UAMS Medical Center has become the first and only health care provider in Arkansas to be certified as a Comprehensive Stroke Center by The Joint Commission.

The Joint Commission is an independent, nonprofit organization that evaluates and accredits more than 20,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States.

“Achieving the standard of care required by The Joint Commission to be certified as a Comprehensive Stroke Center means a stroke patient at UAMS has a better chance here than anywhere else in the state of not only surviving but leaving our care with the best possible health outcome,” said Martin Radvany, M.D., a professor and chief of Interventional Neuroradiology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS).

According to the Joint Commission, the certification is the most demanding accreditation and is designed for those hospitals that have the specific abilities to receive and treat the most complex stroke cases. It also means certified hospitals can provide endovascular procedures and post-procedural care and have an emergency department with a dedicated stroke-focused program.

“Achieving Comprehensive Stroke Center designation places UAMS among the top stroke centers in the country that have the resources and highly skilled health care teams with advanced training to handle the most complex stroke cases,” said UAMS Chancellor Cam Patterson, M.D., MBA. “I am extremely proud of our medical center and our stroke team for their dedication to achieving this designation to provide Arkansans with access to the most advanced stroke care possible.

“This is truly an extraordinary accomplishment that will save lives,” Patterson said.

AR SAVES

The Comprehensive Stroke Center designation adds to UAMS’ leadership in the area of stroke already established by the Arkansas Stroke Assistance through Virtual Emergency Support (AR SAVES) program.

AR SAVES allows 54 partnering emergency rooms across the state to consult with network neurologists 24/7 through two-way live video. The consultation allows doctors to quickly assess whether a stroke patient is a candidate for alteplase, the clot-busting drug that can be life-saving and function-preserving for the patient.

For more information, visit ARSAVES.UAMS.edu.

(Continued on page 2)
Dear Colleagues,

Investments in statewide telemedicine are bearing fruit in the lives of Arkansans from all walks of life. In 2010, Arkansas was awarded a Broadband Technology Opportunities grant, enabling the creation of more than 420 telemedicine sites across the state. From that initial vision, some truly amazing tools for better health care have emerged.

Services such as Antenatal and Neonatal Guidelines, Education and Learning System (ANGELS) have helped many women and their families through high-risk pregnancies, reducing the risk of travel. Many walking and talking Arkansans are direct beneficiaries of Arkansas Stroke Assistance through Virtual Emergency Support (AR SAVES), which connects emergency room doctors across the state with neurologists who can determine the appropriate and safe use of clot-busting medications to salvage brain function.

This method of virtual care is exploding. We are committed at UAMS to exploring more applications for its use. However, we don’t just do it because it’s “cool.” We apply evidenced-based principles to assure that care is high quality and furthers our mission of providing the best to everyone in the state.

Sincerely,

Mark T. Jansen, M.D.
Medical Director
UAMS Physician Relations & Strategic Development

Gut Club Meets Quarterly

The Nov. 29 meeting will feature a presentation on “Innovations in ADR Improvement and Removal of Large Polyps” from Harry R. Aslanian, M.D., professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Section of Digestive Diseases, Yale University School of Medicine.

Meetings are 6-8 p.m., 12th floor, UAMS Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute. Details: Melanie Meyer at melanie@uams.edu or 501-686-8206.
Martin Radvany, M.D., Heads Interventional Neuroradiology

Martin G. Radvany, M.D., an internationally known leader in interventional neuroradiology and specialist in vascular disorders of the brain and spine, has joined the UAMS Department of Radiology as professor and chief of interventional neuroradiology.

Radvany was director of interventional neuroradiology at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and director of the Endovascular Surgical Neuroradiology Training Program in the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He also established the Interventional Neuroradiology Program at WellSpan York Hospital in Pennsylvania.

To make a referral, call 501-526-5443.

Movement Disorders Adds Huntington’s Clinic

The UAMS Movement Disorders Clinic is offering a monthly clinic for Huntington’s disease, featuring a multidisciplinary approach for a one-stop shop for patients.

The clinic’s multidisciplinary team includes movement disorder neurologists, nurses and nurse practitioners with expertise in Huntington’s disease, social workers, nutritionists and speech and physical therapists. The clinic partners with neuropsychologists, psychiatrists and genetic counselors for quick referrals.

To make a referral, call 501-526-5443.

Sign up with EpicCare Link to Prevent Large Faxes

When patients are discharged from UAMS, continuity of care documents are sent to their primary care physician. These documents can be lengthy and can default to your fax machine. If you do not wish to receive faxes, sign up for EpicCare Link.

