

## September 2007 Monthly newsletter for physicians at Thomasville Medical Center

### **STEMI Patient Transfer program**

Did you know that acute MI patients (STEMI) can be transferred from Thomasville Medical Center to Forsyth Medical Center and restore blood flow to the heart muscle within "The Golden Hour", which is defined less than 90 minutes? The program which is called R.A.C.E. (Reperfusion of Acute Myocardial Infarction in Carolina Emergency Departments) is based upon the collaborative efforts of EMS personnel, physicians, and nurses with both facilities. During the first two quarters, the average D2B (door to balloon) time from TMC to FMC was 86 min. For more info about the R.A.C.E. program, visit <http://www.nccacc.org/race.html> or contact Kim Smith at (336) 476-2450.

### **New Inpatient Reimbursement System, Effective October 1**

As you may be aware, CMS recently adopted the IPPS Final Rule, which goes into effect October 1, 2007. The "Final Rule" brings changes to reimbursements, particularly requirements for physician documentation. Novant has contracted with Navigant Consulting to provide education on how this new policy will affect physicians. We are in the process of setting up meetings with physicians in various forums to provide specialty specific education.

### **DNR Forms**

The question recently arose whether a copy should ever be made for a patient's file when the form itself specifically states "DO NOT COPY". Answer...A copy can be made simply to reference the fact that there is a DNR document (the original yellow DNR) with the patient and its terms. Obviously, the copy is not sufficient to stand alone as a DNR Order. A copy might be a good flag that a new one needs to be issued, if it has expired, or that it needs to be re-evaluated. The Pastoral Care Department (476-2499) can supply you with DNR Forms. They can also be ordered directly from the NC Dept of Facility Services.

### **Nominations Requested**

The Triad Retirement Living Association (TRLA) is accepting applications for the Third Annual Elder Caregiver of the Year Award to be presented in March 2008. Please help us recognize those people who go above and beyond in their care for the elders of the Triad. Information and an application are available at [www.triadretirement.com](http://www.triadretirement.com).

### **Physician News - Resignations**

- Dr. John LaFata w/Thomasville Medical Associates – Internal Medicine privileges
- Dr. Shekar Kumar w/ BT Heart and Vascular Center in Greensboro – Cardiology privileges

### **Upcoming CME's**

- September 18                      Melissa Phipps "Legal Changes Effecting End of Life Issues"
- September 19<sup>th</sup>                    VHA Virtual Breast Tumor Board 3:00pm-4:00pm in the Education Classroom
- September 25                    Dr. DeKarlos Dial "The Diabetic Foot and Ankle"
- October 16<sup>th</sup>                      Dr. DeKarlos Dial "Stress Fractures in the Foot and Ankle"

### **Upcoming Events**

Next Medical Staff meeting – September 11 – 6:30 in hospital cafeteria

TMC Foundation Golf Tournament - September 19, Meadowlands Golf Course. Call Linda Hunt (336) 476-2881

## New Physicians at TMC

### Monica Hill D.O.



Dr. Hill is a full-time hospitalist with the IPOD group in Thomasville. She completed her undergrad degree at University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Hill graduated medical school at Des Moines University in Iowa and completed her internship and residency at Doctors' Hospital in Columbus, Ohio where she was Resident of the Year. She has a great deal of experience working at various hospitals throughout the state as a hospitalist. She is board certified in Internal Medicine. Her special medical interests are in Palliative of Care and End of Life issues. On a personal note, she is a native of Athens, Georgia and an avid college football fan of University of Georgia.

#### Practice:

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