



## Moving Forward: Hospital Renovations are Underway!



Rendering of the connecting corridor.

In October, Samaritan Medical Center broke ground on its newest construction project - an enclosed connecting corridor that will link Samaritan Medical Center with Samaritan Keep Home. This two-level corridor will allow for the movement of residents between the nursing home and hospital and will eliminate the current need to transfer nursing home residents to the hospital by ambulance.

During construction, visitors to the nursing home should use the entrance on the West side of the building closest to Sherman Street (also known as the Turner Room entrance). Reserved parking for visitors to the nursing home is located in the parking lot adjacent to this entrance.

While not as immediately visible to the public as the work on the connecting corridor, renovations have also started within the hospital's Pratt Building. These renovations include consolidating outpatient services, creating a specialized orthopaedic medical/surgical unit with private patient rooms, and expanding the Maternity Department.

"From a patient perspective, one of the biggest changes that

will take place with the renovations is the consolidation of outpatient services into one convenient location that is easily accessible from the parking garage," explains Krista Kittle, Director of Marketing and Community Relations at Samaritan.

"Currently, patients who need outpatient tests, such as X-rays, EKGs, or blood work have to travel to multiple locations on different floors. This can be both time consuming and confusing for our patients."

The planned renovations will bring lab, radiology, EKG and registration together in a single location, which will simplify the healthcare experience, especially for patients who need to have multiple tests completed.

With these ongoing changes happening, Ms. Kittle advises everyone to take the time to look for and read Samaritan's directional signs. "Our signs will assist with routing people around construction areas or to temporary locations for certain services." Staff members, all of whom wear identification badges, are also available to help by providing directions or assisting patients and visitors in reaching their destinations.

## The Changing of the Guard: Retiring & New Physicians Reflect on Advances in Orthopaedic Surgery

For more than 50 years, the North Country Orthopaedic Group (NCOG) has cared for our community, treating problems ranging from sprains, dislocations and broken bones, to arthritis, back pain and osteoporosis. One of the reasons for the practice's success has been its ability to recruit talented new physicians to work alongside its more seasoned practitioners.

This past year NCOG has continued to transition with the retirement of David O. VanEenenaam, MD and Arthur C. Peckham, Jr., MD, and the addition of new physicians Anel M. Abreu, DO and Edward W. Choung, DO.

Dr. VanEenenaam joined NCOG in 1968 and retired earlier this year, while Dr. Peckham practiced with NCOG for 34 years before his retirement in September. Over the course of their careers, both physicians have seen amazing advances in the field of orthopaedic surgery.

"The first total joint replacements for hips were being pioneered in the 1960s as I was doing my medical training," says Dr. VanEenenaam. "It was a very exciting time. This was a huge advance in what we could do to relieve

joint pain and allow our patients freedom of

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The NCOG Orthopaedic Surgeons (L to R): Anel M. Abreu, DO • Edward W. Choung, DO • Edward N. Powell, MD • Bruce L. Baird, MD Perry T. Shuman, MD • D. Peter VanEenenaam, MD • Steven B. Fish, MD

## New Interventional Radiologist Offers More Options, Less Travel for Patients

Interventional Radiology combines the use of tiny instruments and imaging technology to produce big results. And it's now available at Samaritan Medical Center.

Working in collaboration with the highly skilled team of physicians at Northern Radiology, Moonjohn Kim, MD, heads Samaritan's new Interventional Radiology Department. Dr. Kim is a Board-certified and fellowship-trained Interventional Radiologist.

"What I do is minimally invasive and extremely targeted," explains Dr. Kim. "I use ultrasound, MRI and other diagnostic images as a 'road map' to help me guide miniature instruments,

such as catheters, through blood vessels or through the skin to treat diseases right at the site of the problem."

