One of America’s Best Hospitals for Pulmonary Care

Healthgrades has named Bozeman Deaconess Health Services as one of America’s 100 Best Hospitals for Pulmonary Care. Healthgrades, a leading online resource helping consumers compare physicians, hospitals and care, evaluated nearly 4,500 hospitals nationwide for 33 of the most common inpatient procedures and conditions and identified the 100 best performing hospitals within each procedure.

Bozeman Deaconess also received Healthgrades 2015 Pulmonary Care Excellence Award, and was awarded Five Stars for treatment of heart attack and heart failure, total knee replacement, COPD, pneumonia, GI bleed, bowel obstruction, and sepsis.

“These awards are a testament to our system-wide dedication to our highest priorities—clinical quality, patient care, and providing exceptional healthcare in our community,” said Kevin Pitzer, President and CEO of Bozeman Deaconess Health Services. “They recognize the commitment by every employee and medical staff member to continuous improvement, and validate our efforts to be a ‘high reliability’ healthcare system.”

The achievements are part of Healthgrades’ 2015 Report to the Nation, based on evaluations of 40 million Medicare-patient records, which demonstrates how clinical performance differs dramatically between hospitals and the impact variations may have on health outcomes. According to Healthgrades, from 2011-2013, if all hospitals as a group performed similarly to those hospitals receiving Five Stars as a group, on average 228,426 lives potentially could have been saved and 169,298 complications avoided for Medicare patients. For more information, go to Healthgrades.com.

Recognized for an Outstanding Record in Patient Safety with an “A” Hospital Safety Score by The Leapfrog Group

Bozeman Deaconess Health Services was honored with an “A” grade in the Fall 2014 Hospital Safety Score, which rates how well hospitals protect patients from errors, injuries and infections. The Hospital Safety Score is compiled under the guidance of leading experts on patient safety and is administered by The Leapfrog Group, an independent industry watchdog. The Score is designed to give consumers information they can use to protect themselves and their loved ones.

Cont’d on page 4
FIVE BOZEMAN DEACONESS HEALTH GROUP CLINICS EARN PATIENT CENTERED MEDICAL HOME RECOGNITION

Bozeman Deaconess Health Group (BDHG) recently announced that the national committee for Quality Assurance has honored five BDHG clinics by recognizing them as level 3 patient-centered medical homes (PCMH).

Bozeman Deaconess Belgrade Clinic was recognized as a Level 3 PCMH for the first time, while recognition was granted for the second time to Bozeman Deaconess Bridger Internal Medicine, Bozeman Deaconess Family Medicine and Pediatrics, Bozeman Deaconess Internal Medicine Associates, and Bozeman Deaconess Spinelli Internal Medicine. The four BDHG clinics recognized initially in 2011 were the first clinics in Montana to achieve this distinction.

“The NCQA standards to achieve Level 3 recognition have become much more stringent since the organization’s original application, and achieving Level 3 recognition is a testament to the efforts of a large contingent of people that focus on PCMH on a daily basis,” said Tracy Reamy, RN, director of clinic operations for BDHG.

To achieve PCMH Level 3, each of the clinics had to fulfill ten elements, including written standards for patient access and patient communication, active support of patient self-management and measurement of clinical and/or service performance.

Reamy credits the providers and staff in the five clinics for their ongoing efforts in achieving and maintaining PCMH standards in their daily care of patients. “We found during the application process that patient centered care is truly part of our culture, which is much more than the recognition, but affects our patient outcomes in a positive way,” she said.

The medical home is best described as a model or philosophy of primary care that is patient-centered, comprehensive, team-based, coordinated, accessible, and focused on quality and safety. “The patient-centered medical home is a way of organizing primary care that emphasizes care coordination and communication to transform primary care into what patients want it to be,” according to the NCQA website. “Medical homes can lead to higher quality and lower costs, and can improve patients’ and providers’ experience of care.”

