

## Preparation for ICD-10 transition underway

### *Potential of further delays should not stop preparation*

Everyone has heard it before: ICD-10 will be implemented on [insert date].

The delays in the implementation date for use of the ICD-10 codes sets have been ongoing since Health and Human Services rules first set October 1, 2013 as the original compliance date. Even today, there are organizations that want to delay implementation one or two more years.

“We may find out more when Congress meets in March to consider a two-year delay but DeKalb Medical is not waiting to prepare,” said Ron McCranie, director of healthcare information management. “Our coders and clinical documentation specialists are in ICD-10 training boot camps to prepare and we will begin to code claims in both ICD-9 and ICD-10 in February to check documentation and to conduct end-to-end testing of claims through CMS.”

If there is no delay announced before April 1, 2015, DeKalb Medical will also proceed with investment in an online education program for physicians; intermediate level personnel, such as schedulers, business office staff and patient account representatives; and hospital personnel not directly involved in coding, such as nurses and other ancillary staff members, who need to be aware of ICD-10 high level terms and concepts.

“At that point, we will begin training everyone to be prepared for an October 1 implementation,” McCranie said.

Clinical documentation training for physicians held in November and December of 2014 were an important first step to prepare for ICD-10, even if it is delayed, said McCranie.

“ICD-10 requires more specificity in the documentation so more complete documentation required for ICD-10 will only benefit coding under ICD-9 rules.”

Although McCranie and his staff are focused on preparation for hospital compliance, he recommends physicians not wait to prepare.

“Work with practice vendors to make sure they and your practice are ready and test claims now to see what changes must be made,” he said.

ICD-10 resources for physicians include the American Health Information Management Association, [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org), and the CMS ICD-10 website, <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/>.

Physicians with questions about documentation or ICD-10 can contact Ron McCranie at 404.501.5052.

## Baby-Friendly designation awarded to DeKalb Medical

DeKalb Medical is the first hospital in the state of Georgia to be recognized as Baby-Friendly, thanks to the hard work of the pediatricians, obstetricians and hospital staff and to the physician leadership of Catherine M. Bonk, M.D. and Joyce A. Lilly-Blain, M.D.

“It has been a long journey and a lot of work but we are committed to bringing the best child birth options to expecting mothers and families in the community,” said Rose McKelvie, DeKalb Medical, executive director of women and infant services.

The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative is a global initiative of the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children’s Fund. The initiative’s goal is to improve health outcomes for mothers and babies through breastfeeding and immediate skin-to-skin bonding.

There are more than 20,000 designated Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers worldwide. Currently there are only 227 active Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers in the United States. The “Baby-Friendly” designation is given after a rigorous on-site survey is completed. The award is maintained by continuing to practice quality processes that focus on encouraging and supporting new mothers’ commitment to breastfeeding. Other important practices of Baby-Friendly hospitals includes encouraging skin-to-skin contact between mothers and newborns and rooming in, which encourage bonding and improve the newborn’s ability to breastfeed.

## How are we doing? *What do you want to read?*

Communique is designed to provide physicians and their staffs with timely, informative news about DeKalb Medical and the physicians who practice at DeKalb Medical. Your input is important to us as we develop content for future issues. Please take a few minutes to complete the online readership survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FTXVQMM>

## Send us your news.....

Published? Presenting? Need to announce a meeting that will be of interest to fellow physicians? Communique is a great venue to inform others about educational opportunities and achievements that demonstrate the expertise of DeKalb Medical’s medical staff. Send story ideas and information to [sherylsjackson@bellsouth.net](mailto:sherylsjackson@bellsouth.net) or call 404.501.5665.



## New primary care practice opens near Hillandale

Eddie L. Whitehead, M.D., formerly of Winn Way Internal Medicine, will open Miller Grove Primary Care, a new DeKalb Medical Physicians Group practice, on March 2, 2015 near the DeKalb Medical Hillandale campus at 2745 DeKalb Medical Parkway, Suite 110, Lithonia. The new practice will be located in a new, state-of-the-art facility and will offer primary medical care for patients ages 17 and up. For more information call **770-593-2382** or visit [www.millergroveprimarycare.com](http://www.millergroveprimarycare.com).

## Two practices join DPMG

March 1 marks the addition of two additional practices to the DeKalb Medical Physicians Group.

Yong S. Kim, M.D., founder of Family Medicine of Gwinnett, located at 1742 Oak Road, Snellville, is welcomed to the DPMG to form the new practice Snellville Family Medicine. Kim has been serving the Gwinnett community since 1999 and is experienced in family medicine and several forms of holistic medicine. For more information call 770-638-1401 or visit [www.snellvillefamilymedicine.com](http://www.snellvillefamilymedicine.com).



Young S. Kim, M.D.



Steven A. Patten, M.D.

Perimeter Medical Associates, founded by Steven A. Patten, M.D., will continue to offer services as North Druid Hills Internal Medicine. Patten has over 22 years of experience, with board certifications in internal medicine and geriatrics. The practice is located near North DeKalb Mall at 3775 North Druid Hills Road, Decatur.

## Do you have a face for radio?

DeKalb Medical physicians have contributed greatly to the success of The Weekly Checkup, a WSB Radio show airing every Sunday. Hosted by Bruce Feinberg, M.D., the call-in show covers a wide range of topics that affect everyone's lives. On January 11, 2015 Nathan Jove, M.D. discussed the ins and outs of orthopedic surgery. If you'd like to appear on the show, contact Kelly Kinder, director of marketing communications, at **404.501.3423** to discuss availability and topics.