Interventional Radiology first evolved as a medical specialty in the 1970s, and since then, its ability to treat an ever-expanding list of conditions has continued to grow. It's now used to treat blockages inside arteries and veins, block off blood vessels that nourish tumors, administer targeted chemotherapy and other medications, drain blocked organ systems, such as the liver, gallbladder and kidney, and perform biopsies that would otherwise require surgical exploration.

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## New Interventional Radiologist Offers More...

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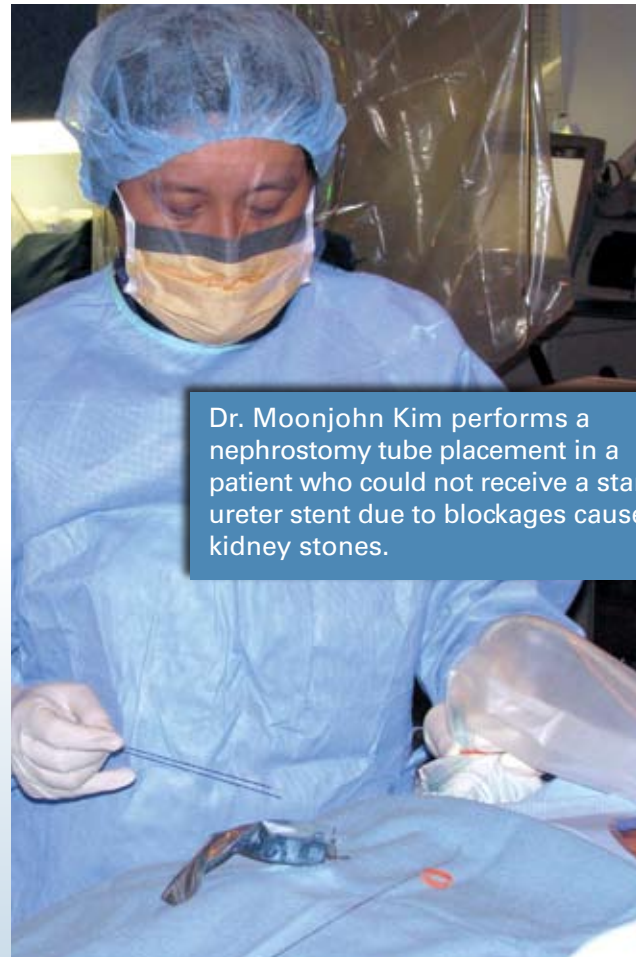
"The comprehensive Interventional Radiology services that we're offering at Samaritan Medical Center are not typically available in a community hospital setting. We now have both the technology and physician expertise to offer services that previously were only available to our community members at outside referral centers in Syracuse and beyond," says Mario Victoria, MD, Samaritan's Chief Medical Officer. "We're thrilled that our patients will be able to stay close to home for treatment, where they have the support

of family, friends and their regular primary care and specialist physicians."

**For patients, Interventional Radiology often provides an alternative to open surgery – with less risk, less pain and a faster recovery.**

For patients, Interventional Radiology often provides an alternative to open surgery – with less risk, less pain and a faster recovery. "I like to think that I provide the patient with options," says Dr. Kim. "There's always another way to go in and reach the area that needs treatment."

One example of this is the treatment of uterine fibroids – very common non-cancerous tumors of the uterus. While for most women uterine fibroids don't



Dr. Moonjohn Kim performs a nephrostomy tube placement in a patient who could not receive a standard ureter stent due to blockages caused by kidney stones.

cause problems, for some they can cause extremely heavy bleeding during menstrual periods, pelvic pain and pressure, and pressure on the bladder.

In the past a hysterectomy, or surgical removal of the uterus, has been the most common treatment for women who suffer from these symptoms.

"We can now provide non-surgical relief for fibroid tumors with uterine fibroid embolization or UFE," says Dr. Kim. The procedure blocks the blood flow to the tumor causing it to shrink and symptoms to subside. Benefits of UFE include no surgical incision, little or no blood loss, significantly less pain, a faster recovery and a quicker return to work and normal activities.

