



Dr. Robin Durrett

**Dr. Robin Durrett retires
Clara Barton continues
his tradition of care**

Clara Barton Hospital and Clinics has announced that Dr. Robin Durrett, DO, has retired as of December 17, in order to focus on his health and deal with a personal medical issue.

"Godspeed to Dr. Durrett and his family . . . our Clara Barton family is with them every step of the way through this trying time," conveys Jim Blackwell, Chief Executive Officer at Clara Barton.

A stanchion of support for the Hospital, Foundation, and the whole community of Hoisington, Dr. Durrett has served the patients of Clara Barton for 20 years, beginning his private practice in 1994, performing surgeries at Clara Barton. In 2012, Dr. Durrett's practice was acquired by the Hospital, which then expanded its clinical offerings by opening Clara Barton Surgical Services, with Dr. Durrett performing surgeries in both Hoisington and Great Bend.

"Dr. Durrett has been an amazing surgeon

and physician for Clara Barton Hospital," states Jane Schepmann, Chief Nursing Officer at Clara Barton. "He has saved lives, improved quality of life, and truly cared for our patients. We can continue to look to his example of skill and compassion as we provide patient care."

Clara Barton will continue his tradition of skilled, compassionate medical care with the Clara Barton Surgical Services clinic. Dr. Jeremy Howes began practicing in January at the surgical clinic, with Leah Alpers, PA-C, and Murray Holcomb, MD. Beginning in July, Dr. Patrick (PJ) Stiles, of Claflin, will begin his practice at the clinic alongside Howes.

"Our team has been providing excellent surgical outcomes and will continue to do so," reports Blackwell. "We are incredibly fortunate that Dr. Durrett is helping guide our Hospital Board of Directors and leadership team with a succession plan that will best serve our patients."



Dr. Jeremy Howes

**Clara Barton welcomes
Dr. Howes**

Clara Barton Hospital and Clinics is announced in January that Jeremy Howes, MD, is joining the Clara Barton family as a general surgeon at Clara Barton Surgical Services.

"Dr. Howes provides excellent surgical outcomes, and his practice will be a great fit for our community," remarks Dr. Robin Durrett, retired general surgeon. Dr. Durrett and the administration at Clara Barton worked to develop a succession plan since he announced his retirement in December.

Dr. Howes has been performing all the surgeries that have traditionally been offered at Clara Barton and looks to expand the offering.

"I hope to be able to offer a wider range of procedures to our patients," explained Dr. Howes. "Patients would generally have to travel to get more complex laparoscopic procedures performed; I want them to stay close to home, to be more comfortable." Dr. Howes specializes in general

surgery, trauma surgery, laparoscopic bariatric surgery (weight loss surgery), and spinal approach surgery.

Dr. Howes is a native of Louisiana and graduated from the Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans. He did his general surgery residency at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Wichita. Dr. Howes is a veteran, serving in the Armed Forces for 13 years, resigning with the rank of captain in 2006 to begin his medical practice.

Dr. Howes is certified by the American Board of Surgery, and he belongs to the American College of Surgeons, the American Medical Association, the Kansas Medical Society, and the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgeons. He is also a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Wichita.

"Dr. Howes is skilled and dedicated to the academic and practical aspects of surgery; our

team has been providing excellent surgical outcomes and will continue to do so with Dr. Howes directing and leading that effort," reports Jim Blackwell, CFO/Interim

CEO at Clara Barton. "We are incredibly fortunate that Dr. Durrett has helped guide our Hospital Board of Directors and leadership team with this process."



Dr. Patrick "PJ" Stiles

**Clara Barton welcomes
Dr. Stiles**

Clara Barton Hospital and Clinics is pleased to announce that Patrick "PJ" Stiles, MD, of Claflin, is joining the Clara Barton family as a general surgeon at Clara Barton Surgical Services, beginning in July.

"Having worked with Dr. Stiles during his residency, I know he is fully capable and will excel in his practice here at Clara Barton," remarks Dr. Jeremy Howes, general surgeon at Clara Barton. Howes stepped into the practice after Dr. Robin Durrett, long-time general surgeon retired in December. "It will be great working with him on the team."

"I am excited to come back home," says Stiles, a native of Claflin, and son to Pat and Pam Stiles. "It's always nice to come back to your hometown area and be able

to give back to that community." Stiles is moving back to the area with his wife Robyn, and four children: Camden, 6, Jayden, 4, Gage, 3, and Colby, 1.

Stiles graduated from and did his general surgery residency at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Wichita. During his time in medical school and his residency, Stiles was awarded multiple awards: Student Choice Award (two times), Jayhawker MD Resident Award, Gold Humanism Honor Society, The Deborah E Powell Pride in the Profession Award, among others.

Prior to medical school, Stiles attended Washington University in St. Louis, where he earned his B.A. in Biology, and Cloud County Community College, where he earned an Associates degree of arts.

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