A2 Centers of Excellence
Munson breast imaging, bariatrics, pain treatment recognized for quality care

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A7 Physician Opportunities
Munson Healthcare seeking physicians for various specialties, locations
Smith Family Breast Health Center Receives Accreditation, Becomes Center of Excellence

Munson Healthcare’s Smith Family Breast Health Center recently received American College of Radiology accreditation in stereotactic biopsy, the last step in the facility’s quest to become a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence.

The Breast Imaging Center of Excellence is awarded by the American College of Radiology (ACR) and recognizes breast imaging centers that achieve excellence by seeking and earning accreditation in all of the College’s voluntary breast imaging accreditation programs and modules, in addition to the mandatory Mammography Accreditation Program. The ACR provides peer-review evaluations conducted in each breast imaging modality by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field.

The Smith Family Breast Health Center is now fully accredited in mammography, stereotactic breast biopsy, breast ultrasound, and ultrasound-guided breast biopsy.

“We have been accredited in mammography for many years, but a year ago, we decided to pursue accreditation in all our other modalities,” said Charles J. Weitz, MD, Radiologist and Director of Breast Imaging at the Smith Family Breast Health Center. “We submitted paperwork, imaging, and reports to document that our standard of care is at the high level expected for Centers of Excellence.”

Accreditation assures patients that the Smith Family Breast Health Center has achieved high practice standards in image quality, personnel qualifications, facility equipment, quality control procedures, and quality assurance programs.

Contact the Smith Family Breast Health Center at (231) 392-7100.

Munson Bariatric Surgery Program is Center of Excellence

Munson Medical Center and three surgeons from Grand Traverse Surgery, PC, are recognized as a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence.

The designation from the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) follows a thorough review of the hospital’s program and practices of surgeons Roche J. Featherstone, MD; Michael A. Nizzi, DO; and Steven Slikkers, MD. Surgeon David Kam, MD, MS, FACS, joined Grand Traverse Surgery in 2009 and has applied for recognition from the ASMBS.

“This designation brings us to an equivalent level of esteem of the most respected programs in the country,” said Nizzi, Medical Director for the program. “Our patients and their physicians should remain confident that, with emerging technologies and continuous outcomes monitoring, they are receiving the most advanced care possible.”

During 2009, 360 bariatric surgeries were performed at Munson Medical Center.

Bariatric surgery has been offered since 2003 to eligible patients who pass a thorough screening process. Surgeons at Munson perform three types of bariatric surgeries: the Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass, the LAP-BAND® procedure, and the Vertical Sleeve Gastrectomy.

Every patient must attend a two-hour educational seminar hosted by Grand Traverse Surgery, PC, before a referral can be made. Seminars are held monthly. Pre-registration is required and can be accomplished by a physician’s office or a patient calling (231) 346-4014, or by registering online at munsonhealthcare.org/bariatrics.
Munson’s Spine and Nerve Pain Treatment Center Recognized as Spine Center of Excellence

Munson’s Spine and Nerve Pain Treatment Center is recognized as a Spine Center of Excellence by Priority Health.

The Center offers a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach to non-operative management of spine problems and associated pain. It features board-certified/eligible anesthesiologists, physiatrists, specialized nurse practitioners and physician assistants, an experienced clinical psychologist, and highly qualified nurses and support staff.

All centers recognized by the program ensure that patients with persistent neck and back pain or other spine-related problems receive a timely, comprehensive, non-surgical medical evaluation. This evaluation is required before surgical evaluation for Priority Health patients.

“We offer a range of diagnostic and therapeutic services to help patients manage the pain associated with their spinal condition,” said Howard Beck, MD, Medical Director for the Munson Spine and Nerve Pain Treatment Center. “Our experienced staff of pain specialists works with each patient and their physician to develop a plan that will improve their quality of life.”

