Women Physicians

Working to overcome outdated stereotypes

Overcoming stereotypes women face as physicians can be hard, but two rural Kansas women are holding their own and working together to run the Cheyenne County Clinic in St. Francis, Kan.

Mary Beth Miller, MD, attended the University of Kansas School of Medicine and graduated from the Smoky Hill Family Medicine Residency Program, whose residents gain experience in rural medicine. She then began her career at the Cheyenne County Clinic and ran the clinic for more than nine years before joined by fellow alum, Rebecca Allard, MD. Dr. Allard grew up on a farm outside Smith Center, Kan., and like Dr. Miller attended the KU School of Medicine and graduated from the Smoky Hill Family Medicine Residency Program in June 2007.

Today both Dr. Allard and Dr. Miller are running the show together at Cheyenne County Clinic. Both work around 60 hours on a good week but can increase to as many as 100 hours for a busy week when the hospital is full.

Dr. Allard said, as females it’s hard to break out of the stereotypes that people have for physicians. Some feel a doctor is a man’s job, because in the past many doctors were male. More and more women are studying to become doctors and breaking out of the stereotypes people have is hard. However, with the high demand for health care in rural areas, patients have to adapt to what is available to them.

“When I first got here, I felt older men in the rural area didn’t look at me as a doctor because I was female,” said Dr. Miller.

She said not many patients called her “doctor” when she first started. They referred to her as “Ms. Miller,” while they called her physician assistant, who was male, “doctor.”

Dr. Allard had it a little easier when she started because the community was used to a female doctor by then. However, she said it can still be difficult convincing a man to see a female.

Family life is extremely important to Dr. Allard and Dr. Miller but can be hard to balance when working in the medical field. Dr. Allard said she makes it a point to not take work home. She and her husband enjoy trap-shooting when they get the opportunity, and Dr. Allard goes

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Kansas Association of Rural Health Clinics

In February 2008, the Kansas Medical Group Management Association (KMGMA) announced the birth of the Kansas Association of Rural Health Clinics (KARHC), a committee of KMGMA. The state association was developed as a single voice for all Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) in Kansas.

The KARHC will meet semi-annually at the KMGMA conferences. In addition, the KARHC will meet at other times during the year to address issues that are pertinent specifically to RHCs, both Independent and Hospital Based.

Scott Focke, KARHC chairman said, members of the association will benefit by networking with other RHCs and by gaining education on issues they face.

As a new association, Focke says their plans are to put together a good list of all the RHCs in Kansas. They will also schedule teleconferences and speakers to discuss issues.

To join the KARHC, clinics simply need to be a member or become a member of the KMGMA. Clinics or physicians interested in learning more about KMGMA membership, may visit the “Membership” area of the KMGMA website at http://kmgma.org/membership.htm or may contact Claire Daniels, KMGMA Executive Assistant at cdaniels1@cox.net or (316) 686-4414.

Those interested in learning more about the KARHC may email any of the association leadership: Scott Focke at sfocke@nwkshealthcare.com, Jill Thomison at jthomison@arkcityclinic.com or Pam Hostetler at phostetler@prmc.org.

Match Day Reveals Residency Destinations

One hundred fifty-five anxious fourth-year medical students from the University of Kansas School of Medicine gathered in auditoriums on the Kansas City and Wichita campuses March 20 to learn where they would be spending the next three to six years of their lives. After months of going through the interview process, the annual national Resident Matching Program day arrived. Students nationwide had the chance to finally see where their residencies would take them.

As for students in Kansas, the hour arrived at 11 a.m., with friends and family excitedly waiting to watch their loved one tear open their envelope and reveal the news. Kansas is retaining 38 percent of the graduates. Thirty-three students from the Kansas City campus and 26 from the Wichita campus will complete all or part of their residencies in the state. Students completing their residencies outside Kansas will travel to destinations across the United States ranging from Maryland, Louisiana, Wisconsin and Hawaii moving to 32 different states and the District of Columbia.

Of the 2008 class, 42 percent have selected a residency in primary care with 27 going...
Mini Medical School 2007-2008

Program Teaches the Study of Medicine in High School

The University of Kansas Medical Center

Mini Medical School (MMS) has been revamped to be geared toward high school students.

Five Kansas schools were chosen for Mini Medical School 2007-2008, a pilot project to test out the new MMS. The University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC) developed the pilot for Greeley County High School in Tribune, Wallace County High School in Sharon Springs, Pittsburg High School in Pittsburg, Eudora High School in Eudora and a consortium of Riverton, Baxter Springs and Galena.

The original KU MMS started more than 10 years ago as a community education tool for adults. The idea was derived from the first mini-medical school, established at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Boulder in 1989. Participants met once a week for four weeks for classes regarding various medical issues. While the classes were a success, a 45-55 percent repeat of students in programs occurred without there being new programs for them to learn from. Another issue was that the classes were only offered on site at KUMC – Kansas City. This limited the audience and KUMC wanted to expand it throughout the state. The original MMS was put to a rest with the majority of participants being in favor of the transformation to be geared toward high school students.

The new MMS allows high school students to be introduced to the field of medicine in a fun, hands-on way. With a shortage of health care providers in rural Kansas, it is important for teens to be exposed to health careers when they are young. This exposure can increase the number of students who choose medicine as their career.

KUMC realizes that high school science teachers in rural communities often lack resources, time, and opportunities for students. Working with the instructors of these schools was the most important thing. The goal of the new MMS is to supply teachers with a resource that will supplement and enhance the curriculum they are already using, in order to expose high school students in rural Kansas communities to various aspects of the medical field.

Teachers of the five pilot schools received a detailed kit that included a binder with all the handouts needed, the over-head projector worksheets and DVD presentations.

The DVD presentations are 30-minute lectures given by several faculty members of KUMC regarding their area of expertise. Five topics are implemented into science classes at the pilot schools. These topics are: orthopedics and sports medicine; brain function; the ear and hearing; diabetes, obesity, nutrition and exercise; and immunology, vaccination and HIV.

KUMC also gathered and delivered all the tools needed for the hands-on lab activities which complement the lectures. A summer intern at KUMC, who is a high school science teacher during the school year, designed the hands-on science experiment.

The high school teachers have the freedom to utilize any or all of the sessions at their convenience, and work them into their lesson plans as their curriculum allows. Evaluation forms are included in the kit for each session, for both teachers and students to complete and return to KUMC. All of the materials for the pilot project meet criteria from the National

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Mary Beth Miller, MD

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Mary Beth Miller, MD

I horseback riding with her daughter. As a rural physician it can be difficult to find time away. In some cases, such as a trauma situation, they need as many hands as they can get.

Dr. Miller has three kids and for nine years was the only physician before Allard began at Cheyenne County Clinic. She said it did take away from her family and it would have been easier if she had a partner, but Dr. Miller still found time to be with her children. She has enjoyed being involved in their sports activities and is a faithful KU Jayhawk fan.

“It’s important to have a family relationship so we try to do a lot together,” said Dr. Miller.

Dr. Allard says it’s hard on the husbands as well. Many times female physicians are the primary source of income for their household. Most men of this generation grew up feeling they would be the breadwinner. Many husbands are stepping up and taking the role of child care provider and homemaker.

Both physicians feel there are advantages to being female physicians as well. Dr. Allard feels women have more empathy toward their patients. Women are by nature more nurturing and so it just makes sense she says. Dr. Miller feels women are better multi-taskers and take their time. She feels women physicians can look at the whole picture and really listen to, and talk with their patients. Also female physicians give women the opportunity to see a female physician for their yearly exams. Many female patients feel more comfortable when they know their physician can relate.

The role of a female physician is getting easier as more women enter the field, but Dr. Allard said it’s important to have the support of friends and family.

“It’s a hard row to hoe, and it’s a difficult road if you don’t have a good support system,” said Dr. Allard.

Mini Med School continued from page 3

Science Education Standards and Kansas Science Standards and Benchmarks.

Ile Higgins, director, Alumni and Community Relations, KUMC said, “Each school is different so we wanted it to be a curriculum they could fit into what they are already doing.”

At the end of the school year, the teachers who participated in the pilot project will have the opportunity to bring their students to KUMC for a field trip, with the expenses covered by the MMS budget, to provide the students the opportunity to observe an academic medical center first-hand and participate in an awards ceremony.

Eventually, KUMC would like to look for grant money and expand the MMS even more throughout the state to other high schools.

Mia Elliott, a Riverton High School teacher, feels MMS is giving the opportunity to rural Kansas students that they would not have otherwise had. She has implemented one of the labs into her classroom thus far.

“The lectures from the medical staff have been wonderful and make the students feel like they are learning from the professionals that they would someday like to be,” said Elliott. “Rural students need every opportunity to see the world around them as if they are just as capable of tackling it as urban students.”

For more information on the University of Kansas Mini Medical School, contact Sara Forsythe, assistant to the statewide director, KU Area Health Education Center at 620-235-4040 or sforsythe2@kumc.edu.
Midwest Cancer Alliance

Linking the University of Kansas Cancer Center with hospitals

On Jan. 28, Gov. Kathleen Sebelius announced the launching of the Midwest Cancer Alliance (MCA). The governor gave her support to the initiative and its efforts of reducing the burden of cancer in the Midwest.

Five Kansas hospitals and health care organizations were recognized as founding partners of the MCA. The founding partners are Goodland Regional Medical Center, Goodland Kan.; Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson, Kan.; Mt. Carmel Regional Medical Center, Pittsburg, Kan.; Stormont-Vail HealthCare, Topeka, Kan.; and The University of Kansas Hospital, Kansas City, Kan.

As the only cancer alliance in the heartland, the MCA links the University of Kansas Cancer Center with the hospitals, physicians, nurses and patients battling cancer throughout Kansas and western Missouri. It is a network of hospitals, physicians groups and cancer care support as well as advocacy organizations focused on advancing basic, translational and clinical cancer research, prevention, screening, treatment and survivorship. Other goals of the alliance are to improve access to comprehensive cancer resources and clinical trials and enhance communication and networking among oncologists and cancer care professionals.