### Welcome MEDICAL STAFF

January 2015

#### Emergency Medicine

Keith F. Haviland, M.D.

#### Nephrology

Madhurima Adulla, M.D.

Jayanti Jasti, M.D.

William G. Paxton, M.D.

Sharad Virmani, M.D.

#### Pain Management

Armin V. Oskouei, M.D.

#### Pathology

Steven D. Budnick, DDS

Susan Muller, D.M.D.

#### Pediatrics

Malissa D. Wall, D.O.

#### Podiatry

Grahm G. Bahnson, D.P.M.

Jaclyn M. Schwartz, D.P.M.



## Life-Long Philanthropists Recognized

Last month, Margaret and Terry Stent were recognized for their life-long support and legacy of leadership to ensure that DeKalb Medical continues to be a community healthcare leader. A special reception was held to dedicate DeKalb Medical's Radiation Oncology Center to the memory of Terry Stent's mother, Yvonne T. Stent, who lost her battle to lung cancer.

In April 2013, the couple surprised area residents with an anonymous million-dollar challenge grant for a much needed expansion of the radiation oncology center. The Stents' pace-setting donation inspired more than 1,200 gifts ranging from \$25 to \$250,000, which meant the \$2 million capital campaign goal was met in record time. The Advancing Hope and Healing campaign funded a renovation that added 14,000 square feet to the facility.

Several months ago, Terry found himself needing surgery when his parathyroid "went rogue" risking his kidney health. The 74 year-old checked into the hospital around 5:30 a.m. where he had the gland removed in just 45 minutes by John Kennedy, M.D. Stent says he was back home in time to have lunch with his wife, a former nurse, and his daughter, "and that's the kind of care everybody wants."

"When someone thinks so much of the hospital to donate a million dollars in matching funds, it serves as a very uniting force. You can share the goodwill farther than yourself," Kennedy said.

Do you have a grateful patient you think would like to give back to DeKalb Medical? Contact Leigh Minter, executive director of the DeKalb Medical Foundation at **404.501.5764** for more information.

## Clinical Informatics Update

A new system, Safety & Feedback Events (SAFE) is the new online reporting tool to electronically document events such as patient falls, medication errors, near misses, etc., via a web-based system called RL Solutions. Feedback on staff members or other issues is also reported through the SAFE tool.

An update to the SCM system that is part of an overall effort to standardize radiology exams and results within the system now displays DEXA scan results under bone densitometry on the results tab instead of the mammography section – the location used prior to mid-January. Additional changes to the system will continue throughout 2015 to continue standardizing access to reports.

Questions about either of these changes can be directed to Terri Dozier, M.S.N., R.N, manager of clinical informatics at **404.501.5118**.



## Pregnancy-focused nutrition class now available

Healthy You, Healthy Baby: Nutrition for Pregnancy and Beyond offers the latest nutrition recommendations for moms-to-be and babies, including vitamins, minerals, calorie and fluid needs, food safety and the benefits of breastfeeding. Taught by registered dietitians, the class includes tips on creating flavorful, nutritious meals that all members of the family can enjoy. The fee is \$25, and the class meets the first Tuesday of each month. Call **404.501.1790** for more information or flyers to post or handout in the office.



# DeKalb Medical

*Pushing Beyond®*

2701 North Decatur Road  
Decatur, GA 30033

## Volunteer Opportunities

The upcoming months will be busy with many exciting festivals and community events. These events are wonderful opportunities for physicians and their staff members to meet their community. Several volunteers and physicians are needed to cover each shift. Volunteers receive a DeKalb Medical T-shirt.

**To volunteer, please email Beth Jansa, community outreach manager at [beth.jansa@dekalbmedical.org](mailto:beth.jansa@dekalbmedical.org) or call 404.501.7481 if you have questions.**

### Upcoming Events & Shifts:

- MARCH 14 – Tour deCatur 5K, Decatur High School – 7:30 a.m. -11 a.m.
- MARCH 21 & 22 - Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival, International Horse Park, Conyers  
Saturday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 3- 6 p.m.; Sunday: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 2-5 p.m.
- MARCH 28-29 – Stone Mountain Bluegrass and Arts Festival, Main Street  
Saturday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 3- 6 p.m.; Sunday: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 2-5 p.m.
- APRIL 11-12 – Spring Festival on Ponce, Olmstead Linear Parks along Ponce de Leon  
Saturday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 3- 6 p.m.; Sunday: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 2-5 p.m.
- APRIL 25 – Arabia Mountain High School Annual Health Fair, Lithonia, 10- 2 p.m.

## NEED-TO-KNOW NUMBERS

DeKalb Medical services that can help you help your patients:

|                              |              |   |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|
| Audiology, Driving Solutions | 404.501.5155 | Nutrition and Diabetes Education Center | 404.501.1790 |
| Cardiac Rehabilitation       | 404.501.7155 | Outpatient Rehabilitation               | 404.501.5140 |
| CT Calcium Scoring screening | 404.501.2660 | (Lymphedema, Hand, Speech, Aquatic)     |              |
| Heartburn Solutions Center   | 404.501.4844 | Sleep Disorders Center                  | 404.501.5927 |
| Lung Cancer Screening        | 404.501.5864 | Wound Care Center                       | 404.501.7455 |