as we expand the care we can provide to the patients of south Arkansas.”

He earned his medical degree from Nishtar Medical College in Pakistan. He completed residencies in pathology at Cooper Medical Center in Camden, New Jersey and The State University of New York in Buffalo, New York, and in internal medicine at St. Clare’s Hospital in New York, New York. He completed a fellowship in hematology and oncology at the University of Alabama in Birmingham, Alabama.



ACMC Purchases New Furniture and TVs

On Saturday, August 10th, Ashley County Medical Center rolled out 153 pieces of new patient furniture to add comfort, quality, and modernization to your hospital experience. This was the first major new bed and furniture purchase in more than 20 years. The project began several years ago with research and trials of various vendors and furniture. Most importantly with attention of the patient as well as staff needs began this initiative and remain a constant in the final decision of this project.

The furniture replacement process was carefully choreographed beginning with the arrival of two eighteen-wheeler trailers at the loading dock of Ashley County Medical Center at 6:30 a.m. The concerted effort involved teamwork from everyone including the patients, their families, Environmental Services, Engineering, IT, Biomedical, Nursing Management and Leadership and CEO Phillip Gilmore.

When picking the date to deliver and install the new beds and furniture, Saturday was chosen based on the lower-volume of foot traffic throughout the hospital on the weekend. Despite being near full-capacity, the teamwork between staff and patients proved to be successful.

The new Stryker S3 beds are top of the line technology that monitor the patients, and maximize patient comfort. All but two of these beds have the ComfortGel mattresses. There is a piece of gel in the center of the mattress for comfort and protection. There are a couple of IsoTour mattresses used in CCU which is an all gel mattress with features such as turning capability, and low air loss to help protect the skin of patients at risk for breakdown. They also provide a positioning system that will aide staff in turning and repositioning the patient. The Generations Spirit Select bed has features such as keyed lockouts, safety features, and a low height of 11.75 inches.

The beds have several features that help care team members including side rails for patient mobility, and a bed frame that prevents the patient from sliding to the foot of the bed thereby maintaining them in a position of comfort. A folding IV pole is also attached to the bed for ease of use, additional electrical connections for safety, and a TV remote also located on the bed. We are very excited about the built-in fall alarms for various mobility needs, an illuminated control panel at the foot of the bed with a light notification system of patient status providing a visual quick glance for care team members to ensure patient safety.

During this planning process, even the smallest patient was considered. The Nara bassinets found in our Labor and Delivery/Nursery Unit is top of the line with features such as height adjustability for mom to be close to baby, and a bassinet that locks into place for safety of the infant. Facilitating bonding and promoting safety is a functional aspect of these new bassinets.

Patient's also received new comfort recliners, infusion chairs, over bed-tables, night stands, a few sleeper benches, and sleeper chairs, to integrate patient and visitors as part of the care experience. The integration of all the new furniture will benefit patient visitors and staff, reflecting the importance of all those found in the patient experience.



ACMC Installs Arkansas' First 3-D Fujifilm Aspire Cristalle

FUJIFILM Medical Systems U.S.A., Inc., a leading provider of diagnostic imaging and medical informatics solutions, announced today that Ashley County Medical Center has recently invested in new upgrades to its Fujifilm ASPIRE Cristalle digital mammography solution. Fujifilm upgraded Ashley County Medical Center's ASPIRE Cristalle unit with digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT or 3D) – making it the first Fujifilm 3D digital mammography solution to be installed in Arkansas. DBT acquires a series of low-dose images of the breast at different angles; the acquired reconstructed tomographic images provide greater visibility of the breast tissue which can help radiologists identify lesions which might otherwise be difficult to visualize in traditional 2D mammogram images because of the presence of overlapping breast structures.

“Fujifilm is very excited about Ashley County Medical Center's latest upgrade to technology that will enhance their ability to provide quality care to the people of their community and surrounding areas,” said Rob Fabrizio, Director of Strategic Marketing, Digital Radiography, Computed Tomography and Women's Health, FUJIFILM Medical Systems U.S.A., Inc. “The ASPIRE Cristalle with digital breast tomosynthesis is designed to improve visibility for greater diagnostic confidence, increase patient comfort and improve the overall patient experience.”

Fujifilm's ASPIRE Cristalle with DBT combines state-of-the-art, Hexagonal Close Pattern (HCP) capture technology and intelligent image processing, optimizing dose and contrast based on individual breast composition. The result is low dose and fast acquisition of exceptional images for all breast types. In addition, patients can experience a noticeable improvement in comfort during procedures with Fujifilm's patented, flexible comfort paddle design, which provides gentle and even compression that is designed to more comfortably adapt to patient curves.