Gary Doolittle, MD, medical director, Midwest Cancer Alliance, spent a year assembling the alliance. Traveling throughout the state, he met with health care professionals to determine the best way to develop a network amongst them.

“Access to the latest advancements in cancer care is very important for patients who are fighting this horrible disease,” said Dr. Doolittle. “Our goal with the MCA is to push these advancements out into the state and encourage collaboration among the network so that oncologists can provide the best care possible for their patients.”

MCA founding members say cancer does not stop at the Kansas-Missouri border and there are many underserved populations in western Missouri that also will benefit from being associated with the KU Cancer Center. Including western Missouri hospitals and oncology groups in the MCA broadens the expertise of the network and enables greater information and the best practice sharing.

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Kansas and the United States as a whole. Through the MCA, the KU Cancer Center is working with community-based oncology professionals and the Kansas and Missouri Cancer Control Plans to ensure that discoveries made in its research laboratories and clinics will benefit patients at home.

All member physicians will have access to second opinion and consultation services with multi-disciplinary cancer experts and all members will have access to networking events and conferences, outreach programs, web resources and continuing education programs.

“As we discover and develop new methods to treat and prevent cancer, and translate these discoveries into new and innovative clinical trials, we want to ensure everyone in our region has access to these discoveries.” said Roy Jensen, MD, director, KU Cancer Center.

To increase network access to advanced clinical trials, the MCA collaborates with the KU Cancer Center’s Clinical Trials Office. All MCA members are provided detailed information about the clinical trials managed at the KU Cancer Center, and can refer patients to those trials. MCA Clinical Research Partners and Major Clinical Research Partners are eligible to enroll patients in clinical trials at their site that are sponsored by the MCA.

The MCA is encouraging hospitals and physician groups across Kansas and western Missouri to become members. Three membership categories are currently offered including; Community Partner, Clinical Research Partner and Major Clinical Research Partner. Hospitals and physician groups with an interest in and infrastructure to support clinical trials should consider applying for membership as Clinical Research Partners and Major Clinical Research Partners. Cancer support, advocacy, industry and government organization membership levels are in development and will be available in the near future.

For more information, visit the MCA website at www.midwestcanceralliance.org. Please contact Amy Gaier, MCA Program Director, at agaier@kumc.edu or 913-588-5440 if your organization is interested in joining.

As we discover and develop new methods to treat and prevent cancer, and translate these discoveries into new and innovative clinical trials, we want to ensure everyone in our region has access to these discoveries.

Roy Jensen, MD, director, KU Cancer Center
Kansas in rural areas are receiving better care due to KU’s Outreach programs and aircraft. The aircraft allows physicians, faculty and other medical center personnel the chance to collaborate on projects across the state to better serve Kansans. Medical professionals are able to fly out to rural areas to care for patients who might not otherwise be served.

The KU Outreach Aircraft enables physicians and other providers to offer advanced levels of health care to people in rural communities and underserved areas. It decreases travel time tremendously for patients, because it brings health care providers to them. The aircraft allowed doctors of the University of Kansas School of Medicine to personally see more than 2,500 rural patients last year.

Martye Barnard, PhD, associate professor, Pediatrics, KU School of Medicine, who specializes in Behavioral Pediatrics, travels between Kansas City and western Kansas, mostly Salina and Hays, to care for her patients. Karen Smith* and her family have utilized Dr. Barnard’s services for more than 10 years. Smith first came in contact with Dr. Barnard in 1996 when her 15-year-old son was diagnosed with a seizure disorder. Before being diagnosed, Smith said her son had a difficult time.

“He would have unpredictable black-out spells, which was very embarrassing for him and scary to others around him,” said Smith.

When her son began having continuing blackouts, he was transferred to the care of physicians at the KU Medical Center.

“During that time period my son’s coping skills were not healthy,” said Smith.

“He attempted suicide twice.”

It was after the first attempt in which Smith and her son met Dr. Barnard.

“She followed us through a very difficult time,” said Smith. “I really feel her services helped save his life.”

Smith’s son had several hospitalizations at KU Medical Center and then would follow-up at the KU Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Outreach Clinic in Hays with Dr. Barnard where he continued to see her for almost four years. He eventually had a vagal nerve stimulator implanted to help prevent the seizures and he has been seizure free for almost eight years. He is now married with three boys of his own.

In 2003, Smith’s life took another turn when her husband was killed in a car accident two days before her daughter’s 17th birthday. It was another difficult time for the family and Smith knew she and her daughter needed counseling services. She then sought Dr. Barnard, who saw Smith and her daughter at the Hays KU AHEC Outreach Clinic for a year.

“Dr. Barnard is absolutely the best there is in regards to a counselor,” said Smith. “She has helped our family get through some of the most traumatic times in our life. I will never forget what she did for us.”

Smith believes the Outreach Aircraft provides an additional opportunity for western Kansans to receive high-quality services. She also feels it helped her family save time and money.

“Medical expenses are so high anyhow,” said Smith.

“We only had to drive one hour from our home town to Hays versus a five and a half-hour drive to Kansas City and having to take time off from work was another issue.”

Dr. Barnard saw the family once a month and encouraged them to seek other counseling around Hays as well. She also scheduled telemedicine sessions if she felt it would be beneficial before her return.

“Having Dr. Barnard’s services available to the people of western Kansas has been such an asset,” said Smith.

“I can’t begin to think of a price to put on what she has done for many families.”

Gary Doolittle, MD, associate profes-

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The mission of the Kansas Recruitment Center (KRC) is to assist Kansas’ rural communities in recruiting and retaining physicians and other health care providers.

KRC works with hospitals, private physician practices, community health centers, and other organizations recruiting physicians, nurses, physician assistants or other health care professionals.

KRC is also a health care career service for physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners and other allied health professionals. KRC assists candidates in finding a community and practice or career opportunity that meets their requirements. Services are provided to candidates at no charge. Candidates should refer to a position by number when they are calling about a specific opening. For more information, contact the University of Kansas Medical Center, Rural Health Education and Services, 316-293-2649 or 1-888-503-4221, or visit the Web site at http://ruralhealth.kumc.edu.

NORTH CENTRAL

KRC.0204.1305.03 Pulmonary Medicine/Critical Care – 26-physician multi-specialty clinic; currently 10 specialties; services include full-service lab, nuclear medicine, echo and vascular testing, ultrasound, and full x-ray unit; full-service acute facility and surgery hospital nearby

KRC.0204.1305.04 Invasive and Interventional Cardiologist – 26-physician multi-specialty clinic; currently 10 specialties; additional services include a full service lab, nuclear medicine, echo and vascular testing, ultrasound, and full x-ray unit; full-service acute facility and surgery hospital nearby

KRC.0204.1305.05 Internist – 26-physician multi-specialty clinic; currently 10 specialties; additional services include a full service lab, nuclear medicine, echo and vascular testing, ultrasound, and full x-ray unit; full-service acute facility and surgery hospital nearby

KRC.0604.1804.01 Family Physician – group practice, 25-bed CAH, acute medical, skilled nursing unit, 24-hour emergency, IP & OP surgery, OB, very active rehab department

KRC.0729.0701.03 Orthopedist – group practice affiliated with a regional medical center that serves a population of 60K; the medical center’s state-of-the-art technologies include a full laparoscopic system, family birthing rooms, well-equipped intensive care unit, ER, Level II nursery, fixed site MRI and CT; competitive salary; great benefits; H-1B Visa opportunity

KRC.1013.1801.03 General Surgeon – hospital-employed, 25-bed CAH with new surgical addition in progress; current staff: 3 family practitioners, 1 surgeon, 1 mid-level; additional hospital facilities include a 30-bed long-term care unit and an outreach clinic that is staffed 3.5 days per week; hospital services include OB, a full lab, diagnostic imaging, physical therapy; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.1204.0306.01 Family Physician – for 25-bed CAH w/ 2 satellite clinics; OB required, prefer ability to do c-section; currently 3 family physicians, 1 surgeon, 1 radiologist, 2 PAs, and 1 NP on staff; call is 1:5; hospital services include general surgery, cardiac rehab, cardio pulmonary, radiology, OB, OT, PT, CT scans, MRI, x-ray; salary is negotiable; full benefits

KRC.1204.0306.02 Family Physician – w/o OB or surgery, 12-bed CAH; rural health clinic attached to hospital; 83 staff members at hospital, including PA; call time is 1:2 and non-call time is completely off for practitioner; hospital services include acute care, swing bed, ER, PT, cardiac rehab, ADA certified, and outpatient clinics for cardiology and orthopedics; salary is $135,000-$160,000; full benefits

KRC.0206.1001.01C Family Physician – w/o OB or surgery, 12-bed CAH; rural health clinic attached to hospital; 83 staff members at hospital, including PA; call time is 1:2 and non-call time is completely off for practitioner; hospital services include acute care, swing bed, ER, PT, cardiac rehab, ADA certified, and outpatient clinics for cardiology and orthopedics; salary is $135,000-$160,000; full benefits

KRC.0506.0503.01C Family Physician – 25-bed CAH and rural health clinic; current staffing includes 1 physician and 1 PA; call is 1:3; hospital services include acute care, swing bed, ER services, therapy department, full service lab and x-ray, contracted sonogram and mammogram, and mobile CT scan unit; salary: $135,000-$150,000; full benefits

KRC.0204.1305.09 Gastroenterologist – a 26-physician multi-specialty group with 3 Gastroenterologists seeks BC/BE Gastroenterologist to join a well established, busy practice; early partnership, surgical hospital ownership, excellent benefits and a large referral area make this an excellent opportunity

KRC.0906.1305.10 General Surgeon – for multi-specialty clinic that is owned and operated by 25 physicians representing 11 medical specialties; 3 general surgeons on staff; call is 1:4; full service acute care facility nearby as well as a surgery hospital; salary and benefits are negotiable

