



PULASKI COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

News

August 2022

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When you think professional, ethical, quality healthcare,
think physicians of Pulaski County Medical Society.

UAMS Graduates 942 Health Care Professionals

Degrees and certificates were conferred to 942 graduates of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences' (UAMS) five colleges and graduate school.

Degrees were awarded to 162 in the [College of Medicine](#), 182 in the [College of Nursing](#), 91 in the [College of Pharmacy](#), 67 in the [Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health](#), 382 in the [College of Health Professions](#) and 58 in the [Graduate School](#).

Degrees and certificates conferred include the doctor of philosophy, doctor of medicine, doctor of pharmacy, doctor of nursing practice, master of science, master of nursing science, bachelor of science in nursing, master of public health, doctor of public health, master of health administration, post-baccalaureate certificate in public health, master of science in health care analytics and a variety of degrees in allied health disciplines including certificates, bachelor of science degrees, post-baccalaureate certificates, master of communication sciences and disorders, master of physician assistant studies, doctor of audiology and doctor of physical therapy.





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CHI St. Vincent Infirmary Among Nation's Top Performing Hospitals for Treatment of Heart Attack Patients

American College of Cardiology NCDR Chest Pain – MI Registry Platinum Award recognizes sustained, high level performance in quality of care.

CHI St. Vincent Infirmary is one of only 240 hospitals nationwide to receive the American College of Cardiology's NCDR Chest Pain – MI Registry Platinum Performance Achievement Award for 2022. The award recognizes CHI St. Vincent Infirmary's commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of care for heart attack patients and signifies that the healing ministry has reached an aggressive goal of treating patients to standard levels of care as outlined by the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association clinical guidelines and recommendations.

"Our cardiologists, surgeons and entire healthcare team are consistently raising the bar for what Arkansans can expect from quality heart care right here close to home," said CHI St. Vincent Heart Institute President Marcia Atkinson. "This repeated recognition and honor from the American College of Cardiology shows that we're not only meeting standards, but exceeding them year after year."

To receive the Chest Pain – MI Registry Platinum Performance Achievement Award, the Infirmary demonstrated sustained achievement in the Chest Pain – MI Registry for two consecutive years (2020 and 2021) and performed at the highest level for specific performance measures. Full participation in the registry engages hospitals in a robust quality improvement process using data to drive improvements in adherence to guideline recommendations and overall quality of care provided to heart attack patients.

"It is an honor to award CHI St. Vincent Infirmary with the Platinum Performance Award for their valuable national leadership and dedication to meeting comprehensive performance measures in patient care," said Michael C. Kontos, MD, FACC, chair of the NCDR Chest Pain – MI Registry Steering Subcommittee, and cardiologist at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center. "The receipt of this award indicates that CHI St. Vincent remains committed to providing top quality, guideline-driven care for heart attack patients. Their success ensures patients are receiving the highest quality cardiovascular care."

Baptist Health-University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Medical Education Program Celebrates First Graduating Class of Residents

The Baptist Health-University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Medical Education Program on Friday, June 17, celebrated its first graduating class of residents on the campus of Baptist Health Medical Center-North Little Rock.

Speaking at the celebration were Troy Wells, president and CEO of Baptist Health; Cam Patterson, M.D., chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS); and graduates of the program.

Mindful of the national shortage of primary care physicians and the expanding health care needs in Arkansas, Baptist Health and the UAMS College of Medicine partnered to create four residency programs: Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Transitional Year and Psychiatry. At their full complement, the programs collectively will graduate 40 physicians into the medical community each year.

Below are members of the first graduating class by residency program:

Family Medicine

Dr. Jasveen Batra
Dr. Linda Ekwealor
Dr. Trint Gunnels
Dr. Alexander Heese
Dr. James Blake Holloway
Dr. Nastasya Jabaly
Dr. Erica Jarcaig
Dr. Ali Mitchell
Dr. Melissa Pruitt
Dr. Achmed Turay
Dr. Anastasiia Sokhan
Dr. Abigail Wilhite



Internal Medicine residency graduates

Internal Medicine

Dr. Sadiq Al Husseini
Dr. Ramya Bachu
Dr. Seth Justice
Dr. Jahanzeb Khan
Dr. Shannan Mahal
Dr. Heba Mousa
Dr. Tanvi Patel
Dr. Shreya Ravula
Dr. Aaron Roberts
Dr. George Sebastian
Dr. Anum Syed
Dr. William Wilcox

The residency programs, ranging in length

between one to four years, provide quality training and are accredited by the Accrediting Council of Graduate Medical Education. Residents are part of patient care teams with experienced faculty, nursing staff and ancillary providers.