BDHG Vice President Chris Darnell added, “This is a great achievement for the Health Group and our whole organization, because it speaks directly to our commitment to patient-centeredness.”
THE TWO PHASE, $5.8 MILLION PROJECT, FUNDED IN LARGE PART BY DONATIONS THROUGH BOZEMAN DEACONESS FOUNDATION, PROVIDES AN EXPANDED CANCER CENTER FOR OUR PATIENTS.

During Phase 1, a Varian Trilogy linear accelerator and new vault were added to provide expanded capabilities with advanced treatment to patients in radiation oncology.

Phase 2 focused on medical oncology and boosted the number of infusion chairs from 12 to 17. The project also added two private infusion rooms, increased the number of examination rooms from six to 11 and doubled the size of the oncology pharmacy and oncology laboratory.
BOZEMAN DEACONESS HEALTH SERVICES IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE IT RECENTLY ACQUIRED CLINICAL RESEARCH GROUP OF MONTANA (CRGMT). CRGMT WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE UNDER ITS CURRENT STRUCTURE.

Clinical Research Group of Montana conducts dedicated drug and device clinical trials in the Gallatin Valley. Studies are done to ensure the efficacy of current and future treatments. Study participants are chosen from local volunteers who meet various criteria dependent upon the trial. Clinical research gives the clinical trial volunteer an opportunity to receive pre-market treatments that may improve their condition or restore their health. Reimbursement for travel and time is included for study participants.

Clinical Research Group of Montana has a number of current clinical trials active including studies on asthma and nasal polyps. For more information, contact CRGMT at 406-586-2444.

Cont’d from page 1

families when facing a hospital stay.

“It is a true honor and tribute to our system-wide focus on safety to earn this award again,” said Kevin Pitzer, President and CEO of BDHS. “It affirms the efforts of every physician, provider, nurse and staff member to continually look for ways to ensure every patient receives safe, top-quality care in every situation.” Bozeman Deaconess previously earned “A” grades in the Hospital Safety Score in 2012 and 2013, reflecting the entire organization’s long-term efforts to make patient safety our number one priority, Pitzer added.

“Patient safety needs to be a 24-7 priority for hospitals, as errors and infections are all too common and often deadly,” said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “We commend the A hospitals, including Bozeman Deaconess, for helping us to raise the standards of health care nationwide, and demonstrating that they’ve made the well-being of patients a top priority.”

Developed under the guidance of Leapfrog’s Blue Ribbon Expert Panel, the Hospital Safety Score uses 28 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to produce a single “A,” “B,” “C,” “D,” or “F” score representing a hospital’s overall capacity to keep patients safe from preventable harm. More than 2,500 U.S. general hospitals were assigned scores in fall 2014, with about 31% receiving an “A” grade.

Consumers can go to www.hospitalsafetyscore.org to access consumer-friendly tips for patients and their loved ones and see how BDH’s score compares nationally and locally.

### Strong Focus on Healthcare Leads to Healthstrong Hospital Rating

Bozeman Deaconess Hospital offers award-winning care and continues to be honored by industry professionals for those efforts. Recently, BDH was named a 2014 Healthstrong Hospital by Vantage Health Analytics®, a leading healthcare advisory and business analytic services company.

Based on measurements of ten equally rated “pillars of performance” at 4,299 acute care hospitals, BDH received a Hospital Strength Index™ rank of 99.8. That score placed BDH into Vantage’s top tier of 547 Healthstrong hospitals.

“Once again, it is gratifying to see how our efforts to improve care, maintain safety and contain costs are recognized by professionals in the healthcare industry,” said Pitzer. “This award reinforces our organization-wide focus on providing top-quality healthcare to every resident and visitor to the Gallatin Valley who needs hospital services, for whatever reason.”