KRC.1006.1801.01 Family Physician – without OB for 25-bed CAH; currently 3 FPs, 1 surgeon, and 1 mid-level on staff; additional hospital facilities include a 25-bed long term care unit and outreach clinic that is staffed 2 1/2 days per week; rotating local on-call backup; hospital services include lab, diagnostic imaging, rehab services, surgical services, ER, OR, and respiratory therapy; salary is $145,000-$165,000; full benefits

KRC.1106.1801.05 Emergency Medicine – for 25-bed CAH; currently 3 FPs, 1 surgeon, and 1 mid-level on staff; additional hospital facilities include a 25-bed long term care unit and outreach clinic that is staffed 2 1/2 days per week; rotating call schedule; hospital services include lab, diagnostic imaging, rehab services, surgical services, ER, OR, and respiratory therapy; salary is $145,000-$165,000; full benefits

KRC.1106.1801.06 Family Physician – for ER in a 25-bed CAH; currently 3 FPs, 1 surgeon, and 1 mid-level on staff; additional hospital facilities include a 25-bed long term care unit and outreach clinic that is staffed 2 1/2 days per Continued
Week; rotating call schedule; hospital services include lab, diagnostic imaging, rehab services, surgical services, ER, OR, and respiratory therapy; salary is $145,000-$165,000; full benefits

KRC.0107.1501.02 Family Physician – for a 25-bed CAH; they are expanding their medical staff to treat patients at the Rural Health Clinic and hospital; must have experience in a rural ER; hospital services include acute care, preventive medicine, PT, hospice, EMS, OB, surgery, and swing bed; call is 1:4 or 1:5; salary is $180,000 with a bonus package; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0707.0707.11 Family Physician – without OB for two-campus, 99-bed hospital with secondary campus 20 miles southwest; hospital services include a full laparoscopic system, family birthing rooms, ICU, ER, Level II nursery, MRI and CT, PT, OT, speech rehab, cardio-respiratory, lab, respite care, mammography; oncology, orthopedics, pulmonology, cardiology, nephrology outpatient clinics available; salary is $140,000 + production incentive + sign-on bonus; call is 1:2; full benefits

KRC.0407.0707.01 Orthopedic Surgeon – with interest in fracture care, joint replacement, and sports medicine for well-established group practice; currently 2 orthopedic surgeons and 3 PA’s on staff; call is 1:3; full ancillary services available; new Q-Rad Radiographic System on premises; excellent compensation; benefits package

KRC.0407.0707.02 Family Physician – w/ or w/o OB (OB preferred) for well-established group practice; currently 4 physicians and 1 ARNP on staff; weekend call is 1:5; lab, mammography, and x-ray services on premises; full service acute hospital and surgical hospital nearby; salary is competitive; full benefits

KRC.0607.1916.01 Obstetrician/Gynecologist – for single specialty clinic with OB/GYN practice; must be board certified or eligible; 385-bed hospital; 125 physicians currently on staff; hospital services include behavioral health, cancer, cardiology, emergency services, life line, radiology, rehab, sleep disorders center, and a wound care clinic; salary is competitive; full benefits; H-1B opportunity

KRC.0607.1916.02 Orthopedist – for successful single specialty clinic w/ thriving Ortho practice; must be board certified or eligible; 385-bed hospital; 125 physicians currently on staff; hospital services include behavioral health, cancer, cardiology, emergency services, life line, radiology, rehab, sleep disorders center, and a wound care clinic; salary is competitive; full benefits; H-1B opportunity

KRC.0407.1916.06 Radiologist – for well-established private practice group; must be board certified or board eligible; the 385-bed hospital’s services include behavioral health, cancer, cardiology, emergency services, life line, radiology, rehab, sleep disorders center, and a wound care clinic; salary is competitive and negotiable; 125 physicians on staff; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits; H-1B opportunity

KRC.0707.0701.12C Obstetrician/Gynecologist – to join practice for a two-campus, 99-bed, regional acute care hospital; the primary campus is located in town, and the second is 20 miles southwest; currently the number of births is 450 annually but is expected to grow; call is divided in two, unassigned will be 1:4 and practice call will be 1:2; NP will cover physician’s first call about ½ of the time; salary is $240,000-$300,000 + production and sign-on bonus; full benefits

KRC.1007.0504.01 Family Physician – w/o OB for 20-bed CAH w/ 5 rural health clinics; hospital services include diagnostic radiology; lab, RT, 24-hour ER, acute and intermediate care, cardiac rehab, PT, OT, and speech therapy; currently 2.25 physicians, 2 PAs, and 1 NP on staff; call is 1:5 w/ separate contract for holidays and weekends; salary is 100% production-based, guaranteed first 2 years; full benefits

KRC.1007.1801.07 Medical Technologist – for 25-bed CAH; hospital services include lab, diagnostic imaging, rehab services, surgery, ER, OR, and RT; day shift available, with 1-2 days call/week; equal rotation of weekend and holiday coverage and 8-10 hour shifts; salary is competitive; benefits

KRC.0307.1202.07 Family Physician – for 14-bed modern, progressive CAH w/ large rural health clinic and ER; caseload includes inpatient and outpatient; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0307.1202.08 Internist – for 14-bed modern, progressive CAH w/ large rural health clinic and ER; caseload includes inpatient and outpatient; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.1007.1801.08 Nurse – for 25-bed CAH; hospital services include lab, diagnostic imaging, rehab services, surgical services, ER, OR, and RT; 12 hr shift w/ shift differential for evening/weekend and holiday coverage; rotating schedule 3 days on and 4 days off; salary is competitive; full benefits

KRC.0308.1801.09 Echo Tech – for 25-bed CAH; hospital services include lab, diagnostic imaging, rehab services, surgical services, ER, OR, and RT; includes leadership opportunity for growing dept; CT experience or willingness to be cross-trained preferred; salary is competitive and negotiable; excellent benefits

KRC.0208.0701.12 General Surgeon – for group practice; hospital’s services include full laparoscopic system, family birthing rooms, ICU, ER, Level II nursery, MRI and CT equipment, PT, OT, speech rehab, cardio-respiratory, lab, skilled nursing, respite care, mammography, home health and hospice; salary is $200,000-$250,000 w/ production and signing bonus; full benefits; H-1B opportunity

KRC.0305.1401.01 Medical Technologist – for 24-bed CAH; experienced and new graduates encouraged to apply; hospital services include inpatient, outpatient, swing bed, OB; salary: $37,000-$52,000 depending on experience; full benefits

KRC.1205.0704.01C Internist – to join 3 internists in employed practice or new private practice; call is 1:4; family practice physicians perform ER coverage; the community and hospital are growing – 30,000 new residents expected within the next 6 year; hospital is undergoing a $43 million expansion; net income guarantee of $160,000 (negotiable depending on training and experience); benefits

KRC.1106.1311.02 Family Physician – group practice located next to a 28-bed CAH; prefer OB, but not required; currently 3 physicians and 1 mid-level on staff; call is 25%; salary and benefits are not predetermined as this is considered an independent practice

KRC.1106.1311.03 General Surgeon – for group practice; currently 1 general surgeon on staff; limited call coverage; hospital is a 28-bed CAH and supports a satellite clinic; salary is structured on a fee-for-service basis; benefits are negotiable; H-1B opportunity

KRC.0107.0704.04 Obstetrician/Gynecologist – for privately-owned practice; the community and hospital are growing – hospital service area is 45,000, and they expect 30,000 new residents within the next 6 years; hospital is undergoing a $43 million expansion over the next two years; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

KRC.0507.1313.01 Cardiologist – for 120-bed, hospital-based regional health center with a variety of services; call is no more than 10 days/month; salary is competitive and negotiable;

Continued
strong vacation and benefits package; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.0507.1313.02 Hematologist/Oncologist** – for 120-bed, hospital-based regional health center; serves an 8-county population of approx. 186,000 people; physician needed to diagnose and treat tumors, and blood and blood-forming tissue disorders; call is no more than 10 days/month; salary is competitive and negotiable; strong vacation and benefits package; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.0507.1313.04 Pharmacist** – with Kansas licensure for 150-bed hospital-based regional health center; pharmacist prepares and dispenses drugs, monitors patient drug therapies, and provides drug information; hospital uses electronic MAR and bed-side verification; currently 4 pharmacists on staff; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

**KRC.0507.1313.07 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon** – for group practice, with opportunity for partnership; call is no more than 10 days/month; salary is competitive and negotiable; strong vacation and benefits package available; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.0607.2306.01 Family Physician** – for 40-bed CAH; hospital services include ER, swing bed, Oncology Nursing, outpatient IV therapies, specialty clinics, PT, OT, and speech therapy; physician can be employed by hospital or join a group; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.1205.0704.05 Pharmacist** – registered pharmacist for 91-bed hospital; currently 1 pharmacist, 2 RNs, 1 pharm tech, and 3 support staff; experienced as well as new grads encouraged to apply; salary is $62,940-$93,163 depending upon experience; full benefits

**KRC.0907.0704.06C Family Physician** – to join established, hospital-owned and managed practice, located in new clinic on hospital campus; physician will join two other physicians in the Rural Health Clinic; call is 1:5; family physicians perform ER coverage; salary is $150,000-$160,000; full benefits

**KRC.1007.2201.01C Family Physician** – to join 2 physicians at group practice clinic; salary is $140,000 +; call coverage rotates; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.1107.1401.06 Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant** – for 24-bed CAH with 2 satellite clinics; currently 3 family physicians, 1 mid-level, and 1 OTR on staff; no call; hospital services include inpatient, outpatient, sub acute, surgery, OB, PT, OT, lab, radiology, and outreach clinics; salary range: $14.65-$20.51/hr dependent upon experience; full benefits

**KRC.1107.1401.07 Occupational Therapist** – for 24-bed CAH with 2 satellite clinics; currently 3 family physicians, 1 mid-level, and 1 OTR on staff; no call; hospital services include inpatient, outpatient, sub acute, surgery, OB, PT, OT, lab, radiology, and outreach clinics; salary range: $23.00-$32.20/hr dependent upon experience; full benefits