Physician referrals at Munson’s Center are accepted for:

- Back and neck pain
- Shingles
- Cancer and chest wall pain
- Ischemic and phantom limb pain
- RSD/CRPS
- Fibromyalgia
- Invasive pain procedures
- Spinal cord stimulators and infusion devices
- Short-term medical management
- Behavioral health services

Munson’s Spine and Nerve Pain Treatment Center is located inside Munson Community Health Center at 550 Munson Ave., in Traverse City. For information on the programs and services, call 1-800-968-PAIN (7246) or (231) 935-8540. Physicians should call (231) 935-8546 to make a referral.

Cardiothoracic Surgical Group Listed in Top 50 Nationally

Consumer Reports honors Cardiothoracic Surgeons of Grand Traverse

Cardiothoracic Surgeons of Grand Traverse has been listed in the 50 top-rated heart bypass surgical groups in the nation by Consumer Reports magazine.

In the October 2010 edition, the magazine published its list of top heart surgical groups in collaboration with the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. The list was based on a comparison of the surgical group’s results with national standards for survival, complications, and other measures.

Cardiothoracic surgeons on the team include Daniel Drake, MD; R. Glade Smith, MD; and Mack Stirling, MD. The surgical group includes two nurse practitioners, four physician assistants, three perfusionists, and two support staff. Munson cardiothoracic patients also are cared for by highly trained nursing staff in the Munson Heart Center.

“We’re gratified that the standards and quality of care our team strives to provide each patient has been recognized by such a credible magazine as Consumer Reports,” said Stirling, Cardiothoracic Surgery Program Director at Munson. “We want our patients and their families to be confident in the quality of their cardiothoracic surgical care at Munson Medical Center.”

The group performed 650 open-heart surgeries at Munson Medical Center in 2009.

Cardiothoracic Surgeons of Grand Traverse provides a comprehensive program of cardiothoracic surgical procedures at Munson including on- and off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting, minimally invasive and conventional cardiac valve repair and replacement, surgical correction of atrial fibrillation, cardiac and great vessel reconstruction, ventricular assist device placement, the full spectrum of lung and esophageal operations, management of mediastinal masses, chest wall resection, and others.

Munson’s Cardiothoracic Surgery Program benefits from new state-of-the-art cardiac catheterization laboratories and cardiac operating rooms, as well as dedicated cardiothoracic intensive care and step-down units. A complete complement of sub-specialists, including invasive and non-invasive cardiologists, electrophysiologists, cardiac anesthesiologists, pulmonologists, nephrologists, invasive radiologists, general and vascular surgeons, and many others contribute to the high standard of care and high levels of patient satisfaction.

For more information on Cardiothoracic Surgeons of Grand Traverse, visit firstheartnorth.com.
Munson Medical Center, in collaboration with Accelecare, Inc., is offering cutting edge chronic wound care at the Advanced Wound Center (AWC) in Traverse City.

The Center represents the hospital’s commitment to investing in medical technology that helps patients stay closer to home for care. Munson’s Advanced Wound Center is the only facility offering hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) treatments in northwest Michigan. The nearest chambers are in Alpena, Grand Rapids, and Saginaw.

What is HBOT?

HBOT is an evidence-based treatment proven to help chronic wounds heal using specially designed chambers to provide patients with 100 percent oxygen at two or three times the atmospheric pressure. Daily treatments typically range from 90 to 120 minutes.

Evidence shows chronic wounds result from a failure of the natural healing process. Of primary concern is the presence of infection, tissue ischemia/hypoxia, inadequate local wound responsiveness, and unrelieved pressure. Correction of any or all of these factors plays an important role in restoring the healing process.

Patients with diabetes are especially vulnerable to these kinds of wounds. Every year, 5 percent of patients with diabetes develop foot ulcers, and 10 - 30 percent of those with foot ulcers eventually require amputation.