Baptist Health Medical Center-North Little Rock was chosen as the primary site for the Baptist Health-UAMS Medical Education Program, as it serves a community-based population in excess of 250,000 people.



Family Medicine residency graduates



CARTI Holds 19th Annual Tour de Rock

On Saturday, June 4, 2022 Nearly 700 cyclists took off from North Little Rock on a route that wove through some of the most beautiful county side around. Rest stops were located primarily in Scott and England, Arkansas, and provided a respite for those riding in the Tour de Rock. Each rest stop had a theme of "rock and roll" with some going all out including decorations, music, games, and costumes. The 80s were the biggest

representation in the costume department with "Kiss Cancer Goodbye" winning the best rest stop award judged by KARK Meteorologist Joel Young. The event raised funds that go towards patient services such as counseling, lodging and transportation. The After Party at Heifer Pavilion was a huge hit and many people gathered after the race to eat, drink and swap stories from the ride.

U.S. News & World Report Names CHI St. Vincent Infirmary as the Best Hospital in Arkansas for Cardiology and Heart Surgery for Third Straight Year

For the third straight year, U.S News & World Report has named [CHI St. Vincent Infirmary](#) in Little Rock as the best hospital in Arkansas for cardiology and heart surgery. In the publication's Best Regional Hospital rankings for 2022–23, U.S. News & World Report also identified the Infirmary as "High Performing" in the treatment of Heart Attack and Heart Failure patients in addition to five other procedures and conditions.

"Heart disease has long remained the leading cause of death in Arkansas and even with the many challenges facing healthcare in recent years, we at the CHI St. Vincent Heart Institute have remained razor focused on consistently improving care, treatment options and outcomes for our patients," said [Marcia Atkinson](#), president of the [CHI St. Vincent Heart Institute](#). "This incredible recognition for the third year in a row highlights that mission to provide quality, compassionate care for our communities and shows that with early detection and proper care, Arkansans have access to the heart care resources they need."

For cardiology and heart surgery, CHI St. Vincent earned an aggregate score 35% higher than the second ranked hospital in the state. The U.S. News & World Report rankings are based on an independent analysis of multiple data categories, including patient outcomes, volume of high-risk patients, patient experience, nurse staffing and advanced clinical technologies.

In May, CHI St. Vincent Infirmary was [recognized by the American College of Cardiology](#) as one of the nation's top performing hospitals for the treatment of heart attack patients and one of only 240 hospitals nationwide to receive the college's NCDR Chest Pain - MI Registry Platinum Performance Achievement Award. Cardiovascular surgeons with the CHI St. Vincent Heart Institute at the Infirmary in Little Rock also earned [two distinguished three-star ratings for patient care and outcomes](#) from [The Society of Thoracic Surgeons](#), the highest quality rating that organization bestows. For more information about the CHI St. Vincent Heart Institute, visit: www.chistvincent.com/heart.

CARTI Breast Imaging Center Named Center of Excellence

CARTI, Arkansas's only non-profit care facility focused solely on cancer, is proud to announce that their Breast Imaging Center has received a Center of Excellence designation from the American College of Radiology (ACR). The Breast Center of Excellence designation by the ACR is granted to facilities that are accredited in mammography, ultrasound, stereotactic biopsy, and breast MRI. In addition they must have ultrasound technologist that are registered in breast sonography.

"This is truly a proud moment in the history of CARTI," said Adam Head, CEO. "When we opened The Breast Center two years ago, our goal was to offer something very different than anything available in the market. And the Center of Excellence designation is one more differentiator that reflects all we have done to make this experience an exceptional one with all women in mind. The Breast Center already provides compassionate care that empowers women to take ownership of their health. This designation is such a tribute to our remarkable team who work tirelessly to create an environment that's pro-active in providing the highest level of patient-focused care."