Vantage calls its Hospital Strength Index™ “the industry’s most comprehensive ratings system based on publically available data. The ten pillars are grouped into three categories: Risk (Competitive Strength, Competitive Intensity, Market Size and Growth, Population Risk), Value (Cost, Charge, Quality, Outcomes, Patient Perspectives), and Performance (Financial Stability).

More than 2,500 U.S. general hospitals were assigned scores in fall 2014, with about 31% receiving an “A” grade.
BDHS SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH SANFORD HEALTH TO PROVIDE ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS FOR PATIENTS

In December 2015, BDHS will convert to the Epic EHR system. The affiliation agreement provides BDHS with access to the industry’s most advanced electronic health records system, Epic.

In December 2015, BDHS will convert to the Epic EHR system. Epic will allow providers, nurses and other medical professionals in inpatient, outpatient and Bozeman Deaconess Health Group clinic settings a seamless means of collecting, storing, accessing and securing a patient’s medical information in an electronic format. Epic estimates roughly half of the U.S. population has a record with a health system that uses Epic, and about 281,000 physicians use Epic as their EHR.

According to Kevin Pitzer, Bozeman Deaconess Health Services CEO & President, “For many years we’ve had separate hospital and clinic patient electronic health records. Epic will move us to a single integrated EHR. This means that regardless where a patient may access care across our health system, their comprehensive medical record will be available to their providers, nurses and other health professionals. Our patients will appreciate the convenience, privacy, personal access and other benefits the Epic system will provide.” Pitzer also discussed the agreement with Sanford, “Implementing this advanced software system would not be feasible without a coordinated effort and partnership with Sanford Health. Partnering with Sanford allows us to implement the best electronic health record technology in the industry.”

Sanford Health is the largest, rural, not-for-profit health care system in the nation with locations in nine states. The implementation of Epic at BDHS is the 38th in Sanford Health’s history and its second implementation in Montana. BDHS also becomes the third Montana health system to become a member of the Sanford Health Network, joining Sidney Health Center in Sidney, Montana, and Liberty Medical Center in Chester, Montana. “We are committed to serving the electronic health record needs of patients in Montana,” said Nate White, Chief Operating Officer, Sanford Health. “This relationship is another example of delivering on that promise. A closer affiliation between BDHS and Sanford seeks to address the changing health care environment so that we can all continue to offer the best patient care possible. We are thrilled to be working with such a strong partner to enhance patient care in the region.”
HEALTHCARE CONNECTIONS OFFERS PREVENTIVE SCREENINGS

PREVENTIVE HEALTHCARE FROM BOZEMAN DEACONESS HEALTH SERVICES IS NOW AVAILABLE ACROSS GALLATIN COUNTY THANKS TO OUTREACH CARE (HCC). Immunizations (flu, whooping cough and pneumonia), breast and colon cancer, heart disease, stroke, diabetes and obesity) with health education, for the uninsured.

It replaces the Community Care Connect vehicle previously used for mobile services.

“Routine checkups, health-risk assessments, immunizations and screening tests can reduce the risk of diabetes, cardiovascular disease and complications from preventable infectious diseases like whooping cough or influenza,” added Bozeman Deaconess Health Group President James Loeffelholz, MD.

WINTER SCHEDULE

January 10, 9 am–1 pm
Main Street, Three Forks

January 20, 11 am–3 pm
Bozeman Public Library,
E. Main Street

January 31, 9 am–2 pm
Project Homeless,
First Presbyterian Church, Bozeman

February 21, 11 am–3 pm
Central Valley Fire House Station No.1,
205 E. Main, Belgrade

February 24, 11 am–3 pm
Gallatin Valley Food Bank, Bozeman

March 7, 9 am–1 pm
Main Street, Manhattan

March 21, 9 am–1 pm
Wal–Mart, Bozeman

March 24, 11 am–3 pm
Belgrade Public Library,
106 N. Broadway, Belgrade

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STACIE HARLAN RECOGNIZED WITH DAISY AWARD

When Stacie Harlan, BSN, RN, joined Bozeman Deaconess Radiology four years ago, she brought skills that helped improve the patient experience. For her efforts, Harlan was honored in September with a Daisy Award, the program that celebrates the extraordinary clinical skills and compassionate care given by nurses every day.

