

# GBRH announce the addition of a Hospitalist patient service

Great Bend Regional Hospital is pleased to announce the addition of a Hospitalist program to its list of patient services. A hospitalist is a physician or advanced practice provider (PA or nurse practitioner) whose sole responsibility is to provide care to patients in the hospital. This model of care delivery offers multiple advantages, both to patients and their primary care providers, with the end result of continued high quality patient outcomes.

One of the most important benefits of the hospitalist model is improved care of the hospitalized patient. Traditionally, a patient's primary care provider would make rounds each morning and then spend the rest of the day in clinic. This could make it difficult for the provider to coordinate with the patient's family, who might not be present when the provider rounded early in the morning. If a patient in the hospital had issues, then their doctor had to break away from clinic to attend to the problem. With the hospitalist model, the provider is in the hospital for most of the daytime



hours, making it easier and faster to respond to situations and making the provider more available to meet with family. They are on call after hours, as well. This increase in availability improves patient outcomes.

Another key advantage of the Hospitalist program, is that it allows the patient's primary care provider to focus solely on patients in the clinic, which reduces the chance that people will be left waiting because their doctor had to attend to a hospital emergency. There are many changes in the medical world that have put a strain on provider capacity, including an aging population, new government regulations, and changes in insurance coverage. This is especially a problem in rural areas, where physicians are in limited supply. The hospitalist program helps alleviate this issue by allowing primary care providers more time for patient care in the clinic. This is a benefit to both patients and their primary care providers.

With the Hospitalist program, admissions to the hospital will occur exactly as they have previously, with the only change being who attends to the medical needs of the hospitalized patient. Many patients are being admitted to the hospital through the Emergency Room. This will continue and, in fact, is made easier under the new model with the ready availability of the hospitalist. Patients can also be admitted directly to the hospital from outpatient clinics, as the primary care or specialty offices will be able to communicate directly with the hospitalist to arrange a patient's admission to GBRH. The hospitalist will keep primary care providers updated on patient admissions and hospital progress. Upon discharge, the hospitalist will communicate with referring providers regarding the hospital stay and any follow up needs the patient may have. This ensures continuity of care for the patient.

GBRH's hospitalist program began official operation on September 5. The service will care for patients ages 18 and above. It is led by Dr. Mark Van Norden, a Family Medicine physician, who has worked at Great Bend Regional since 2009. He will be assisted by Mindy Joye, PA. Mindy has extensive experience working in hospital-based, critical care pulmonology in Topeka. Mindy began working at Great Bend Regional in August. Other providers who will help cover the hospitalist service include Dr. Celestine Ofoma and Dr. Stan Hatesohl. Dr. Ofoma is an Internal Medicine physician who has practiced in the Great Bend area since 2004. Dr. Hatesohl is a Family Medicine physician who has practiced locally since 2012. Throughout their careers these providers have 66 years of combined experience and look forward to providing high quality care to our patients at Great Bend Regional Hospital.



# The Center provides many programs for mental health

Community mental health centers exist to provide licensed, qualified mental health services and supports to all members of their communities, regardless of their ability to pay. In addition to being a safety net for those in mental crisis, a community mental health center provides treatment, education, prevention and intervention and support for clients.

Mental health has always been important, and now more than ever, people are learning the many benefits of seeking support and accessing services through their local community mental health center. The Center for Counseling and Consultation has been serving Barton, Pawnee, Rice, and Stafford Counties for fifty years.

In addition to individual and family counseling, The Center's Substance Use Program provides individual and group



counseling, substance use evaluations, screening and referral through our community based and support services. The center provides Case management, psychosocial group activities and attendant care for those who qualify and The Center provides medication evaluation and med management services.

Crisis services are available 24/7 by calling 800-875- 2544, and walk-in access is available Monday through Thursday from 8am to 3pm and Fridays from 8am to 2pm. If you are interested in learning more or would like to talk to someone, please call us at 620-792-2544 or 800-875- 2544 – visit us on the web at: [www.thecentergb.org](http://www.thecentergb.org)



*"Committed to, and Caring for, the Community."*

## MEET OUR HOSPITALISTS

Dr. Stan Hatesohl

Dr. Mark Van Norden

Dr. Celestine Ofoma

Melinda Joye PA

**A Hospitalist...**

- Exclusively treats patients who are in the hospital age 18 and over including inpatient, ICU and swing bed patients
- Keeps healthcare local for the patient while meeting hospital needs here in the community
- Communicates medication changes, follow up needs and treatment recommendations with your family doctor
- Collaborates with your family doctor to provide continuity of care
- Consults with other providers and specialists as needed

**Great Bend REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
A Physician Owned Hospital

**620-792-8833**  
514 Cleveland Street | Great Bend

[www.gbregional.com](http://www.gbregional.com)

September

NATIONAL

# RECOVERY MONTH

*Does everything have to be this hard?*

*Do I need help?*

**Here's what we can do to help:**

- One on One Support
- Someone Who Listens
- Guides You in the Right Direction

**The Center**  
FOR COUNSELING & CONSULTATION

A Licensed Community Mental Health Center

**(620) 792-2544 • [www.thecentergb.org](http://www.thecentergb.org)**