"I think it's important that our community knows that these types of Interventional Radiology treatments are now available here in Watertown," concludes Dr. Kim. "This allows them to talk to their doctor and ask about their options."



Dr. David O. Van Eenenaam (L) and Dr. Arthur C. Peckham.

## The Changing of the Guard...

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movement again." Today, more than 193,000 total hip replacements are performed each year in the US.

"Arthroscopic surgery for joints was just evolving when I did my medical training in the 70s," shares Dr. Peckham. "When an arthroscopy is performed, a camera is inserted into the joint through a small incision. Today, the cameras have fiberoptic lights, but back then there was literally a tiny lightbulb on the end of the device."

In contrast, Dr. Choung, who joined NCOG in September after completing a Sports Medicine Fellowship, says that his training "was 99% arthroscopic and 1% open surgery."

"Orthopaedics is very technology-driven," adds Dr. Abreu, who is fellowship-trained in Adult reconstruction/Joint Replacement and also joined NCOG in September. "Now, for example, the drive is to create better materials for total joint replacements. The prostheses that we use today are stronger and last longer than what we had just five years ago."

While the technology behind the specialty has changed over the years, the reason for practicing medicine has not. "The most rewarding part of my career has been the opportunities I've had to interact with patients," says Dr. Peckham. "The people are what matters."



Dr. Anel M. Abreu (L) and Dr. David O. Van Eenenaam consult on a patient's diagnosis.

## 2 Simple Questions Help Keep Patients Safe

If you've been a patient recently at Samaritan Medical Center, you've probably heard these two questions once or twice ... or even three or four times.

They are an important part of verifying patient identification, which allows hospitals like Samaritan to make sure that the correct treatment is provided at the correct time to the correct patient.

"Delivering care to the correct patient is a basic principle of patient safety," explains Wendy Nevills, Chair of Patient Safety Committee and Director of Quality Improvement. "And understandably, it's a big concern for both patients and healthcare providers. At some point, every person who

works at Samaritan has also been either a patient or the family member of a patient. We're personally invested in providing the safest patient care possible,"

At Samaritan, all patients are identified by every staff member who interacts with them. This process starts with patient registration ... whether the patient is being admitted as an inpatient, visiting the Emergency Department or at the hospital for an outpatient x-ray or blood test. It is continued with every care or treatment encounter.

The patient's identity is confirmed by asking two questions – the patient's

name and date of birth – and by comparing the response to the patient's wristband (if they have received one) and medical record.

**"We care about you, and it is our goal to keep you safe."**

Patients can become our "Partners in Patient Safety" by giving Samaritan complete and accurate information when they register, and by understanding that confirming their name and date of birth is an important safety check. Even such simple things

as the difference between similar sounding names such as Jo Dee Adams, Joe D. Adams, or Jody Adams can potentially lead to medical errors and adverse outcomes if not corrected.

"As a patient, you may get tired of us continually asking your name, even if we already know you," says Ms. Nevills. "But we care about you, and it is our goal to keep you safe."

Ms. Nevills adds that patients and family members need to partner with Samaritan in ensuring their safety and should always speak up if, at any time, they are unsure about something or have questions about the treatment or care they are receiving. "Patients need to be involved in their care," she says.



## NORTH COUNTRY ORTHOPAEDIC GROUP

Anel M. Abreu, DO, MS  
Bruce L. Baird, MD  
Edward W. Choung, DO, MS  
Steven B. Fish, MD

Edward N. Powell, MD  
Perry T. Shuman, MD  
D. Peter VanEenenaam, MD

# Welcoming New Healthcare Providers

Samaritan Medical Center is proud to welcome the following physicians and allied health professionals to the community.