**KRC.1207.1502.01C Family Physician** – for 2 rural health clinics; 39-bed medical center 18 miles from the clinics and services include: primary care, surgical, imaging, lab, and subspecialty consults; call will be split between 7 physicians; salary is $140,000; full benefits; H-1B opportunity

**KRC.1207.1502.02C Medicine-Pediatrics** – for 2 rural health clinics; 39-bed medical center 18 miles from the clinics and services include: primary care, surgical, imaging, lab, and subspecialty consults; call will be split between 7 physicians; salary is $140,000; full benefits; H-1B opportunity

**KRC.0108.0704.07 Orthopedic Surgeon** – for group practice w/ 6 board certified orthos; position includes seeing patients from the hospital and a local practice; potential partnership option and teaching opportunity available if interested; the community and hospital are growing; the hospital is currently undergoing a $43 million expansion, including a new surg center; salary is $250,000-$300,000; benefits

**KRC.0308.1101.03 Family Physician** – for community health and dental center; clinic services include primary care, women’s health, physicals, diabetes education, children’s health, family planning, emergency dental, minor emergency care, x-ray/lab, HIV education, and immunizations; currently 1 physician, dentist, hygienist, mid-levels, clinical psychologist, and two case managers on staff; salary is competitive and negotiable; benefits

**KRC.0308.1101.04 Nurse Practitioner** – for community health and dental center; clinic services include primary care, women’s health, physicals, diabetes education, children’s health, family planning, emergency dental, minor emergency care, x-ray/lab, HIV education, and immunizations; currently 1 physician, dentist, hygienist, mid-levels, clinical psychologist, and two case managers on staff; no call; salary is competitive and negotiable; benefits

**KRC.0308.1101.07 Occupational Health Physician** – for 120-bed health center with a wide variety of services; opportunity to direct the occupational health program; salary is competitive and negotiable; strong vacation and benefits package; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.0308.1313.15 Neurologist** – to join single practice clinic; current services include physical medicine, pain management, etc.; salary is competitive and negotiable; benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.0408.0805.09 Director of Nursing** – for 12-bed CAH and rural health clinic; hospital services include acute, swing bed, OB, ER, lab, radiology, surgery, cardiovascular, PT, OT, and speech; salary is competitive and negotiable; excellent benefits

**NORTHWEST**

**KRC.0603.0801.01 Orthopedist** – 2 positions available for group practice; 190+ bed state-of-the-art medical center with an in-clinic MRI and wellness facility; currently 90 physicians on active medical staff; salary negotiable; benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.0603.0801.05 Plastic Surgeon** – 190+ bed state-of-the-art medical center with new wellness facility; currently 90 physicians on active medical staff; salary negotiable; benefits

**KRC.0603.0801.18 Gastroenterologist** – 190+ bed state-of-the-art medical center with new wellness facility; currently 90 physicians on active medical staff; salary negotiable; benefits

Continued
Nephrologist – 190+ bed state-of-the-art medical center with new wellness facility; currently 90 physicians on active medical staff; salary negotiable; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

Family Physician – with OB, prefer c-section certified; 25-bed CAH; currently 3 physicians and 1 mid-level; call is 1:4 as secondary to ARNP (primary ER call); full service hospital including med/surg acute care, OB/nursery, ER, outpatient, surgery/recovery, diagnostic imaging, lab, PT, RT, inpatient pharmacy, ambulance, specialty clinic, primary care clinic; salary includes base + productivity incentive, approximately $150,000+ depending on OB and procedures; full benefits; H-1B opportunity

Internist – 190+ bed, state of the art medical center and wellness facility; currently 90 physicians on staff; call is 1:5; salary is negotiable; benefits; an outstanding hospital in a positive and progressive environment; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

Family Physician – without OB for 190+ bed, state of the art medical center and wellness facility; currently 90 physicians on staff; call is 1:6; salary is negotiable; benefits; an outstanding hospital in a positive and progressive environment

Family Physician – for 25-bed CAH; OB preferred; rural health clinic on-site (4-day schedule); currently 3 family physicians, 1 general surgeon, 1 mid-level on staff; call is 1:5 ER and 1:3 OB; hospital services include acute care, intermediate care, ER, lab, x-ray, PT, RT, specialty clinics, cardiac rehab, skilled nursing, and chemotherapy administration; salary is $140,000-$150,000 + incentives; full benefits; J-1 and H-1B opportunity

Family Physician – for 25-bed CAH with a 33-bed long term care unit attached; 2 clinics - one in town, and one 15 miles away; out of town clinic has a physician half day/week and FT NP; new physician will work in the clinic 4.5 days and will perform rounds on long term care patients, as well as with patients in the hospital; OB preferred, but not required; no high-risk OB; currently 1 physician (does OB), 1 NP, and 2 PAs on staff; call is 1:4 with second call backup for the PAs; hospital services include acute care, ER, minor surgery, OB, EECP, PT, OT, and speech; salary is $150,000-$165,000 + additional pay for ER coverage and production bonus; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

Physician Therapist – for 25-bed CAH; building new hospital; currently 1 PT and 1 PTA on staff; responsibilities include evaluation, planning and administering therapy to an avg. of 20 patients/day; hospital services include: lab, OB, PT, stress testing, cardiac rehab, diagnostic imaging, CT, MRI, EKG, nuclear medicine, ER, ultrasound, and general surgery; 4 satellite clinics; experienced and new graduates encouraged to apply; must have Kansas licensure or be eligible; salary is negotiable; full benefits

Anesthesiologist – to join group of 4 anesthesiologists; group has exclusive agreement with hospital to provide services; currently 4 physicians and 6 CRNA’s; 193-bed hospital provides cardiothoracic surgery, general surgery, orthopedics, pediatrics, OB, internal medicine, pulmonology, neurology, and family medicine; salary is $250,000; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

Family Physician – w/o OB for a health center that operates a 24-bed CAH, 2 rural health clinics, 8 specialty clinics, and a retirement community; the family physician sees patients in a rural health clinic setting and long-term care facility, and participates in the admission and delivery of inpatient care; call is no more than 1:3 ½; currently 3 full-time providers on staff; salary is $150,000-$170,000 + productivity bonus starting 2nd year + $10,000 sign-on bonus; excellent benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

Internist – for a health center that operates a 24-bed CAH, 2 rural health clinics, 8 specialty clinics, and a retirement community; internist sees patients in rural health clinic setting and long-term care facility, and participates in the admission and delivery of inpatient care; call is no more than 1:3 ½; currently 3 full-time providers on staff; salary is $150,000-$170,000 + productivity bonus starting 2nd year + $10,000 sign-on bonus; excellent benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

Family Physician – w/o OB for 18-bed CAH; patient population is pediatric thru geriatric in variety of settings; hospital services include lab, x-ray, rehab, mobile CT & MRI, interactive TV, and EMR equipment; excellent opportunity to learn and grow with an up-and-coming rural healthcare facility; currently 1 physician and 1 mid-level on staff; call is 1:3 with ER; flexible schedule; salary is $120,000+ with sign-on and production bonuses; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

Family Physician – w/o OB, outpatient and inpatient caseload; 24-bed CAH with a rural clinic on-site; hospital services: outpatient surgery, med surg, CT, lab, and radiology; 2 internists on staff; call is 1:3 and includes ER; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

Radiologist – for well-established, hospital-based, state-of-the-art medical center and wellness facility; currently 90 physicians on staff; call is 1:4; salary is negotiable; full benefits; positive and progressive environment; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

Family Physician – w/o OB for group practice in 24-bed CAH and 36-bed long term care unit; currently 3 family physicians and 1 NP on staff; family physician will work in clinic w/in walking distance of hospital; call is 1:4 days; hospital services include OB, OR, OP, CT, PT, RT, mammography, and cardiac rehab; 1 satellite facility; salary range is $130,000-$150,000; loan repayment and relocation available; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

Continued
currently 3 family physicians and 1 NP on staff; Internist will work in clinic w/in walking distance of hospital; call is 1:4 days; hospital services include OB, OR, OP, CT, PT, RT, mammography, and cardiac rehab; 1 satellite facility; salary range is $35,000-$150,000; loan repayment and relocation available; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.0907.0801.29 Physician Assistant** – to support Cardiologist within a 190+ bed, state-of-the-art medical center and wellness facility; experienced PA and new grads encouraged to apply; currently 90 physicians on medical staff; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits; outstanding hospital in a positive and progressive environment

**KRC.0907.0312.01C Family Physician** – w/ OB for newly remodeled rural health clinic on campus of 25-bed CAH; currently 2 physician and 2 mid-levels on staff; ER call is 1:5 and OB call is 1:3; C-section ability a plus; hospital services include 16-slice CT, on-site MRI, CRNA and orthopedic surgeon; salary is $170,000-$200,000; full benefits

**KRC.0307.1802.07 Internist** – for outpatient and inpatient caseload; 24-bed CAH with rural health clinic on-site; hospital services include outpatient surgery, med surg, CT, lab, and radiology; currently 2 internist on staff; the position does ER coverage at the hospital, call is 1:3; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.0108.0703.03 Medical Technologist** – for 25-bed CAH; must have CLS or ASCP certification; call is 1 day/wk and every 5th weekend; hospital services: med/surg acute care, OB/nursery, ER, surgery/recovery, diagnostic imaging, lab, PT, RT, pharmacy, ambulance, specialty clinic, and primary care clinic; currently 5 med techs and 2 phlebotomists; avg 14 patients/day; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

**KRC.0108.0703.04 Physician Assistant** – for ER in 25-bed CAH, M-F daytime; will treat patients in Rural Health Clinic as needed; KS license, ACLS, ATLS w/ in a year, med staff membership w/ ER privileges required; currently 1 physician and 1 NP on staff; hospital services include med/surg acute care, OB, ER, surgery, diagnostic imaging, lab, PT, and RT; salary is $72,800-$83,200; benefits