Harlan was nominated for initiating the PICC program at BDHS, or peripherally inserted central catheter, in which long-term central lines are placed in a patient that can be used for chemotherapy, intravenous antibiotics and nutrition or for patients with difficult IV access.

A graduate of Montana State University who learned the procedure in a previous position, Harlan was asked to train her nurse colleagues in Radiology so Bozeman Deaconess could provide insertion, care and maintenance in-house.

Harlan was surprised by the award, and very grateful for the honor, but credits the support she received from her co-workers. “It’s very special to know you are appreciated by the people you work with,” she said, “but I certainly don’t feel like I stand alone.”

PREPARING FOR THE UNEXPECTED DURING WINTER SPORTS

I don’t pretend to be an expert in backcountry skiing, but I have seen quite a few injured skiers over the years, some with life threatening injuries. While skiing at Bridger Bowl last year, I got poked in the leg by a tree branch, tearing my ski pants and causing a large bruise on my thigh. As I checked for bleeding, I realized my pack was missing a few vital ingredients. Here are some of the things I have added since that event that should be considered for basic trauma care in any ski pack, especially if you venture out of bounds.

The first thing I added was a package of QuikClot® gauze, a hemostatic dressing. Also called “Combat Gauze,” it’s more effective at controlling bleeding than standard gauze as it actually promotes clotting. I also added a roll of Coban™ (or Coach), which is a handy self-adhering wrap to put pressure on the hemostatic bandage. I have a small roll of duct tape in my pack as well, which can be used for just about anything, including making a splint with either sticks or your ski poles. If you use it to apply dressings or a splint be careful that you don’t get it too tight, as it is an extremely non-pliant material.

Depending on the extremes of your routes, the possibility of carrying a tourniquet is reasonable. If it is a “you fall, you die” kind of route, it may certainly be possible to end up with a severe extremity injury like an open femur fracture—consider using such a device if you frequent these routes and if bleeding is severe. I don’t personally carry one but they are available at sporting goods stores, Army-Navy stores or Amazon. A good self-locking strap will work as well, and you probably already have those in your pack. Only apply a tourniquet tight enough to stop bleeding. Use would be limited to severe blood loss that isn’t responding to direct pressure and elevation of the extremity. If you decide to pack one, please take the time to learn the proper use and indications for them.

Most wounds suffered on the ski hill will only need minor attention, but always be prepared for the possibility of a more severe injury. I encourage you to take a few minutes to have the proper items in your pack, should you find yourself bleeding badly while waiting for medical support.
LIVE, REFRESHED

DISCOVER JUST A FEW OF THE MANY COSMETIC PROCEDURES AVAILABLE TO KEEP YOU LOOKING AND FEELING FRESH AND REJUVENATED AT BOZEMAN DEACONESS COSMETIC SURGERY AND SYNERGY MEDICAL SPA.

Each year, millions of people in the United States undergo some form of cosmetic procedure. In fact, according to the American Society of Plastic Surgery, 15.1 million cosmetic surgical and non-surgical procedures were performed in the U.S. in 2013 (a 3% increase over the previous year). As this specialized field continues to grow, so too grow the many cosmetic options and services available. With such a wide variety, we’ll explore a few options below.

Breast Augmentation

Today, breast augmentation is the most commonly performed cosmetic surgery operation in the U.S. Bozeman Deaconess Cosmetic Surgery offers two options for breast augmentation: TUBA with saline implants or Transaxillary with gel implants.