“This is a breakthrough in women's health,” said Dr. James Workman, Radiologist at Ashley County Medical Center. “We expect it to improve the ability to differentiate smaller cancers from the surrounding tissue and help distinguish cancerous tissue from noncancerous tissue. We also expect this will decrease the number of false positive call backs for our patients, meaning women can feel calmer.”

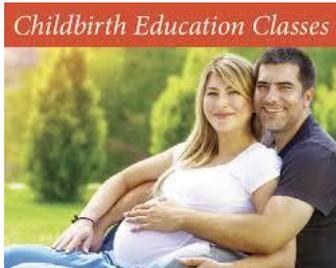
For the Crossett, Arkansas community, the addition of Ashley County Medical Center's ASPIRE Cristalle has helped clinicians diagnose patients, ensuring that more women have access to these lifesaving mammograms. Most importantly, the new addition of DBT will bring even higher diagnostic capabilities to help physicians diagnose cancers earlier for better patient outcomes.

With roots tracing back to 1908, the hospital has been providing treatment and care to patients in the area for more than a century. The hospital is committed to providing excellent care to their patients in their community and surrounding areas.



ACMC Swing Bed Program

After a surgery, injury, illness, or stroke, you may be improving, but still require some additional skilled care before transitioning to your home environment. Ashley County Medical Center offers a skilled nursing level of hospitalization care called Swing Bed for patients who need certain services before discharging home. Swing bed patients are cared for on our acute care med-surg floor by our staff of well-trained health care professionals. You will receive high quality care close to home where you are close to friends, family, and loved ones. If you or a family member are interested in our comprehensive Swing Bed services please call Ashley Whitaker at 870-364-0538 for more information.



The Obstetrics (Labor and Delivery) Unit host Childbirth classes monthly. If you would like to sign up or have any questions please contact Laurie Kilcrease, RN BSN at 870-364-1289. Classes are generally held the last Thursday of every month but could change so please contact Laurie for more information.



Once a quarter we offer Safety Baby Showers for Expecting moms and their family. The focus is on injury prevention and safe sleep. We discuss an array of topics to prevent unintentional injuries to infants and children. Topics include suffocation, burns, drowning, falls, safe sleep, period of purple crying, fire safety, and car seat safety. ACMC has certified child safety passenger technicians that can assist you with installation of your car seat. For more information call Amanda Autenreath, RN BSN at 870-364-1226.



Cuddles Infant Protection, protects newborn patients from the threat of abduction. This is a high priority for ACMC that will add to the quality and security of our smallest patients. The infant protection bracelet puts infant comfort first, it provides security and will trigger an alarm if the infant is carried outside the set perimeter. The Cuddles system is reliable, comfortable, and adapts to small changes in babies' size and weight after birth. We are comforted with the most reliable technology to prevent abductions and ensure the safety and security of every infant.



Education Corner:



Diabetes Education: If you or someone you know has diabetes we have several learning opportunities for you! Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support Program, Diabetes Empowerment Education Program and monthly free cooking classes. Please visit our website for more information!

Managing Diabetes

ACMC offers several options for educational opportunities for patients with diabetes.

Diabetes education is a collaborative process through which people with or at risk for diabetes gain the knowledge and skills needed to modify behavior and successfully self-manage the disease and its related conditions. The program is comprehensive and taught by diabetes educators who have extensive training.

Diabetes Empowerment Education Program (DEEP)

Sponsored by the Arkansas Rural Health Partnership, the Diabetes Empowerment Education Program (DEEP), teaches participants how to change their lives by learning how to control their diabetes. The free classes will cover topics from how diabetes affects the body and making sense of blood sugar numbers, to coping with the disease, and how diet and exercise are crucial to making diabetes more manageable.

DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT TRAINING (DSMT)

Ashley County Medical Center's Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support Program is an outpatient program consisting of individual and group classes. Our program is accredited by the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE). It includes high-quality education that meets national standards. Our licensed staff are leaders in their profession and are here to assist you with your healthcare needs.

We have classes but not in the traditional sense. We use educational tools recommended by the American Diabetes Association, including "Conversation Maps" - visuals that make details and facts easy to understand. These tools help you visualize what you've learned and so that you can make better daily decisions and ultimately feel better.

Managing diabetes is much more than just taking medicine. Throughout the program you will learn and understand what is going on inside your body. You'll learn the best methods of taking charge of your condition. You'll see how everyday decisions—like meal planning, exercise, testing your blood sugar, taking your medications and even checking your feet—can impact your condition and quality of life. And you'll develop and leave with a treatment plan you can live with.