**KRC.0208.0703.06 Director of Laboratory Services** – for 25-bed CAH; must have ASCP certification or equivalent and 3-5 yrs experience; currently 4 med techs, 1 MLT, and 1 phlebotomist on staff; hospital services include med/surg acute care, OB, ER, surgery/recovery, diagnostic imaging, lab, PT, RT; salary is competitive and negotiable; benefits

**KRC.0208.2001.05 Occupational Therapist** – for 25-bed CAH and family health care center; hospital services include on-site CT, mobile MRI, nuclear medicine, lab, surgery, rehab and cardiac wellness center; currently 1 PT, 2 PTAs, and 1 PT aide on staff; call is ½ day every 3rd or 4th Sat.; experienced as well as new grads encouraged to apply; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

**KRC.0208.0714.07 Registered Nurse** – w/ extensive labor, delivery and post-partum nursing experience for 16-bed newly remodeled CAH; will work with DON and medical staff to coordinate nursing care in OB dept; currently very strong staff w/ low turnover; ADN or BSN welcome; very aggressive with educational opportunities: NALS, PALS, ACLS, TNCC, and advanced burn; salary is competitive; strong benefits

**KRC.0308.1806.01 Dentist** – for private practice or community dental clinic; growth potential and community support is outstanding; large service area; currently 1 part-time dental hygienist with ECP I and II permits, and additional hygienists may be recruited; community will provide guaranteed salary to serve indigent pop and will offer incentives to help establish practice for 3 yr period; income is $100,000-$130,000 per year; possible student loan reimbursement; relocation and temporary housing will be offered

**SOUTH CENTRAL**

**KRC.1104.1907.01 Family Physician** – w/o OB; 2 physicians and 1 NP on staff, 24-bed CAH with on-site clinic; hospital services: CT, travel MRI, Dexxa, full-service surgery; salary: $130,000-$140,000 (2 yr contract); relocation and CME allowance; possible loan repayment

**KRC.0206.1914.02C Internist**

**KRC.0206.1914.01C Family Physician** – w/o OB for 25-bed CAH; hospital services: acute care, swing bed, lab, x-ray, PT, OT, 24-hour ER, mobile CT scan, ultrasound, mammogram, and bone density screening; call is 1 evening/week and 1:5 weekends; salary: $150,000-$160,000 with up to a 2 year contract; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

**KRC.0405.0105.04 Registered Nurse** – hospital based rural health clinic connected to a 25-bed CAH; prefer acute care or surgery experience in hospital setting; will consider new graduates; day shift (7:00am-3:00pm); 2 FPs and 1 PA on staff; hospital services: x-ray, CT, ultrasound, lab, surgery, specialty clinics, mobile MRI, and telerad; salary: $33,800-$44,000; benefits

**KRC.0405.0105.05 Family Physician** – w/o OB for patient-centered, family-focused, hospital-based rural health clinic connected to a 25-bed CAH; 1 offsite rural clinic; 2 FPs and 2 PA’s on staff, backup call only; hospital services: x-ray, CT, ultrasound, lab, surgery, specialty clinics, mobile MRI, and telerad; salary: $145,000-$160,000; full benefits

**KRC.1006.0808.01 Family Physician** – new position with or w/o OB; based in a new rural health environment

Continued
KRC.0307.1405.01C Otolaryngologist – for new group practice; strong physician support for ENTs; the 105-bed hospital’s services include pediatrics, OB, general surgery, medical, ICU, inpatient rehab, geriatric unit, and ER; call would not exceed 10 days/mon; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0307.1307.03C Family Physician – w/o OB for 25-bed CAH with attached clinic; 1 physician, 1 general surgeon, and 2 mid-levels on staff; call is 1:4; to be responsible for patient care at clinic; hospital rounds, and ER call; hospital services: general acute, skilled, intermediate care, CT, and PT; salary is $170,000-$200,000; full benefits; H-1B opportunity

KRC.0507.1309.05C Urologist – for progressive multi-specialty group practice; salary is $350,000 (guaranteed first year), with possible production bonus; excellent benefits

KRC.0507.1309.06C Orthopedist – for progressive multi-specialty clinic; salary is $350,000 (guaranteed first year), with possible production bonus; excellent benefits

KRC.0607.0105.07 Internist – for patient-centered, family-focused, hospital-based rural health clinic; clinic is connected to a 25-bed CAH; 2.2 family physicians and 2 PAs on staff; unless the physician has an interest in primary care coverage, the call responsibility is based on backup coverage; hospital services: x-ray, CT, ultrasound, lab, surgery, specialty clinics, mobile MRI, and teleread; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

KRC.0405.0105.08 Registered Nurse – for family-focused, hospital-based rural health clinic connected to 25-bed CAH; 2.2 family physicians and 2 PAs on staff; hospital services: x-ray, CT, ultrasound, lab, surgery, specialty clinics, mobile MRI, and teleread; shift supervisor position available as well as full- and part-time opportunities for RNs; will consider new grads; salary is competitive; full benefits

KRC.0507.1309.07C Internist – for progressive multi-specialty group practice; call will vary w/ 4 other internists; established patient base; 11 specialties, 23 physicians, and 5 mid-levels on staff; salary is $120,000 (guarantee 1st yr) + production bonus; excellent benefits; H-1B opportunity

KRC.0801.1603.02 Family Physician – w/o OB for growing community health center; physician will spend majority of time in the clinic with some supervisory duties of mid-levels; currently 1.5 mid-levels and 1.7 physicians on staff; facility is new with all new equipment; prefer physician willing to accept call; salary is $110,000-$140,000; excellent benefits

KRC.0801.1603.01 Physician Assistant – for busy community health center; currently 1.5 mid-levels and 1.7 physicians on staff; facility is new with all new equipment; call is included, but is only via telephone; salary is $52,000-$61,648; benefits; experienced and new grads encouraged to apply

KRC.1007.2307.01 Family Physician – with OB for rural health clinic; currently 3 physicians and 2 mid-levels on staff; phone call is 1:4; 4 days/week schedule; nearby 80-bed hospital provides the following services: OB, ER, CT, OT, PT, lab, radiology, acute care, swing bed, and general surgery; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

KRC.0208.0708.04 Licensed Practical Nurse – for community health clinic with 2 satellite clinics; currently 5 physicians and 3 mid-levels on staff; caseload is birth to geriatric; clinic hours are M-F, 8-5; no call; clinic is located on a campus of a 420-bed hospital; candidates must have at least 1 year of experience; salary is $31,200-$37,440; benefits

KRC.0208.0809.04 Family Physician – w/o OB for 25-bed CAH; hospital services include ER, lab, radiology, home health, acute care, RHCs, PT, general surgery, and speech therapy; hospital expansion to begin summer 2009 and will include a new clinic, admissions, and lab; currently 3 physicians, 4 mid-levels on staff; call is ER 1-2 nights/week and primary call is 1:14 weekend; salary depends on experience; great benefits

KRC.0208.0708.05 Physician Assistant
KRC.0208.0708.06 Nurse Practitioner – PRN PA or NP for community health center w/ satellite clinics; currently 5 physicians, 5 PAs, and 1 ARNP on staff; caseload is birth to geriatric; clinic is located on a campus of a 420-bed hospital and hours are M-F 8-5; salary is $33.00-$38.00/hour

KRC.0408.0106.01 Family Physician – w/ OB for busy group practice; currently 6 physicians and 1 PA on staff; admitting 35-bed hospital is 1 mi. from practice and has complete ancillary services; call is 1:3 w/ every 8th weekend; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

KRC.0408.0106.02 Physician Assistant – for busy group practice; currently 6 physicians and 1 PA on staff; admitting 35-bed hospital is 1 mi. from practice and has complete ancillary services; call is shared among providers; experienced and new grads encouraged to apply; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

SOUTHEAST

KRC.0901.0103.05 Internist – multi-specialty group with 4 satellite clinics; staff includes: 6 family physicians, 1 pediatrician, 2 internists, 2 general surgeons, 1 urologist; clinic has full spectrum of care, OB, physical exams and sports physicals, lab and x-ray, EKG testing, bone density studies, minor surgery, wellness exams and preventative medicine, orthopaedic manipulations, PT, diabetic education, cancer center; salary negotiable; full benefits

KRC.0407.0502.05 Physician Assistant – for group practice; currently 3 physicians, 3 NP’s and 1 PA on staff; salary is $65,000 + signing bonus; vacation includes 12 days/year, 10 paid holidays, and 12 days sick leave; full benefits

KRC.0407.0502.09 Nurse Practitioner – for group practice; currently 3 physicians, 3 NP’s and 1 PA on staff; salary is negotiable; vacation includes 12 days/year, 10 paid holidays, and 12 days sick leave; full benefits

KRC.0507.1201.13C General Surgeon – can be independent practitioner or employed by hospital; 109-bed acute, intensive and skilled care hospital; 37 physicians representing 15+ medical specialties; OR undergoing extensive renovations, resulting in 4 OR suites and 2 procedure rooms; approx. 400 surgeries/mo.; salary is $250,000-$350,000 + sign-on bonus; benefits and paid vacation if employed by hospital

KRC.0607.0305.02C Pulmonologist – for 148-bed licensed, 105-bed operating medical center; hospital services: acute care, skilled nursing, OB/GYN, ICU, ER, behavioral health, surgery, all clinical ancillary services, and cancer treatment center; not a hospital employee, but will be provided a salary guarantee; benefits

KRC.0607.0305.03C Otolaryngologist – for 148-bed licensed, 105-bed operating medical center; hospital services: acute care, skilled nursing, OB/GYN, ICU, ER, behavioral health, surgery, all clinical ancillary services, and cancer treatment center; not a hospital employee, but will be provided a salary guarantee; benefits

KRC.0907.1905.02C Family Physician – for busy rural health clinic; 1 family physician, 1 NP, 1 practice administrator, and 1 office coordinator on staff; admitting 25-bed licensed inpatient acute care CAH directly across street; salary is competitive and negotiable; great benefits

Continued
KRC.0407.0502.07  **Family Physician**  – for federal clinic; 70 staff members including 3 physicians, 3 NPs, and 1 PA; call is included; salary is $130,000–$136,000; great benefits