Trans-umbilical breast augmentation, or TUBA, allows saline implants to be placed through the navel using an endoscope. The procedure is done entirely subcutaneously (or just under the skin), so it does not involve the abdominal organs or muscles. Highly trained board certified cosmetic surgeon Hugh Hetherington, MD, has completed specialized training in this procedure. “Most women appreciate that this surgery is less invasive than typical breast augmentation so there’s less breast trauma and risk of injury to breast tissue,” according to Dr. Hetherington. “And because it’s less invasive, that means a faster recovery time.” Another great option is Transaxillary with gel implants. It too allows for minimal scarring since the incision site is hidden within the armpit, resulting in natural looking breasts. According to Dr. Hetherington, “There are many benefits to each procedure, and the staff and I provide one-on-one consultations to help the patient determine what the best option is for them.”

Blepharoplasty or Eyelid Surgery

If you’ve tried countless remedies for minimizing bags and sags under your eyes without success, or if you have trouble with excess skin draping over your upper lids, blepharoplasty (or eyelid surgery) could be a solution. Upper eyelid surgery removes excess or overhanging skin, and the incision will be hidden in the natural crease of the eye. A lower blepharoplasty removes excess skin and fat deposits; the incision is hidden just below the natural lash line or just inside the lower lid. A blepharoplasty is performed on an outpatient basis using conscious sedation. According to Dr. Hetherington, “Rejuvenating the eyes can transform a person’s whole look from tired and heavy to refreshed and relaxed. It is very affordable and patients can usually return to work within a week or two.” In some cases, health insurance will cover the procedure if a vision field exam determines a patient’s sight is limited by overhanging upper eyelid skin. Talk with your eye doctor for more information.

Cosmetic Fillers

Cosmetic fillers are now the most common non-surgical solution in the United States. A smoother complexion and more relaxed, youthful appearance can result from a single treatment of Botox and the treatment lasts for up to four months. Most people are familiar with Botox and Dysport which can be used on frown lines and crow’s feet. There are other options available, including Radiesse which works by replenishing your natural collagen volume under the skin. As part of the aging process, natural collagen breaks down; Radiesse helps replenish volume. Smile lines, or parentheses, can be treated with Juvederm, which can last up to a full year. With just one treatment, this smooth gel filler instantly smooths away wrinkles around your mouth and nose.

And great news! Bozeman Deaconess Cosmetic Surgery and Synergy Medical Spa have combined locations for your convenience; you’ll find them on the fourth floor of Highland Park 4, on the Bozeman Deaconess Health Services campus. If you’re interested in learning more about any of these services, contact either Bozeman Deaconess Cosmetic Surgery (406-414-3770) or Bozeman Deaconess Synergy Medical Spa (406-414-5140) or find them on the web at bigskycosmeticsurgery.com and synergymedicalspsabozeman.com.
LIVE WELL WITH HEART FAILURE

A HEART FAILURE DIAGNOSIS OFTEN IS A TURNING POINT IN A PATIENT’S LIFE, LEADING TO IMPROVEMENTS IN DIET, ACTIVITIES AND MORE. Recently, Medicare began coverage of cardiovascular rehabilitation that promote these changes, but only for systolic heart failure. Bozeman Deaconess Heart Center now offers a free program, Live Well with Heart Failure, for those suffering from either systolic or diastolic heart failure.

In systolic dysfunction, enlarged ventricles fill with blood but weakened heart muscle pumps out less than half. With diastolic dysfunction, hardening or thickening of the ventricles, or lower chambers of the heart, prevent them from filling with sufficient blood. While the ventricles pump out blood, the volume may be lower than normal since there is less blood entering the ventricles.

Live Well With Heart Failure, a medically supervised education and exercise program, “was implemented by the hospital to help decrease readmission rates for heart failure patients by giving them the tools they need to lead a heart healthy lifestyle and manage their symptoms,” said Ashley Wishman, MS, CES, a supervisor at Bozeman Deaconess Heart Center. “So far, our patient outcomes have all been positive.”