**Anel M. Abreu, DO, MS**  
**Orthopaedic Surgery**  
 North Country Orthopaedic Group  
 1571 Washington St, Ste 201 • 315-782-1650

Dr. Abreu joins the practitioners at the North Country Orthopaedic Group.  
 Medical School: Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Philadelphia, PA  
 Orthopaedic Surgery Residency: University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, School of Osteopathic Medicine, Stratford, NJ  
 Adult Reconstruction Fellowship: University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA  
 In Board process with: American Osteopathic Board of Orthopaedic Surgery



**Andrew Beuttenmuller, DDS**  
**Pediatric Dentistry**  
 Watertown Pediatric Dentistry  
 104 Paddock Street, Suite 103 • 315-221-4044

Dr. Beuttenmuller joins the practitioners at Watertown Pediatric Dentistry.  
 Medical School: State University of New York at Buffalo, School of Dental Medicine, Buffalo, NY  
 Pediatric Dentistry Certification: State University of New York at Buffalo, Women's & Children's Hospital of Buffalo, Buffalo, NY



**Moonjohn Kim, MD**  
**Interventional Radiology**  
 Samaritan Medical Center • 315-779-5200

Dr. Kim has established the new service line of Samaritan Interventional Radiology.  
 Medical School: Hahnemann (Drexel) University School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA  
 General Surgery Residency: University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL  
 Diagnostic Radiology Residency: University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL  
 Interventional Radiology Fellowship: Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, Chicago, IL  
 Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of Radiology with subspecialty certification in Vascular & Interventional Radiology



**Christopher A. Rumsey, DO\***  
**Obstetrics & Gynecology**  
 Fort Drum OB/GYN Clinic  
 826 Washington Street, Ste 202 • 315-785-4624

Dr. Rumsey joins the practitioners at the Fort Drum OB/GYN Clinic.  
 Medical School: University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, Biddeford, ME  
 OB/GYN Residency: San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium – Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, TX  
 Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Osteopathic Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology



**Honeylee Augustin, MD**  
**Pediatrics**  
 Pediatric Associates of Watertown  
 18969 US Route 11 • 315-782-4391

Dr. Augustin joins Dr. Taj Hadee, Dr. Gail Rose-Green and Dr. Mario Victoria at Pediatric Associates of Watertown.  
 Medical School: University of the Philippines, Philippine General Hospital, Manila, Philippines  
 Pediatrics Residency: Elmhurst Hospital, Elmhurst, NY  
 In Board process with: American Board of Pediatrics



**Tom Chen, MD**  
**Anesthesiology**  
 Jefferson Anesthesiologist Services  
 104 Paddock Street, Ste 202 • 315-785-8509

Dr. Chen joins the practitioners at Jefferson Anesthesiologist Services.  
 Medical School: UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Piscataway, NJ  
 Anesthesiology Residency: Columbia University, NY Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY  
 In Board process with: American Board of Anesthesiology



**Thomas P. McCue, IV, DDS**  
**Dentistry**  
 Samaritan Keep Home and General Dentist Office  
 25 Main Street, Philadelphia, NY  
 315-642-0318

Medical School: State University of New York at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine, Buffalo, NY  
 Residency: St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center, Syracuse, NY



**T. Musa Saghir, MD**  
**Hospitalist**  
 Samaritan Medical Center • 315-779-5298

Dr. Saghir joins the Samaritan Hospitalist Group, which also includes his twin brother Dr. Tareq Saghir.  
 Medical School: Ross University School of Medicine, Dominica, West Indies  
 Internal Medicine Residency: Staten Island University Hospital, Staten Island, NY  
 Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of Internal Medicine



**Farhana Basit, MD**  
**Pediatrics**  
 North Country Children's Clinic  
 238 Arsenal Street • 315-782-6400

Dr. Basit joins the practitioners at the North Country Children's Clinic.  
 Medical School: Baqai Medical and Dental College, Karachi, Pakistan  
 Pediatrics Residency: UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School / Cooper University Hospital, Camden, NJ  
 In Board process with: American Board of Pediatrics