KRC.0407.0502.08  **Internist**  – for federal clinic; currently 2 anesthesiologists and 1 KRC.0208.1201.12C  **Physician Assistant**  – for 109-bed hospital that serves a 6 county area; currently 2 interventional radiologist on staff; call is 1:2; candidates must be skilled in musculoskeletal MRI and mammography; salary is $400,000–$500,000 w/ partnership opportunity available after 1 year; full benefits

KRC.0108.0302.03  **Family Physician**  – OB preferred but not required, for federally qualified community health center; experience w/ geriatric patient caseload a plus; physician will work 4 days/week in the clinic and provide inpatient care; currently 75+ employees including 4 physicians, 5 NPs, 3 dentists, 3 hygienists, 3 psychologists, and 1 pharmacist; call is shared among all providers; salary is $130,000–$150,000; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0108.0302.04  **Internist**  – for federally qualified community health center; physician will work in a busy clinic currently staffed by family physician, pediatrician, and mid-levels; focus on chronic patients including team leader of diabetes collaborative; 4 days/week in the clinic and provide inpatient care; currently 75+ employees and call is shared among all providers; salary is $130,000–$150,000; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0108.0302.05  **Medicine-Pediatrics**  – for federally qualified community health center; physician will work in a busy clinic currently staffed by family physician, pediatrician, and mid-levels; focus on chronic patients including team leader of diabetes collaborative; 4 days/week in the clinic and provide inpatient care; currently 75+ employees and call is shared among all providers; salary is $130,000–$150,000; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0108.0302.07  **Pediatrician**  – for federally qualified community health center; physician will work in progressive health center serving a diverse and growing population 4 days/week; currently 75+ employees and call is shared among all providers; the 188-bed admitting hospital is 3 miles away; salary is $130,000–$150,000; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0108.0302.08  **Family Physician**  – for widely distributed community health center w/ 3 satellites; current staff includes 3 physicians and 7 NPs, no call; no weekends; salary negotiable; benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0108.0302.09  **Physician Assistant**  – for a 25-bed acute care hospital; salary is $200,000+; full benefits

KRC.0108.0302.10  **Physical Therapist**  – for a 25-bed acute care hospital; salary is $75,000–$100,000; full benefits

KRC.0208.1201.13C  **Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist**  – for 109-bed hospital that serves a 6 county area; currently 2 anesthesiologists and 1 CRNA on staff; call is 1:3 OB, 1:4 general procedures; salary is $120,000–$130,000; full benefits

KRC.0208.1201.18C  **Radiologist**  – for 109-bed hospital that serves a 6 county area; currently 1 interventional radiologist on staff; call is 1:2; provides CT, ER, home health, hospice, ICU, MRI, minimal peds patients; currently 1 hospitalist and 1 PA on staff; no call; flexible schedule; salary is $200,000+; full benefits

KRC.0208.1201.14C  **Family Physician**  – w/ OB for 109-bed hospital that serves a 6 county area; currently 7 family physicians and 2 OB/GYNs on staff; call is 1:4 and hospital maintains a hospitalist program; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

KRC.0208.1201.15C  **Internist**  – for 109-bed hospital that serves a 6 county area; will serve in-patient and out-patient pop.; currently 37 physicians representing over 15 specialties on staff; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits if employed by the hospital

KRC.0208.1201.16C  **Hospitalist**  – for 109-bed hospital to oversee medical, surgical, ICU, and minimal peds patients; currently 1 hospitalist and 1 PA on staff; no call; flexible schedule; salary is $200,000+; full benefits

KRC.1006.1308.04  **Physical Therapist**  – for a new 20-bed CAH and 43 bed long-term care unit; under direction of an experienced PT, this PT will provide services for post-op orthopedic patients, athletic injuries and geriatrics; experienced therapists and new grads encouraged to apply; Director, PTA, and an aide currently on staff; hospital services include orthopedic surgery, swing bed, CT scan, ultrasound, home health and long-term care; salary is $62,000–$83,000; full benefits

KRC.0207.0201.05  **Nurse Practitioner**  – for community health center with 3 satellite facilities; 1 physician, 6 NPs, 2 PAs, and 1 volunteer physician on staff; no call coverage or weekends; salary range is $58,000, negotiable; full benefits

KRC.0107.0201.04C  **General Surgeon**  – for 45-bed county owned, not-for-profit, rural hospital; 2 physicians and 1 PA on staff; call negotiable; hospital services: radiology, lab, OB, ER, mobile MRI, CT, swing bed, acute care, general surgery, pediatric care, RT, ICU, home health, and PT; salary is $250,000–$300,000; full benefits

KRC.1105.0804.05  **Family Physician**  – 25-bed hospital; patient care provided at clinic and extended care facility; hospital services: general medical-surgical, skilled nursing, ER, OB, geriatrics, inpatient, outpatient, and long term care; 1 family practitioner, 1 part-time general surgeon, and 1 NP on staff; call 1 week every 3-4 weeks; salary is $150,000–$170,000; benefits

KRC.0106.2101.05  **Nurse Practitioner**  – for federal clinic; 40 bed long-term care unit; currently 37 physicians, 2 OB/GYNs on staff; call is shared with family physicians and internists; family physicians are responsible for answering questions over the phone (1:3); the 132-bed admitting hospital’s services: acute care, OB, emergency medicine, surgery, oncology, rehab, wound care, cardiology, orthopedics, and neurology; salary is $150,000; full benefits

**SOUTHWEST**

KRC.0304.2101.01  **Family Physician**  – for federally qualified community health center w/ 3 satellites; current staff includes 3 physicians and 7 NPs; no call; no weekends; salary negotiable; benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0717.0401.02  **Urologist**  – for multi-specialty group with 27 physicians and 11 specialties; large service area with many referrals; 3 satellite facilities; 100-bed hospital’s services: ER, lab, x-ray, CT, MRI, OB, Peds, new cardio and ICU services; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

KRC.1204.0804.04  **Lab Tech**  – 25-bed acute care setting with swing bed unit and ER; first shift; will cross-train into radiology with training provided if needed; salary is negotiable; benefits

KRC.0107.0201.04C  **General Surgeon**  – 45-bed county owned, not-for-profit, rural hospital; 2 physicians and 1 PA on staff; call negotiable; hospital services: radiology, lab, OB, ER, mobile MRI, CT, swing bed, acute care, general surgery, pediatric care, RT, ICU, home health, and PT; salary is $250,000–$300,000; full benefits

KRC.1105.0804.05  **Family Physician**  – 25-bed hospital; patient care provided at clinic and extended care facility; hospital services: general medical-surgical, skilled nursing, ER, OB, geriatrics, inpatient, outpatient, and long term care; 1 family practitioner, 1 part-time general surgeon, and 1 NP on staff; call 1 week every 3-4 weeks; salary is $150,000–$170,000; benefits

KRC.0207.0201.07C  **Pharmacist**  – solo position available in a 45-bed county owned, not-for-profit, rural hospital; experience preferred but new grads encouraged to apply; PharmD required and must be KS licensed or eligible; hospital is currently contracting with a local pharmacist; hospital services include radiology, lab, OB, ER, MRI, CT, acute care, general surgery, pediatric care, RT, ICU, home health and PT; salary is $75,000–$110,000; full benefits

KRC.0407.1303.04C  **Family Physician**  – for growing multi-specialty group practice; excellent opportunity for physician interested in learning more general surgery and OB/GYN; group specialties: family medicine, general surgery, OB/GYN; position is w/o OB, but if there is a strong interest, there may be flexibility; currently 3 physicians and 1 mid-level on staff; call is 1:3 (no ER); caseload primarily outpatient; 100-bed hospital is 1 block away and is a full service acute care center; salary is $135,000+; full benefits
KRC.0407.1303.05c Medicine-Pediatrics – position at growing multi-specialty group practice; group specialties: family medicine, general surgery, OB/GYN; currently 3 physicians and 1 mid-level on staff; call is 1:3 (no ER); caseload primarily outpatient; 100-bed hospital is 1 block away and is a full service acute care center; salary is $135,000+; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0407.0401.08 Endocrinologist – for multi-specialty group housing 25 physicians with 11 specialties; serves the endocrine needs of 24 counties; 2 satellite facilities; proud of their highly complex lab and radiology/nuclear medicine depts; call is 1:6; 100-bed hospital is 3 blocks away and includes ER, lab, x-ray, CT, MRI, OB, peds, new cardio and ICU services; salary is $180,000 depending on experience; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0407.0401.09 Rheumatologist – for multi-specialty group housing 25 physicians with 11 specialties; large service area w/ many referrals; 2 satellite facilities; proud of their highly complex lab and radiology/nuclear medicine depts; call is 1:6; 100-bed hospital is 3 blocks away and includes ER, lab, x-ray, CT, MRI, OB, peds, new cardio and ICU services; salary is $180,000 depending on experience; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0407.0401.10 Pulmonologist – for multi-specialty group housing 25 physicians with 11 specialties; large service area w/ many referrals; 2 satellite facilities; proud of their highly complex lab and radiology/nuclear medicine depts; call is 1:6; 100-bed hospital is 3 blocks away and includes ER, lab, x-ray, CT, MRI, OB, peds, new cardio and ICU services; salary is $180,000 depending on experience; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0407.0401.11 Gastroenterologist – for multi-specialty group housing 25 physicians with 11 specialties; large service area w/ many referrals; 2 satellite facilities; proud of their highly complex lab and radiology/nuclear medicine depts; call is 1:6; 100-bed hospital is 3 blocks away and includes ER, lab, x-ray, CT, MRI, OB, peds, new cardio and ICU services; salary is $180,000 depending on experience; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0907.0401.12 Family Physician – with or w/o OB for multi-specialty group w/ 23 physicians and 11 specialties; currently 2 physicians and 1 NP; call is 1:3; local 100-bed hospital is 3 blocks away and includes ER, lab, x-ray, CT, MRI, OB, Peds, new cardio and ICU services; salary is competitive and negotiable, full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0807.1303.07c Obstetrician/Gynecologist – for growing multi-specialty group practice with the following specialties: family medicine, general surgery, and OB/GYN; currently 3 physicians and 1 mid-level on staff; call is 1:3 (no ER); caseload is primarily outpatient, but physicians follow their admitted patients at the local hospital; the 100-bed admitting hospital is 1 block away; salary is $135,000+; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0807.1303.06c Internist – for growing multi-specialty group practice with the following specialties: family medicine, general surgery, and OB/GYN; excellent opportunity for physician interested in learning more of the general surgery and OB/GYN disciplines; currently 3 physicians and 1 mid-level on staff; call is 1:3 (no ER); caseload is primarily outpatient, but physicians follow their admitted patients at the local hospital; the 100-bed admitting hospital is 1 block away; salary is $135,000+; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.1207.1910.02c Family Physician – w/ OB for 25-bed CAH and rural health clinic; currently 3 family physicians, 1 PA-C, 1 NP, and 1 CRNA on staff; hospital provides med/surg acute care, OB, family birthing rooms, swing beds, CT, ultrasonography, mammography, PT, OT, speech therapy, RT, mobile MRI, and 14 specialty outpatient clinics; call is 1:4; starting salary: $160,000; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0407.1303.08c Pediatrician – for multi-specialty group; the group has family medicine, general surgery, and OB/GYN; 3 physicians and 1 mid-level on staff; call is 1:3 (no ER); caseload is primarily outpatient, but physicians follow their admitted patients at the local hospital 1 block away; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0108.0810.01 Registered Nurse – for 13-bed CAH; currently 1 family physician and 1 mid-level on staff; facility is under renovation; services include acute care, swing bed, long term care, cardiac rehab, PT, ER, surgery, lab, x-ray, CT, sonogram, mammogram, MRI and echo; candidate must have KS license, CPR and ACLS certified; experienced and new grads encouraged to apply; salary is $36,420-$48,963; benefits