Managing Chronic Wounds

Wound healing at the AWC is achieved in cooperation with referring physicians, surgeons, podiatrists, and other specialists as required. HBOT is part of a comprehensive wound treatment approach. Munson’s AWC has two hyperbaric chambers and space to expand to four. Patients treated with HBOT experience a 10- to 15-fold increase in plasma oxygen concentration, which translates to arterial oxygen values between 1,500 and 2,000 mmHg. The steep oxygen gradient provided by HBOT produces a four-fold increase in the diffusing distance of oxygen from functioning capillaries.

Indications for HBOT

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) lists the following indications for HBOT:

- Acute peripheral arterial insufficiency
- Acute traumatic peripheral ischemia
- Chronic refractory osteomyelitis
- Compromised flaps and grafts
- Crush injuries
- Diabetic wounds of the lower extremities
- Osteoradionecrosis
- Progressive necrotizing infections
- Soft tissue radionecrosis

Contraindications

Absolute contraindications include patients with untreated pneumothorax or those on bleomycin, cisplatin, disulfiram, doxorubicin, or Sulfamylon. Relative contraindications requiring evaluation include patients with asthma/COPD, eustachian tube dysfunction, pacemakers, or seizures.

Referral

To refer a patient or for more information about the Advanced Wound Center and its services, please call (231) 935-0727. After referral, patients will be evaluated by a panel physician, and, if appropriate, started on HBOT treatment. Referring physicians will receive monthly reports.

For HBOT services in the Alpena area, call the Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine at (989) 356-8075.

“HBOT use in these types of centers has been proven to help healing and prevent amputations. Our center offers patients and their physicians a positive care alternative in northern Michigan.”

Matthew Smith, MD, FACS
Medical Director, Advanced Wound Center
Graduate medical education continues to expand at Munson Medical Center with the addition of eight students to the Michigan State University (MSU) College of Human Medicine Traverse City Campus.

Led by Community Assistant Dean Daniel Webster, MD, the program is in its second year with northern Michigan physicians serving as clerkship directors. The hospital also continues to train MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine students and family practice residents for rural practices.

Residency Program Director Bill Rawlin, DO, said the residency program continues to successfully train excellent family practice physicians, graduating seven residents this year – its largest class.

“We also had a successful recruiting year, matching five residents into the program. We are now starting to prepare for the upcoming recruiting season,” he said.

Rawlin said national changes to laws surrounding resident work hours will cause some changes in curriculum and resident call. Another future change may involve opportunities overseas.

“We have a strong interest among our faculty in international medicine, and we would like to start pursuing the possibility of setting up some type of international medicine experience,” he said. “We will continue to train physicians for the full scope of practice, including inpatient, ambulatory, and obstetrics.

Five recent medical school graduates have joined the Munson Family Practice Residency Program. The Class of 2013 includes:

Kimberly Devlin, DO
Devlin received her undergraduate and master's degree from Ohio State University. She also earned a doctorate in clinical psychology from the Wisconsin School of Professional Psychology. She lived and practiced in Cedarburg, Wis., prior to entering medical school at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Roshani Jadia, MD
Jadia completed her undergraduate degree in biology, with a minor in psychology at the University of Michigan, Dearborn. She is a graduate of St. Matthew's University School of Medicine in the Cayman Islands.

Eric Mallory, MD
Mallory completed his undergraduate degree in psychology and economics at DePauw University. He completed a master's degree at the Five Branches Institute in California in Chinese medicine and practiced as an acupuncturist for years. He recently graduated from the University of the Caribbean Medical School.

Behzod Rostam, MD
Rostam completed his undergraduate degrees in economics and biology at the University of Michigan, Dearborn. He is a graduate of St. Matthew's University School of Medicine in the Cayman Islands.