The free program is tailored to each individual’s needs, and meets twice a week for the first six weeks, with a nominal weekly fee for continuing in the maintenance program. Learn more about heart rehabilitation at a special presentation by Blair Erb, MD, of Bozeman Deaconess Cardiology Consultants, in February. Check our calendar online for details at www.bozemandeaconess.org/events. For more information, or for help in determining which program is right for you, call 406-414-5040.

SAVE THE DAY!
Saturday, March 28
7 am–1 pm
BDHS Health Screening Day
Free and reduced price health screenings for the whole family, and healthy activities for kids. Visit bozemandeaconess.org/events for more information.

SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGY is at the forefront of effective cancer care. Bozeman Deaconess Cancer Center, as a network member of the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, provides advanced treatment for cancer.

Bozeman Deaconess Health Services: READY.

bozemandeaconess.org | (406) 414-5000}

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Mary Alston, MSn, ANP-C, has returned to Bozeman to join Bozeman Deaconess Internal Medicine Associates as a nurse practitioner. After graduating from Montana State University as a registered nurse, Alston worked as a hospital and flight nurse in several communities before becoming a staff nurse at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital. While here, she earned a Master’s in Nursing from the University of Phoenix and then a Master’s of Nursing with a Post-Certificate in Adult Nurse Practitioner from Seton Hall University in New Jersey. For the past five years, Alston has worked in a Mayo Clinic Health System’s gastroenterology clinic in Minnesota.

Kathryn Borgenicht, MD, medical director of Hospice of Bozeman Deaconess, has earned certification through the Hospice Medical Director Certification Board™, becoming one of the first physicians in the nation to achieve Hospice Medical Director Certified™ credentials. Hospice medical directors manage complicated regulatory, administrative and ethical aspects of hospice care, and provide expertise in clinical care for those at end of life. The achievement illustrates Dr. Borgenicht’s continued dedication to her patients and to promoting patient advocacy, continuing education and quality care. Dr. Borgenicht practices as a geriatrician with Bozeman Deaconess Internal Medicine Associates and serves as medical director of Bozeman Deaconess Palliative Care Consultants. She is board certified in internal medicine, geriatrics, hospice and palliative medicine, and has addressed end of life issues for more than 30 years.

Christopher Cooley Brown, MD, has joined Bozeman Deaconess Hospital staff as a hospitalist. He graduated from the University of Virginia School of Medicine and completed his residency in internal medicine at the University of Utah, where he was chief resident and then served as a visiting instructor in internal medicine. For the past year, Dr. Brown has practiced general medicine at Wanganui District Hospital in New Zealand. He is board certified in internal medicine.

Stewart Chumbley, FNP-BC, has joined Bozeman Deaconess Urology as a nurse practitioner, after earning his Master’s of Nursing from Montana State University and working in the emergency department as a registered nurse. He previously worked as a progressive care nurse within Bozeman Deaconess Hospital. Prior to becoming a nurse, Chumbley was a course manager for the National Outdoor Leadership School and taught and guided skiing at Big Sky Resort.

Jesse Coil, DO, has returned to Bozeman to join Absaroka Emergency Physicians and the medical staff at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital. Dr. Coil graduated from Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed a traditional osteopathic internship and his residency in hospital emergency medicine, both at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Pennsylvania. Prior to medical school, Dr. Coil was an emergency medical technician with American Medical Response ambulance service in Bozeman, and most recently was a staff physician at the Medical Clinic of Big Sky. He is board certified in emergency medicine.

Keven Comer, APRN, FNP-BC, of Bozeman Deaconess Bridger Internal Medicine, has received the 2014 American Association of Nurse Practitioner (AANP) State Award for Excellence. This prestigious award is given annually to a dedicated nurse practitioner in each state who demonstrates excellence in their area of practice. Comer was recognized for this achievement in June at the 2014 AANP National Conference at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville. Comer, a certified family nurse practitioner, has worked at Bridger internal Medicine for 16 years.