KRC.0108.0810.02 Licensed Practical Nurse – for 13-bed long term care facility attached to a 13-bed CAH; currently 1 family physician and 1 mid-level on staff; facility under renovation; hospital services: acute care, swing bed, long term care, cardiac rehab, PT, ER, surgery, lab x-ray, CT, sonogram, mammogram, MRI and echo; candidate must have KS license, CPR certified; experienced and new grads encouraged to apply, salary is $28,080-$34,320; benefits

KRC.0108.0810.03 Physician Assistant
KRC.0108.0810.04 Nurse Practitioner – for 13-bed CAH; 1 family physician and 1 mid-level on staff; facility is under renovation; services include acute care, swing bed, long term care, cardiac rehab, PT, ER, surgery, lab, x-ray, CT, sonogram, mammogram, MRI and echo; experienced and new grads encouraged to apply; salary is competitive and negotiable; benefits

KRC.0408.0601.01 Nurse Practitioner – for health department to specialize in women’s health, family planning, children’s exams, and some outpatient sick visits; no call or weekends; 2 ARNPs on staff; salary is $60,000-$70,000; excellent benefits

KRC.0208.1917.01 Family Physician – w/o OB for hospital-based clinic; mostly outpatient, some inpatient, no ER; 25-bed hospital next door to clinic and provides imaging, lab, cardio, pulmonary, PT, OT, LTC; currently 2 physicians and 2 ARNPs on staff; schedule is 8-5 4 days/week; call is 1:2 weekdays and 1:4 weekends; salary is $150,000 plus production incentive; benefits, including hospital benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0207.0201.08 Radiologic Technologist – for 45-bed hospital; experienced and new grads encouraged to apply; must be grad of an accredited program and have ARRT (or eligible); some experience in CT scan preferred; professional development and training on other modalities is available; currently 2.5 techs on staff; call is rotated among staff; salary range is $31,000-$44,000; full benefits

KRC.0408.0401.13 Internist – for multi-specialty group with 23 physicians from 11 specialties; large service area; satellite facility; 100-bed hospital is 3 blocks away and includes ER, lab, x-ray, CT, MRI, OB, peds, new cardio and ICU; 2 opportunities due to growth; currently 2 physicians and 1 NP; call is 1:3; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits; H-1B and J-1 opportunity

KRC.0508.1910.06 Medical Laboratory Technician or Medical Technologist or Medical Laboratory Technician – for 25-bed CAH and rural health clinic; currently 2 med techs, 1 med lab tech, and 2 PRN med techs on staff; hospital services include med/surg acute care, OB, family birthing rooms, swing beds, CT, ultrasound, mammography, MRI and echo; candidate must have KS license, CPR and ACLS certified; experienced and new grads encouraged to apply; salary is competitive and negotiable; full benefits

Candidates looking for job opportunities in Kansas can access those listed by the KRC by visiting ruralhealth.kumc.edu on the Web.
New solution to Old Problem

Creative job sharing approach keeps physicians in rural Kansas

Recruitment and retention is not always an easy task in rural Kansas, but one health center created their own solution to the issue.

In January 2002, the only physician of the Wichita County Health Center (WCHC), Leoti, Kan., gave his 90-day resignation and the WCHC began seeking a new physician. During the recruiting process, the health center utilized locum tenens physicians. The WCHC used two locum physicians, Jason Stuer- man, MD, and Jeff Alpert, MD, who worked two-week rotations in the rural health environment and were then able to take time to continue living their metropolitan lifestyle in Denver, Co.

Comments relayed to the administrator from the locum tenens physicians were that they loved the intimate family practice in Leoti, Kan., but had difficulty being permanently away from the city lifestyle. They were more than willing to work hard and long hours during their two weeks per month at Wichita County Health Center knowing that they would be afforded time to pursue other interests as well as mentally and physically recharge for the following two weeks. This also allowed time for missionary work and personal travel.

This system was running smoothly and following a year of recruiting no real prospects were found. Soon they discovered they didn’t necessarily need a full-time physician to fill the position. The locum tenens physicians valued the flexibility of a rotating schedule. Patients found their quality of care was not affected and were able to see the physician of their choice most of the time. The financial status continued to improve. Bills were being paid, employees were rewarded with annual evaluation raises, and WCHC services expanded with new equipment being purchased. The Board of Trustees decided to break away from tradition and hire both Dr. Stuerman and Dr. Alpert with this job share model in mind. In May 2004, they were hired for the job share to provide medical care for the WCHC Rural Health Clinic, critical access hospital, emergency room on call and long term care unit.

The new job share technique has assisted the WCHC in maintaining 15 new patients per month at the Rural Health Clinic for the last three years. The Net Patient Service Revenue increased 17 percent from FY2003 to FY2006 and 34 percent from FY2002. The accounts receivable net increased 10 percent from FY2003 to FY2006 and 47 percent from FY2002. Also, according to the Kansas Hospital Association Outpatient Profile Reports, WCHC outpatient services have increased by 63 percent from FY2004 to FY2006. The KHA report also demonstrates an increase in the percent of Wichita county residents utilizing WCHC instead of surrounding counties’ health services.

After three years of this arrangement, both physicians have renewed their contracts and have expressed their appreciation for the flexibility of their schedule. Dr. Alpert has purchased a home in Leoti and rents an apartment in Denver. Dr. Stuerman lives in Leoti full time. Dr. Stuerman enjoys working in a rural area because he is able to practice the full scope of medical care.

“We are involved with the community a lot including the schools, EMS and sometimes the fire department,” said Dr. Stuerman.

He completed his residency in Denver and likes to go back when he gets a chance to visit family and take on extra work.

“It’s nice to get back to the city,” said Dr. Stuerman.

The physicians stay informed on the happenings of WCHC by meeting and updating during their shift changes. There is also a full-time, mid-level practitioner on staff who helps with the communication flow and continuity of care.

“We are very pleased with the outcome,” said Vicki Han, CEO, WCHC. “(The physicians) are motivated team players who demonstrate a sense of ownership to Wichita County Health Center, their patients and the community as a whole.”

New services have been implemented into the Wichita County Health Center over the past three years. These include: CT scan services, nuclear cardiac stress testing, colposcopies, endoscopes, nerve conduction studies, and HIV rapid screens.

WCHC was chosen by the Kansas Hospital Education and Research Foundation (KHERF) as the 2007 Thomas R. Sipe Challenge winner.

The award honors new, creative, and practical approaches to community health care challenges. The WCHC was chosen for providing an innovative job-sharing approach to physician recruitment and retention, which the KHERF says has been a historical challenge for rural communities that make up a large part of Kansas.
The Kansas Sampler Foundation has chosen the “8 Wonders of Kansas.” Throughout the course of a year, Kansas Connections will run a series of articles highlighting the wonders. The wonders were announced on Kansas Day, Jan. 29, by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius. The Kansas Sampler Foundation is a non-profit organization. Their mission is to preserve and sustain rural culture and they believe that educating the public about what there is to see and do in the state helps make a difference for all Kansas communities, regardless of size.

The Big Well
The first wonder of Kansas is the Big Well. Located just off U.S. Route 54 in the southwestern Kansas town of Greensburg, the Big Well is the largest, hand-dug well in the world. Built in the late 1800s at a cost of $45,000, the well provided water for the people of the area and the Santa Fe and Rock Island railroads. The only dependable source of water was from a well.

After a franchise for a water works system was granted in 1887, work on the well began. On Aug. 9, 1887, Jack Wheeler led his crew in an architectural adventure as the first shovel dug into what would become a 32-feet wide, 109-feet deep well with two feet thick native stone walls. Hired on a day to day basis for 50 cents to a dollar a day, crews of 12 to 15 farmers, cowboys and other local men dug the well. Some of the men lived on location in a camp of tents while working on the well.

The well was dug, cribbed and cased. As the dirt was removed it was cribbed with stone to prevent caving in. The well was complete after nearly two years of work and served as the city’s water supply until 1932. The well was covered and opened as a tourist attraction in 1939. Since then, over 3 million people have visited the “Big Well” from every state and all over the world.

People have been tossing money and other items into the Big Well since its beginning. In 1990, the town hired divers to clean the bottom of the well. A silver onyx crucifix, shoes, coins and other items were found.