Abbigale Wilson, MD
Wilson received her undergraduate degree in biological sciences with a minor in psychology from Michigan Technological University. She graduated from the American University of Antigua College of Medicine and is working on her master’s in health care administration at Plymouth State University in Plymouth, N.H.
Specialized Bleeding Disorder Care
Available in Northern Michigan

The Northern Regional Bleeding Disorder Center in Traverse City provides state-of-the-art, comprehensive medical care and support for patients with bleeding disorders and their families. Diagnoses may include hemophilia, Von Willebrand’s disease, and other inherited blood disorders.

Located on the campus of Munson Medical Center, it is the only hemophilia and bleeding disorder treatment center in northern Michigan. One of nine collaborative treatment centers in Michigan, it is affiliated with the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan, National Hemophilia Foundation, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A Total Treatment Plan and Team

Research indicates that management and treatment through a bleeding disorder center greatly improves outcomes and promotes independent, productive, and healthy lives.

Team members provide education to individuals and their family members about specific bleeding disorders, evaluate family members for bleeding disorders, and make referrals to specialized agencies and foundations for ongoing assistance.

Services

Patients with a bleeding disorder spend a great deal of time and energy navigating the health care system. The Northern Regional Bleeding Disorder Center team helps patients manage their bleeding disorder and provides services including:

- Adult and pediatric comprehensive clinics
- Diagnostic evaluations
- Medical consultations
- Pharmacy services
- Home infusion training
- Outpatient infusion services
- Counseling and education
- Research
- Financial and insurance counseling
- Legislative advocacy
- Special events: retreats, camps, infusion weekend, walk-a-thon

For more information, call (231) 935-7227 or email bleedingdisorder@mhc.net.

Pain in the Bleeding Disorders Community: A National Study

A national study on pain in the bleeding disorders community was undertaken by three principal investigators from Munson Medical Center – Michelle Witkop, DNP, FNP-BC; Dave Rushlow, LMSW; and Jane Dinnen, RN – who collaborated with a team at Henry Ford Health System in Detroit. Preliminary findings were presented to the National Hemophilia Foundation's 2009 annual meeting. Abstracts and posters have been presented at PainAid Week in Las Vegas, Nev., one of the largest pain conferences in the country, and are planned for several other major regional and national conferences in Fall 2010.

More than 1,100 patients from around the country were surveyed between October 2006 and February 2009. Acute bleeds and the associated pain experienced by those with hemophilia and Von Willebrand's disease is treated with extremely expensive medications, which can cost thousands of dollars per treatment, several times a week.

“We found that 58 percent of hemophilia patients were treating what they described as chronic pain inappropriately with this expensive medication.”

Michelle Witkop, DNP, FNP-BC

“We question if this misuse of the medications is because they can't differentiate between chronic pain and acute bleeding pain. Pain is an issue we need to address. We also need to be responsible stewards of this very expensive product when another medication, physical therapy, or other complementary therapies may be much more appropriate,” Witkop said.

Educational programs have been developed regarding effective pain management strategies, and will be presented via long-distance education, webinars, and symposiums at national conferences.
Do you have a peer looking for a new opportunity who would be interested in joining the largest physician network in northern Michigan?

Munson Healthcare, a nationally recognized, regional nonprofit system of seven affiliated hospitals with more than 600 affiliated physicians, offers a continuum of health care in more than 50 specialties to people from 30 counties. Opportunities are available in a variety of specialties and locations including those listed here.

For more information, contact us at the numbers below.

Kalkaska Memorial Health Center
Mercy Hospital Cadillac
Munson Medical Center
Otsego Memorial Hospital
Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital
West Shore Medical Center

Deborah Glicker
Director of Physician Services and Recruitment
(231) 935-5890 or 1-866-637-6128
dglicker@mhc.net
munsonhealthcare.org

Heidi Henry
Sr. Physician Recruiter
(231) 935-7692 or 1-877-711-6311
hhenry@mhc.net
munsonhealthcare.org

Munson Hospital Grayling
Susan Sanford
Physician Recruiter
1-800-395-4128
ssanford@trinity-health.org
mercygrayling.com

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