Andrew Gentry, MD, has joined Bozeman Deaconess GI Clinic as a gastroenterologist. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Dr. Gentry served as an officer on the submarine USS Louisville and with the National Security Agency before he earned his medical degree at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine. He completed his internship and residency in gastroenterology at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth in Virginia, and a fellowship in endoscopy at the National Naval Medical Center in Maryland. Dr. Gentry returned to Portsmouth and became division head in gastroenterology before moving to Bozeman. He is board certified in internal medicine and gastroenterology.
Eric Johnson, MD, FAAFM, has been named Medical Director of Bozeman Deaconess Wound Clinic. A graduate of the University of Minnesota Medical School, Dr. Johnson completed his post graduate studies at Family Medicine Residency of Idaho. After working in private practice and spending more than 20 years in emergency medicine in Idaho, he trained in hyperbaric medicine, founded the Elk’s Wound Center at Saint Luke’s Medical Center in Boise, Idaho, and later founded and became medical director at Saint Alphonsus Health System Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Medicine in Boise and Nampa, Idaho. He is a clinical instructor at the University of Washington School of Medicine and past president of the Wilderness Medical Society. Dr. Johnson is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Medicine and the Academy of Wilderness Medicine. He is board certified in family medicine.

Kari Marley, PA-C, has joined Absaroka Emergency Physicians and the medical staff of Bozeman Deaconess Hospital as a physician assistant. She earned a master’s of health sciences in physician assistant studies from Quinnipiac University, and has since worked in emergency medicine in hospitals and medical centers in Nevada, Arizona, New England and New Mexico. Marley is certified as a physician assistant.

Christina Meyers, MD, has joined Bozeman Deaconess Belgrade Clinic as a family practitioner. Dr. Meyers is a graduate of Oregon Health & Sciences University in Portland, where she was a National Institutes of Health research scholar, volunteered as patient coordinator at a primary care clinic for the homeless and uninsured, and received Spanish medical fluency training in Leon, Mexico. She completed her residency at Providence Milwaukie Family Medicine Residency in Oregon, where she was chief resident. Dr. Meyers worked at a health center in Hillsboro, OR, before moving to Community Health Partners in Bozeman. She is board certified in family medicine.

James Osmanski II, DO, FCCP, FAASM, joined the medical staff of Bozeman Deaconess, and the office of Bozeman Deaconess Internal Medicine Associates as a sleep and pulmonary medicine physician. Dr. Osmanski graduated from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine at A.T. Still University in Missouri, and completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at The Miriam Hospital at Brown University, where he remained as a staff physician in the emergency department for two years. He then completed two fellowships at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, in pulmonary medicine and critical care medicine, serving as chief fellow and on faculty in internal medicine. He moved to Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, where he practiced pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine in both inpatient critical care and outpatient settings for 16 years. He has served as the medical director of AASM-accredited sleep centers for 13 years. A fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians and of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine, Dr. Osmanski is board certified in pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine.

Lee Perry, PhD, has joined Bozeman Deaconess Neuropsychology as a clinical neuropsychologist. Dr. Perry earned a doctorate in clinical psychology from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA, and completed his postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology and rehabilitation psychology at the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan in Detroit. His areas of emphasis include outpatient neuropsychological assessment and inpatient cognitive assessment and psychotherapy. Prior to his fellowship, Dr. Perry received additional training in neuropsychology and rehabilitation psychology at the University of Missouri’s Department of Health Psychology and the University of California, Los Angeles, Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior.