Visitors brave enough to walk the 105 steps to the bottom will be impressed with this century-old feat. The lights in the 15’ of water enable one to see all the way to the bottom.

On May 4, 2007, Greensburg was struck by an EF5 tornado and most of the town was destroyed. The viewing canopy of the well and the Big Well museum were heavily damaged. Efforts are underway to repair the canopy and develop a new museum that will include the Big Well history.

Cheyenne Bottoms/Quivira National Wildlife Refuge
Located at the heart of Kansas, just six miles north of Great Bend, Cheyenne Bottoms is a 41,000-acre lowland basin and is the largest fresh water marsh in the interior of the United States. It is considered the most important shorebird migration point in the western hemisphere. The area attracts 45-90

Continued on next page
percent of the North American shorebird population during spring migration each year. At least 320 species of birds have been recorded. The area is a critical habitat for several threatened and endangered species such as whooping cranes, peregrine falcons, least terns, and piping plovers. Thousands of sandhill cranes stop at Cheyenne Bottoms on their spring and fall migrations. Visitors can drive or walk along the dikes for some magnificent bird watching. Although known primarily for birds, the area also contains raccoons, deer, beavers, muskrats and mink as well as a variety of reptiles. Western painted turtles, sliders, diamondback and northern water snakes and Graham's crayfish snakes frequent the water’s edge.

Quivira National Wildlife Refuge is less than 20 miles away from Cheyenne Bottoms. It is 22,135 acres of prairie grass, saltwater marshes, sand dunes, canals, dikes and timber. During spring migration, Quivira is a staging area for over 500,000 birds. Attracting thousands of migratory waterfowl, the Big and Little Salt Marshes are ancient basins that have provided them with food, cover and a place to rest during exhausting flights between breeding and wintering areas. The far west end of Big Salt Marsh is the favorite place within the refuge for migrating sandhill cranes in the fall. Tens of thousands of them are present at peak times. Lizards, water turtles and snakes also make their home in this area. Massasauga rattlesnakes like to sun on the roads in the warmer seasons.

Driving the Wetlands and Wildlife National Scenic Byway is a great way to see both Cheyenne Bottoms and the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. It curves around the two sites for 76 miles. Both sites were designated as Wetlands of International Importance by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

Outreach Aircraft CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Lori Montgomery, scheduling officer for the aircraft, says KUMC had a total of 288 flights for FY07.

Donna Sweet, MD, professor, Internal Medicine, KU School of Medicine – Wichita, uses the aircraft on a regular basis for outreach clinics to Pittsburg and Garden City. Montgomery receives requests from the AHECs in Pittsburg, Hays and Garden City for their continuing education programs as well and the KU Cancer Institute has begun using the aircraft frequently for their missions.

“We can only see that usage becoming more regular and steady,” said Montgomery.

Dr. Doolittle wrote in a recent letter to the editor for the Lawrence Journal saying that about two-thirds of all university flights are used for medical center outreach allowing specialists to visit patients in their home settings.

“For the past 24 years, medical center oncologists like me have traveled to parts of Kansas that lay outside reasonable driving distance to supplement the excellent work of local doctors,” said Dr. Doolittle.

“I learn as much from them as I hope they learn from me and our journey perpetuates the symbiotic relationship between pioneering research and crucial treatment.”

Doctors remain dedicated to the core mission, which is improving the health and lives of Kansans. He adds that the fundamental goal continues to be the use of any and all available means to improve the health of our most important audience—Kansans.

Other KU health care providers who serve Kansans at the AHEC KU outreach clinics include: Carol B. Lindsley, MD – pediatric rheumatology, Chris Glattes, MD – orthopedics, Douglas Burton, MD – orthopedics, James Casey, MD – pediatric cardiology, Kenneth Goertz, MD – pediatric cardiology, Majed Dasouki, MD – genetics, Pat Stevens, ARNP – pediatric allergy, Ha Ta, MD – Internal Medicine.

* Name has been changed by request of the subject to protect their privacy.
The University of Kansas School of Nursing is taking steps to improve the education of their students and improve the school as a whole with two new programs. These programs are the Rural Nurse Practitioner Practicum and the Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree.

Rural Nurse Practitioner Practicum

Seven students at the KU School of Nursing are taking part in a new rural nurse practitioner practicum. Each student participates in different rural communities this semester.

“Being in a rural setting means that there are not large numbers of specialists and interdisciplinary professionals at your disposal, so you learn to do many things that you would not do in an urban setting.”

Audra Walter, Nursing Student


“From time to time we have had people living in rural areas do their clinicals in that area, but this is the first time for students in Kansas City to volunteer to go to rural communities,” said Diane Ebbert, PhD, ARNP, clinical assistant professor, School of Nursing and Medicine, University of Kansas Medical Center.

Helen Connors, RN, PhD, FAAN, associate dean, Academic Affairs, University of Kansas School of Nursing said the nursing school wanted to expand and therefore felt it appropriate to offer the nursing students as providers to rural communities who need them the most.

Most of the students in the program are not full time and have children. They go out to the rural community for three weeks and go back home for a week or two and then go back to finish up. This particular course requires 192 clinical hours total.

The course is called Primary Care II, with a chronic illness focus. It is at the graduate level and expands further than the basic nurse skills. The students see everything, but are dedicated to treating patients with chronic illnesses. According to Ebbert, the students really enjoyed the experience.

One student, Kathy Linde lives and participates in the practicum in Yates Center, Kan. During the Spring 2008 semester she has worked with John Atkin, MD who has been chosen as Family Physician of the Year. Linde says Dr. Atkin has been in practice for 45 years, and she feels very privileged to follow him.

“He still makes house calls, and he is one of the few physicians I know of that still publishes his home phone number,” said Linde. “He is one of a kind and I am very lucky to have him as a preceptor.”

Linde says working in a rural community is unique, because frequently the smaller clinics are the only source of medical care that the patient has for miles. The closest hospital is 22 miles from Yates Center, so people sometimes come into the clinic with illness or injuries that should be seen in an emergency room.

Working in a small community is important to Linde. She likes getting to know the patient and their family on a personal level, and taking care of all the different age groups seen in family care.

“I really can’t see myself working anywhere else but a rural community,” said Linde.

Renee Walters’ practicum was recently completed in Clay Center, Kan. During her time there she made rounds in the hospital and nursing home. She also took obstetric and emergency calls and treated patients in the clinic.

“The environment is ideal for learning,” said Walters. “The patients are welcoming and open to students and the medical, nursing and clerical staff is supportive and skilled.”

Audra Walter completed her practicum in Washington, Kan. She enjoyed the variety of experiences the practicum offered.

“Being in a rural setting means that there are not large numbers of specialists and interdisciplinary professionals at your disposal, so you learn to do many things that you would not do in an urban setting.”

In the future, Walter would like...
to work in a rural setting as a nurse practitioner.

“It’s nice to be a part of a close community and there is definitely a greater need for health care providers in a rural setting than in an urban setting,” said Walter.

The program has been a success with both the students and the rural communities benefitting from the practicum. The KU School of Nursing is looking forward to having more students participate in the Summer 2008 semester.

Kent Erickson, MD and Renee Walters

Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree

The KU School of Nursing was also approved for a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree along with Wichita State University (WSU).

After the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) put together a position statement on the degree in 2004, both universities worked together to decide the action they were going to take. They both came up with proposals to be approved by the Kansas Board of Regents.

The AACN position statement shows that the growing complexity of health care, burgeoning growth in scientific knowledge, and increasing sophistication of technology have necessitated master’s degree programs that prepare advanced practice nurses (APNs) to expand the number of didactic and clinical clock hours far beyond the requirements of master’s education in virtually any other field.

Therefore, there was a need for a doctoral degree.

The new degree in place at WSU and KU prepares APNs at the highest level of nursing practice. Nurses will develop skills in collaboration, innovation and evaluation as well as advanced practice nursing skills, preparing them to shape the future of health care.

The increasingly complex health care system was the reasoning behind the formation of the DNP degree. The master’s degree historically has been the degree for specialized advanced nursing practice. With development of DNP programs across the country, this new degree will become the preferred preparation for specialty nursing practice. The KU and WSU nursing schools join a number of schools across the country that have added a DNP program to their educational offerings.

“There were only a dozen schools offering the program when we started the process,” said Helen Connors, RN, PhD, FAAN, associate dean, Academic Affairs, KU School of Nursing. “Now there are more than 200 schools with the DNP degree.”

DNP specialty tracks at the KU School of Nursing include: Adult-Gerontological Clinical Nurse Specialist, Adult-Gerontological Nurse Practitioner, Certified Nurse Midwife, Family Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Anesthesia, Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Health-care Informatics, Organizational Leadership and Public Health.

“KU is a leading university in Kansas,” said Dr. Connors. “Schools across the country are moving toward this direction and we felt it important as well so we don’t lose nurses to other states. We need to offer programs to keep them here.”

The DNP program will begin Fall 2008 and KU is accepting applications. The KU School of Nursing faculty looks forward to the program growing in the future.
From the Director  CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

into internal medicine, 22 in family medicine, 12 in pediatrics and four in medicine-pediatrics.

CMH Celebrates 50 years

Congratulations to Community Memorial Healthcare (CMH) in Marysville, Kan., on the celebration of their 50th anniversary. CMH was dedicated on March 2, 1958. A celebration was held this year in honor of the 50th anniversary with many old friends in attendance. Brice Leonard, the first baby born at Community Memorial Hospital on March 10, 1958 was presented with a certificate and a birthday cake.

The 50 years will also be celebrated this year with a groundbreaking of a new hospital. In December 2007, the board of directors announced plans to build a new hospital on the current site, incorporating parts of the present hospital.

Curtis Hawkinson, CEO and president at CMH, said health care workers have seen many enhancements in the services available to rural residents over the past 50 years, and CMH remains committed to improving rural residents’ access to health care services. Community Memorial Healthcare has hit a milestone. Best wishes for another 50 years!