EpicCare Link is a web-based tool providing community physicians secure access to UAMS’ Epic electronic medical record system to view patient medical records and receive electronic messages from UAMS physicians. For more information, visit UAMSHealth.com/MD.

Alternately, if you have an internet service provider, you can subscribe to a Health Information Service Provider such as State Health Alliance for Records Exchange (ShareArkansas.com) or Allscripts (Allscripts.com). After you join, provide UAMS with a list of all providers in your practice, along with their direct addresses. Do this by emailing Helpdesk@uams.edu with subject line: “Provider Direct Address.”

(Continued on page 4)
Free Patient Engagement Resources Available
How to Talk to Your Doctor and How to Talk to Your Child’s Doctor – informative handbooks to improve doctor-patient communication – are available for free for clinics and hospitals in Cleburne, Conway, Faulkner, White and Van Buren counties thanks to a donation from BHP, an Australian energy company.

The materials were developed by the UAMS Center for Health Literacy.

For more information, contact Alison Caballero at 501-686-5463 or bacaballero@uams.edu.

Weekly Video Conferences Help With Opioid Addiction
The Medication Assisted Treatment Recovery Initiative for Arkansas Rural Communities (Matriarc) program in the UAMS Psychiatric Research Institute holds weekly video conferences for community health providers about opioid addiction treatment.

Conferences are noon to 1 p.m. Fridays, with experts in addiction, therapy and case management. Participants will also have the opportunity for in-person telemedicine consultations with an addiction psychiatrist from UAMS’ Center for Addiction Services Treatment.

To connect to the video conference, email video@uams.edu or call 501-686-8666. For more information, contact Anner Douglas at ADouglas2@uams.edu or 501-526-8459, 833-872-7404.

Centering Pregnancy Prepares Women for Birth
CenteringPregnancy prenatal care groups are now available at UAMS.

CenteringPregnancy brings together about 10 women with similar due dates for 10 group sessions with their doctor and other health care professionals. Together, they learn important information about how to care for themselves and their new babies.

For more information, visit UAMSHealth.com/Pregnant.

Academic Appointments
Laura Hutchins, M.D., has been appointed interim director for the UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute. Hutchins has served as director of clinical research at the Cancer Institute since 1998. Hutchins is a professor in the Division of Hematology/Oncology in the College of Medicine.

Susan Long, Ed.D., has been named dean of the UAMS College of Health Professions. Long has served as interim dean since late 2017. She has also been associate dean for academic affairs since 2012. She is a professor in the college’s dental hygiene program. She also serves as associate director for clinical programs in the UAMS Center for Dental Education.

UAMS Physician Recruitment & Provider Placement Program
The UAMS Physician Recruitment & Provider Placement Program has a team of placement specialists dedicated to serving the recruitment needs of our partner communities, UAMS Regional Campuses and UAMS faculty. Physician/provider opportunities are available in all specialties throughout Arkansas.

FEATURED JOBS
Family Medicine Faculty Opportunity: UAMS Northeast Regional Campus has an immediate opening for a board-certified/board-eligible family medicine physician.

Psychiatrist Opportunities: Whether you are looking for an academic or private practice opportunity, we can connect you to one of the many psychiatry openings throughout Arkansas.

Rural Medicine Opportunities: Interested in practicing rural health? Opportunities are available throughout Arkansas, including: Arkadelphia, Dumas, Eureka Springs, Fordyce, Green Forest, Jasper, Lake Village, Lincoln and Lonoke, to name a few.

Recruitment services contact:
Carla Alexander: 501-686-7934 or carla@uams.edu

For a complete listing of job descriptions and opportunities, visit: MedJobArkansas.com

Follow MedJobArkansas:
What inspired you to become a doctor?

A personal experience with an orthopaedic injury as a young teen really inspired me. The anesthesiologist, who was a young female, was so kind and put me at ease. I remember thinking for the first time that I could do that – I could be a doctor and take care of people physically and emotionally during tough times.

What do you like most about your specialty?

I take care of women of all ages. A lot of my patients are nervous at first, and I try to make the experience as pleasant as possible. Delivering babies is by far one of the best parts of the job. I consider it a privilege to get to be a part of something so important in a patient’s life.

What makes you unique among your peers?

I love to teach – patients, medical students and residents alike. I consider education my way of advocating for women and women’s health issues. I also spent a few years in private practice, so I have a deep appreciation for providers around the state who don’t always have access to the resources we have here at UAMS. Because of that experience, I think I’ve been able to bring a unique perspective to the table.

What are your clinical specialties?

