

Physicians Groups of Southwestern Illinois

OSF Saint Anthony's Health Center and SSM Health form new affiliation

Patients of OSF HealthCare Saint Anthony Health Center in the greater Riverbend community now have better access to a comprehensive network of specialty and subspecialty physicians through the formation of a new strategic affiliation with SSM Health, a Catholic health care system based in the St. Louis area.

Behind the early success of this strategic affiliation are aligned missions and common values. This foundation is mutually beneficial for both organizations and their patients. The affiliation complements areas of expertise from each organization and is a balanced collaborative approach. Collaboration at any level of the partnership – planning, operations or service delivery — is most successful when it leverages each partner's core competencies.

The affiliation strategy is to better serve patients in the community by bringing exceptional medical and surgical specialties closer to home. The joint commitment is to expand the network of expert specialty and subspecialty physicians and provide a comprehensive network for patients in the greater Riverbend community.

"We live in an exciting time of change in the health care sector. In response to this dynamic environment, we are looking for innovative solutions that improve efficiency, improve quality and, above all, produce better outcomes for our patients," says Jerry Rumph, President, OSF Saint Anthony's Health Center.

To be most successful, hospitals must pool their strengths, talents and resources to stay ahead of the curve and adapt to the rapidly changing healthcare landscape.

"In creating this joint relationship, each organization can focus on what it does best. The primary goal of the partnership is to bring additional resources to the OSF Saint Anthony's Health Center campus and provide that care closer to home. For the specialty and subspecialty medical care that we cannot provide on our campus, the partnership with SSM Health and Saint Louis University Hospital provides world-class care for our patients with the goal to return these patients to their own community for follow-up care and support," Rumph says.

One of the first collaborations is the addition of Sridhar Kumar, MD, a cardiologist at SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital and Dr. Ameera Nauman, MD, a pediatrician at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. OSF Saint Anthony's Health Center is looking forward to additional specialists from SSM Health joining the team in the near future.

Anderson Medical Group physician adopts focused, individualized patient care model

A changeover from a traditional medical practice to one that follows the "MDVIP model" has allowed Tibor Kopjas, MD to spend more time with each patient and focus entirely on their diagnosis, treatment and care. Because MDVIP-affiliated doctors limit their practice to member patients, they build a much deeper doctor-patient relationship.

"Throughout my 36 years in medicine, I have always sought out new challenges," noted Dr. Kopjas. "My change from a traditional practice to the MDVIP model has returned me to my original beliefs about what a doctor-patient relationship should be. With this new perspective, I am able to deliver my passions in medicine: education, two-way dialogue, partnership, application of new and promising treatments and the joy of exercise."

Patients of Dr. Kopjas have access to his compassionate, kind, and respectful care 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. After regular office hours, patients can reach him via cell phone, with same- or next-day appointments

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available as well. "If you are traveling, you can contact my office by phone, and if needed, a prescription can be called in or a patient can receive treatment directions over the phone," Dr. Kopjas said.

Dr. Kopjas meets with new patients at their initial appointments for one hour to access their health needs; routine visits are given 30 minutes to continue their conversations and care. Patients also have access to yearly exams through the Executive Cleveland Clinic Heart Lab.

In 2000, the idea for MDVIP was launched from the minds of a group of primary care doctors who felt that the healthcare system was losing its way. Since its inception, its Executive Health Program offers a benefit to participating employers that not only helps to attract and retain employees but also keeps their employees engaged. The MDVIP program does not replace existing health insurance but accompanies it well.

Located at 6812 State Rte. 162, Suite 209, Maryville, Dr. Kopjas works independently and with MDVIP through Anderson Medical Group. To learn more, call (618) 391-5061 or visit online at MDVIP.com/doctors/tiborkopjasMD.

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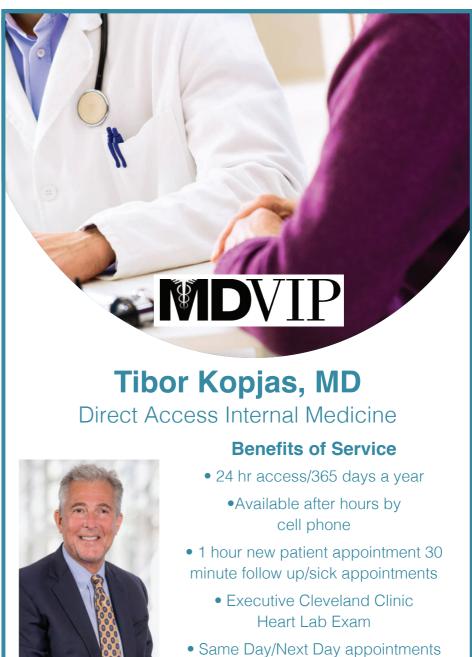
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