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HAMMOND-HENRY HOSPITAL INTRODUCES HOSPITALIST PROGRAM

(Geneseo, Ill.) Starting Aug. 1, [Hammond-Henry Hospital](#) will roll out an innovative hospitalist program that helps to assure coordinated, continuity of care for patients who require hospitalization. Featuring providers who are already known to the community, the hospitalist program will utilize proven, emergency medicine and primary care physicians to see inpatients on a continual basis throughout the day.

According to Kevin Jeffries, M.D., medical director for the Hammond-Henry ER and hospitalist program, “The new program assures the ER is staffed during the day by at least one physician while another is available for rounds as needed. Using ER doctors is also convenient and efficient because many patients who have to be admitted start in the ER. This program also provides 24-hour accessibility by a doctor who is in the hospital and can promptly address patient concerns.” Jeffries added that hospitalists also make it easier to recruit new physicians who may not choose to provide inpatient hospital care and free up more time for other providers to see patients in their offices.

Hospitalists are becoming the trend to assure continuity of care and cover patient “rounds.” Since their “office hours” are within the hospital, they can readily check on patients, order and monitor tests and assure that patients’ needs are met. The on-site hospitalist also helps coordinate all aspects of a patient’s stay to assure safety and specialized care by meeting with family members, answering questions and communicating with any medical staff involved in the care. After patients leave the hospital, the hospitalist also coordinates care with primary care physicians.

“Rounds are an important part of patient care because they can involve nurses and other medical staff to check on the patient, discuss how treatment is going and address any of the patient’s concerns,” Laura Domino, Vice President of Patient Care Services, said. “At Hammond-Henry, there will be one physician dedicated to the ER while another will serve as the hospitalist during the day. In the evening, the ER physician will also serve as the hospitalist on duty. All will be the same friendly faces our patients have already come to know. Having this hospitalist program is one more way we can assure our patients have a positive experience.”

Domino added that the hospital continues to recruit top-notch primary care physicians. “We realize there is still a need for more primary care providers within our community. The hospitalist program will help us to continue providing excellent care for our patients, even as we recruit and retain primary care providers who can serve more patients in our surrounding communities. Hammond-Henry appreciates all the providers who have contributed to this hospital and community for so many years.”

The hospitalist program combines doctors with more than 113 years of combined experience. ER physicians/hospitalists include: Dr. Jeffries, along with Loren Soria, M.D.*; Rick Cernovich, M.D.*; Crystal Snider, M.D.; and Remigijus Satkauskas, M.D. Drew Van Kerrebroeck, M.D.* will serve only as a hospitalist. Dedicated ER physicians are Timothy Voirin, D.O.*; Julios Ramos, M.D.*; and Julie Brown, M.D.*. Physicians noted with an asterisk (*) are independent, non-employed contractors.