The ACR is recognized as the gold standard in medical imagining. The multi-step designation process requires a self-assessment and peer review process.

"If you come to CARTI to get a mammogram, you deserve the best from start to finish," says Yara Robertson, M.D., F.A.C.S. "Our imaging team has done a tremendous job to receive such a high designation from the American College of Radiology. They often find cancers so small they would normally have gone undetected, allowing us to provide treatment options earlier, which increases survival rate. These radiologists are on the front lines and I appreciate their efforts each and every day."

"What a lot of people don't know is that the Breast Center is open to all women, from screening to diagnosis," said Dr. Smith-Foley. "From the design of the lobby to the way the CARTI robes fit, we put our patients first. It's the attention to detail that sets us apart and this designation really showcases our team's desire to bring the best to all who walk through our doors."

OrthoArkansas' Arkansas Specialty Surgery Center Earns The Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval

On June 16, 2022 - OrthoArkansas' Arkansas Specialty Surgery Center (ASSC) in Little Rock, Ark., earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for Ambulatory Care Accreditation by demonstrating continuous compliance with its performance standards. The Gold Seal is a symbol of quality that reflects a health care organization's commitment to providing safe and quality patient care.

[OrthoArkansas'](#) ASSC, located in Little Rock-Midtown, underwent a rigorous, unannounced onsite review on May 10, 2022. During the visit, a team of Joint Commission reviewers evaluated compliance with ambulatory care standards spanning several areas including quality and environment of care, infection prevention and control, leadership, medication management, and rights and responsibilities of the individual.

"As a private accreditor, The Joint Commission surveys health care organizations to protect the public by identifying deficiencies in care and working with those organizations to correct them as quickly and sustainably as possible," says Mark Pelletier, RN, MS, chief operating

officer, Accreditation and Certification Operations, and chief nursing executive, [The Joint Commission](#). "We commend OrthoArkansas for its continuous quality improvement efforts in patient safety and quality of care."

The Joint Commission's standards are developed in consultation with health care experts and providers, measurement experts and patients. They are informed by scientific literature and expert consensus to help health care organizations measure, assess and improve performance. The surveyors also conducted onsite observations and interviews.

"This Gold Seal of Approval is a testament to OrthoArkansas' ASSC patients and the community that our Specialty Surgery Center provides the highest quality service and patient care in a safe environment" said Levi Bauer, chief executive officer of OrthoArkansas. "The Joint Commission accreditation, which is certified by the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care, demonstrates our commitment to continuous improvement in patient care."

CARTI Named Best Places to Work 2022

CARTI Cancer Center has been named by Arkansas Business as a "Best Places to Work" for 2022. CARTI joins a list of 50 esteemed businesses ranging from advertising to energy and all points in between. The honor comes after the cancer center's employees engaged in a confidential survey, which was administered by a third party group, Workforce Research Group.

"This recognition honors our team and demonstrates the level of excellence each member brings to the table every day," said Adam Head, CEO. "Our team members

are living out our corporate values, which creates an environment of comradery and appreciation. CARTI is a great place to work because of the people who choose to work here and the dedicated service they extend to the patients and families we serve."

More than 400 employees were chosen to take part in the survey. CARTI and the other honorees will be recognized at a Sept. 29 event at Oaklawn Racing and Casino Resort as well as in the October Best Place to Work publication.

UAMS is First in State to Offer Groundbreaking Brain-Mapping Technology

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) is the first hospital in Arkansas to offer Omniscent Neurotechnology's Quicktome, an FDA-cleared platform that allows surgeons to visualize a patient's unique brain networks before life-changing surgery.

A breakthrough in preoperative imaging, Quicktome uses sophisticated algorithms to analyze millions of data points and build a brain map – personalized to each patient -- from a standard, noninvasive MRI scan. The maps, which doctors can view on their computers, offer a level of anatomical detail typically not available in a clinical setting, allowing surgeons to incorporate advanced brain network data into neurosurgical planning.

