

**March 2008**

**Monthly newsletter for physicians  
at Thomasville Medical Center**

### **New Emergency Department to Open Soon**

Many of you are anxiously awaiting the opening of the new ED at TMC. In comparison to the existing department, it will expand from 3700 square feet to 24,000 and increase from 10 beds to 27 beds which will include 5 chest pain center observation beds, 6 minor care rooms, 3 high acuity rooms and 2 orthopedic rooms (including one isolation room). The open house for the community is Sunday, April 27th from 2 until 4 pm. The tentative opening date will occur within the next 2 weeks (no date has currently been confirmed).

### **Reminder: Extended System Downtime in April**

This is a reminder that on April 19 at 1pm, all facilities within Novant will experience an extended clinical system downtime. The reason for the downtime is to upgrade Net Access to Invision 27. We are preparing for Net Access to be unavailable for up to 24 hours but are anticipating a much shorter downtime. An "Invision 27 Downtime" committee has been working with physicians and department leaders to insure patient care is uninterrupted. In fact, a mock downtime was held on March 9 to test our preparedness for April 19 and went remarkably well. Further information will be made available as we near the April downtime.

### **March is DVT Awareness Month**

Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) Awareness Month is a multi-faceted campaign aimed at raising awareness among consumers, healthcare professionals and policy-makers about DVT and PE on a national and local level. According to the American Heart Association, up to two million Americans are affected annually by DVT. Of those who develop pulmonary embolism, up to 300,000 will die each year. More Americans die annually from DVT/PE than from breast cancer and AIDS combined. For more information, go to [www.preventdvt.org](http://www.preventdvt.org).

### **Pharmacy Shortage Backorders**

- IV levothyroxine – unavailable from the manufacturer until mid-late March, TMC has limited supply please try to use PO whenever possible
- IV torsemide (Demadex®) - unavailable from the manufacturer until mid-late March, please try to use IV furosemide or IV bumetanide whenever possible
- All heparin manufactured by Baxter has been recalled. In January only the multi dose vials were recalled. At that time the pharmacy pulled all multi dose and single dose vials and replaced stock from a different manufacturer.

### **American Dietetic Association Urges Everyone to Start Having an Annual "Nutrition Checkup"**

The American Dietetic Association is asking physicians to encourage their patients to see a registered dietician on an annual basis to help manage their nutritional needs. Patients often are not aware that many health insurance plans now cover visits to a registered dietitian, sometimes without a doctor's referral. In 2002, Medicare began reimbursing for medical nutrition therapy provided by an RD for people with diabetes and kidney disease. For more information or to locate a registered dietitian in your area, visit the American Dietetic Association at [www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org).

### **Upcoming Events**

- March 27<sup>th</sup> Doctor's Day Breakfast, 7am, Physician's Lounge
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> "Project CDAD: Outbreak Prevention and Control, Dr. Keith Kaye Duke University 12:15-1:15pm Board Room

# New Physicians at TMC

(Associate Medical Staff)



**Joseph Ayoub, MD** – Radiology

Privilege Request: Radiology

Status: Associate

Group: Triad Radiology

Medical School: Texas A&M

Internship: St. Josephs Hospital

Residency: University of TN at Knoxville / WFUBMC



**Charles Katopes, MD** – Gastroenterology

Privilege Request: Gastroenterology with Conscious Sedation

Status: Consulting

Group: Digestive Health Specialists

Medical School: SUNY-Downtown Medical Center

Internship: Brown University

Residency: Brown University



**Tom Orli, MD** – Gastroenterology

Privilege Request: Gastroenterology with Conscious Sedation

Status: Consulting

Group: Digestive Health Specialists

Medical School: East Carolina University

Internship: Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center

Residency: Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center

Fellowship: University of Alabama at Birmingham

(Allied Health)

- **Michelle Vriesema** - EEG/EMG Technologist