**Edward W. Choung, DO, MS**  
**Orthopaedic Surgery**  
 North Country Orthopaedic Group  
 1571 Washington St, Ste 201 • 315-782-1650

Dr. Choung joins the practitioners at the North Country Orthopaedic Group.  
 Medical School: Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Pomona, CA  
 Orthopaedic Surgery Residency: University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, New Jersey Medical School, Newark, NJ  
 Sports Medicine Fellowship: Lenox Hill Hospital, Manhattan, NY  
 In Board process with: American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery



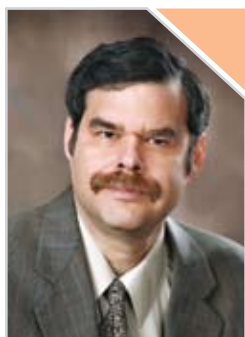
**Khaled Mohamed, MD**  
**Psychiatry**  
 Samaritan Medical Center • 315-786-4955

Dr. Mohamed will serve as Director for the Samaritan Inpatient Mental Health Department.  
 Medical School: Cairo University School of Medicine, Cairo, Egypt  
 Psychiatric Residency: Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY  
 Research & Psychopharmacology Fellowship: Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY  
 Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology



**Rory Sears, DO**  
**Pulmonary-Critical Care**  
 Pulmonary Associates  
 19320 US Route 11 • 315-786-0254

Dr. Sears joins Dr. Lawrence Kramer, Dr. David Rechlin and Dr. A. Melynn Youngblood at Pulmonary Associates.  
 Medical School: New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Old Westbury, NY  
 Internal Medicine Residency: Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital, Columbia University Affiliate, Cooperstown, NY  
 Pulmonary, Critical Care and Occupational Medicine Fellowship: University of Iowa, Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City, IA  
 Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of Internal Medicine  
 In Board process with: American Board of Internal Medicine for subspecialty certification in Critical Care Medicine and Pulmonary Disease



**Steven L. Berk, MD**  
**Ophthalmology**  
 Watertown Eye Center  
 1815 State Street • 315-788-6070

Dr. Berk joins Dr. Robert Johnson, Dr. Debra Koloms and Dr. Noaman Sanni at Watertown Eye Center – Center for Sight.  
 Medical School: University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine, Chicago, IL  
 Ophthalmology Residency: University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL  
 Cornea and External Disease Fellowship: University of Rochester School of Medicine, Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, NY  
 Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of Ophthalmology



**Taj Hadee, MD**  
**Pediatrics**  
 Pediatric Associates of Watertown  
 18969 US Route 11 • 315-782-4391

Dr. Hadee joins Dr. Honeylee Augustin, Dr. Gail Rose-Green and Dr. Mario Victoria at Pediatric Associates of Watertown.  
 Medical School: University of Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Buffalo, NY  
 Pediatrics Residency: Children's Memorial Hospital McGaw-Northwestern University, Chicago, IL  
 Special Infant Care Fellowship: Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC  
 Physician-Patient Communication Fellowship: University of Rochester, Rochester, NY  
 Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of Pediatrics



**Fahd Rawra, MD**  
**Psychiatry**  
 Samaritan Medical Center • 315-786-4955

Dr. Rawra joins the Samaritan Inpatient Mental Health Department.  
 Medical School: Dow Medical College, Karachi University, Karachi, Pakistan  
 General Psychiatry Residency: University of Texas at Houston, Houston, TX  
 In Board process with: American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology



**Raymond A. Sleszynski, MD**  
**Child & Adolescent Psychiatry**  
 Samaritan Behavioral Health Services  
 1575 Washington Street • 315-779-5060

Medical School: Georgetown University, Washington, DC  
 Psychiatry Residency: US Naval Hospital, Bethesda, MD and New York School of Psychiatry, Central Islip, NY  
 Child Psychiatry Residency: University of South Florida Medical School, Tampa, FL  
 Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology with subspecialty certification in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