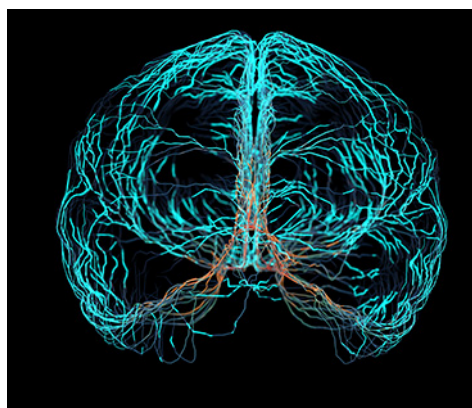
Brain networks are responsible for everything from language to movement to thought, and the maps inform surgical decision-making with the goal of protecting and preserving brain function.

"Quicktome has become invaluable in my pre-surgical planning and in advising patients regarding the potential consequences of brain tumor surgery," said John Day, M.D., who chairs the UAMS College of Medicine Department of Neurosurgery. "With its clear network visualizations, I can better develop an informed surgical plan that helps achieve the best functional outcome

by allowing avoidance of any functionally critical nervous tissue that is present within brain tumor tissue. Prior to the availability of this technology, we were unable to determine if any functional nervous tissue was present in portions of diseased nervous tissue that we would have otherwise removed and caused a new neurologic problem."

Previous imaging solutions helped neurosurgeons avoid brain areas associated with major disability, such as paralysis and loss of speech, but many patients still emerged from surgery with cognitive, emotional and behavioral complications. Quicktome is the first platform that allows neurosurgeons to map the brain's cognitive and emotional regulation networks.

UAMS joins a growing network of leading medical centers across the United States that have integrated the brain-mapping technology into their surgery centers.



"From community hospitals to academic institutions such as UAMS, we are working toward making this technology broadly accessible to surgeons to ultimately improve the gold standard for patient outcomes," said Stephen Scheeler, CEO of Omniscent Neurotechnology. "We're proud to be able to offer the benefits of Quicktome to neurosurgery patients at UAMS."

William C. Culp, M.D., Pledges \$500,000 to UAMS to Establish Interventional Radiology Professorship

William C. "Bill" Culp, M.D., made a \$500,000 commitment to establish the Dr. William Culp Endowed Professorship in Interventional Radiology in the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) College of Medicine's Department of Radiology.

Culp is a retired professor of radiology, surgery and neurology, who served as vice chair for radiology research in the UAMS Department of Radiology. He has many years of clinical experience, developing new stroke therapies as well as studying stroke treatments, including interventional radiology.

"Dr. Culp devoted his expertise, energy and resources to finding new treatments for stroke and advancing the field of interventional radiology during his two decades on our faculty," said Susan S. Smyth, M.D., Ph.D., executive vice chancellor of UAMS and dean of the College of Medicine. "He is the epitome of a visionary and forward-thinking scientist, clinician and educator, and his gift will support this important area of research for many decades to come."

"After my wonderful experience in interventional radiology for many years, it is my desire to share this subspecialty with others at UAMS," said Culp. "The critical essence of this was the study, discovery, invention and application of these steps to clinical care — caring for the human beings of our community."

The gift will support research in interventional or neuro-interventional radiology, with the goal of contributing to the publication of research and the development of new techniques and devices.

"My own research and general academic time were most productive when two days a week or even more were protected and used for research," said Culp. "By supporting the academic side of a professor's time and adding recognition to research efforts, I hope my donation enhances the appointed professor's ability to focus on research and build a bridge to innovation — the key to what I have loved in this specialty."

Culp is a 1967 graduate of the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine in Oklahoma City. He completed his residency in diagnostic radiology at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and continued his training with a fellowship in interventional radiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. Before joining the UAMS faculty in 2001, he practiced in Fort Smith, Arkansas, as well as at the University of Florida in Gainesville, and the University of Nebraska in Omaha. In 2016, Culp became the first person to hold the Jonathan S. Fitch Distinguished Chair in Stroke and Neurocritical Care. He retired from practice in 2021.

"We are thankful and grateful for Dr. Culp's continued devotion to the Department of Radiology," said Arabinda K. Choudhary, M.D., MBA, chair of the department in the UAMS College of Medicine. "This endowed professorship will be instrumental in advancing the department's research efforts and will help innovate new practices for clinical care."



Upcoming Dates to Remember

September 5th	Labor Day	October 10th	Columbus Day
September 11th	Grandparents Day	October 17th	Bosses Day
	Patriot's Day	October 31st	Halloween
September 23rd	Native American Day		