Pamela Hiebert, MD, FACP, has received the 2014 Laureate Award from the Montana Chapter of the American College of Physicians (ACP). The Laureate Award honors Fellows and Masters of the College who have demonstrated an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education or research and in service to their community and ACP. Dr. Hiebert has been on staff at Bozeman Deaconess Health Services and a physician of Bozeman Deaconess Internal Medicine Associates since 1988 and assistant medical director of Hospice of Bozeman Deaconess since 2009. She also has been medical director of the Gallatin County Nursing Home since 1996, and has taught and been a preceptor for nurse practitioner, physician assistant, pre-med and medical school students. Dr. Hiebert is board certified in internal medicine and received her Medical Home certification in 2012.

Jennie D. Sabers, AuD, CCC-A, FAAA, has joined Bozeman Deaconess Audiology. Dr. Sabers earned a Doctorate in Audiology at the University of South Dakota. Her areas of professional interest include pediatric audiology, electrophysiology, central auditory processing disorders, and community outreach. Dr. Sabers holds a certificate of clinical competence through the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and is licensed through the Montana Board of Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists.

Joseph Sheehan, MD, has joined Medical Eye Specialists and the medical staff at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital. A graduate of the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science, Dr. Sheehan completed his internship at Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle and his residency in ophthalmology at the University of Washington. He recently completed a fellowship in cornea, external disease and refractive surgery at the University of California, San Francisco Beckman Vision Center and Francis I. Proctor Foundation for Research in Ophthalmology.
Andrew Sullivan, MD, joined the medical staff of Bozeman Deaconess Hospital as a pulmonary & critical care physician. Dr. Sullivan will see patients at Bozeman Deaconess Internal Medicine Associates and in Bozeman Deaconess Sleep Disorders Center. Dr. Sullivan earned his medical degree at the University of Washington School of Medicine and completed his residency in internal medicine at New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center, where he was chief resident. He completed a fellowship in pulmonary disease and critical care medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and National Jewish Hospital. He served as an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Colorado, and later joined a private practice and became director of respiratory services at Triumph Hospital in Aurora, Colorado. Dr. Sullivan is board certified in internal medicine, pulmonary disease and critical care medicine.

Kelsey Sullivan, PA-C, is joining Bozeman Deaconess Internal Medicine Associates to work with geriatric patients. Sullivan earned her master’s of physician assistant studies from Oregon Health & Science University, and then provided family medicine, urgent and primary care and worked as a hospitalist PA-C at several healthcare facilities in Oregon and Washington. Most recently, she was a primary care provider for homebound elders and disabled adults and those in foster care or memory care. Sullivan is certified as a physician assistant.

Michael Vlases, MD, FACP, medical director Bozeman Deaconess Diabetes Center, physician of Bozeman Deaconess Hospital Medicine Program and current Chief of Medical Staff, has been elected as a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, the society of internists (specialists in the prevention, detection and treatment of illness in adults). Fellowship in ACP is an honorary designation given in recognition of ongoing individual service and contributions to medicine by doctors dedicated to continuing education in medical practice, teaching or research. Dr. Vlases joined the medical staff at Bozeman Deaconess in 2004.

Sebastian White, NP, of Bozeman Deaconess Diabetes Center and Internal Medicine Associates, was named a Bozeman Sunrise Rotary Club 2014 Honorary Paul Harris Fellow. As one of the Diabetes Center’s “most trusted and valued nurse practitioners,” White was credited for being part of the team which secured three-year recognition from the National Committee for Quality Assurance, and advancing quality in healthcare in Bozeman and beyond. White’s patients “rely upon his cutting-edge knowledge and expertise to help them treat and live with diabetes,” according to the honor named for Rotary International founder Paul Harris.

Bozeman Deaconess Cancer Center is a Network Member of Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, with access to the combined strengths of Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, University of Washington School of Medicine, and Seattle Children’s.

Which means our top-notch cancer doctors communicate with top-notch cancer doctors there every day, sharing information, consulting on cases, and making the latest treatment options, clinical research studies, and advances in cancer treatment available to cancer patients in southwestern Montana—all right here at home.

Bozeman Deaconess Cancer Center
406-585-5070 | bozemandeaconess.org