I am a board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist. My practice is a mix of gynecologic care – preventive care, contraceptive management, surgical management of benign gynecologic conditions – and obstetric care – both of low- and higher-risk pregnancies.

How can doctors make referral to you?

For obstetrics transports and outpatient referrals, doctors can contact the ANGELS call center at 501-526-7425 or 866-273-3835. For gynecologic referrals, doctors can contact the UAMS physician call center at 501-526-1000.
INITIAL CONTACT
A 67-year-old male patient had been treated with radiation and chemotherapy 15 years previously for a squamous cell carcinoma at the base of his tongue. He presented at UAMS in October 2015 with swelling in his right jaw and was diagnosed with radiation-induced sarcoma. Mauricio Moreno, M.D., a head and neck surgeon in the Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery, resected the tumor and nearby tissue, including soft tissue, teeth and part of the jawbone. Moreno reconstructed the patient’s jaw at the time, using a metal frame and bone and skin grafts from the patient’s leg.

The reconstruction - though successful - did not restore the patient’s ability to eat solid food. Additionally, because of radiation at the site, the patient had developed osteoradionecrosis - bone death - which had damaged many of his remaining teeth.

The patient worked with Laurence J. Howe, D.D.S., a dentist and assistant professor in the UAMS Center for Dental Education, and John K. Jones, M.D., D.M.D., an oral and maxillofacial surgeon and assistant professor in the Department of Otolaryngology, to restore his teeth and ability to eat.

ASSESSMENT
With advancements in cancer treatments and surgical techniques, patients are increasingly surviving head and neck cancers, but they are often left with structural limitations that impact daily life. Teeth and portions of jawbone are often removed, and high-dose radiation damages remaining tissue and teeth.

These patients benefit from dental reconstruction, but traditional implants require deeper bone than is available with a typical bone graft. Adhesive dentures are often unusable for these patients because of dry mouth.

Dental implant prosthetics are an emerging solution and have high success rates in native bone and bone grafts and in both radiated and non-radiated bone.

Many of the procedures involved can be performed in the clinic, and some without sedation. Typically, patients need to wait at least three months after their tumor removal surgery before proceeding with a dental rebuild.

The patient was beyond that waiting period and opted for the implants.

PROCEDURES
3D cone beam computed tomography was used to plan the diameter, length and position of the implants.

Jones’ role in the treatment of the patient was to manage his lockjaw and scar tissue, which prevented full range of motion and presented challenges for the procedures. Jones also prepared the soft tissue over the bone graft, because the skin was too thick. Jones thinned this tissue and the patient was allowed to heal for three weeks.

Jones removed the patient’s unrestorable teeth, leaving one on the bottom native jawbone to serve as a guidepost later during the creation of the dental prosthesis. Jones inserted the metal bone screws (implants) into the bone graft and native bone, being careful to avoid the metal bone graft frame.

After about eight weeks of healing, Howe made impressions of the patient’s mouth, which he used for planning and sent to the dental lab, where the implant prostheses were created. He used wax and plastic bite rims to set up the correct positioning of the teeth, which was challenging because of the patient’s limited ability to open his mouth because of scar tissue.

Meanwhile, Howe worked to restore the patient’s upper jaw, including crowns on some remaining viable teeth and a removable partial denture. Once the top row of teeth were complete,
The patient during the jaw reconstruction surgery, with metal jawbone and bone graft attached

An X-ray of the remaining native teeth on the top row, the implanted metal on the bottom row, and the one remaining guidepost tooth near the center

The metal implants seen inside the mouth

The final fitting

the guidepost tooth on the bottom jaw was removed and the patient was allowed to heal for two or three weeks. An impression was made of the upper jaw to continue working on correct placement for the implant teeth on the bottom row.

The wax and plastic bite rims were used for the implant teeth arrangements. Impressions were made of the implants to fabricate the connecting bars. With the position of teeth and implants set, then the bar could be fabricated.

Everything was finalized after two fittings. The implants are held in place with a metal bar designed for plastic attachments.

FOLLOW-UPS

The patient regained the ability to chew and eat solid food and reported a much improved quality of life.

To make a referral to the Dental Clinic, call 501-526-7619. To make a referral to the Head & Neck Clinic, call 866-826-7362.

Online Appointment Registration

For faster, easier, more convenient patient appointment registration:

- Log on to UAMSHealth.com/MD
- Go to the online appointment request link, complete the form and submit.

The Appointment Center will contact you to assist with your appointment request.

UAMS Appointment Center • 501-526-1000
LearnOnDemand.org

A resource of the UAMS Center for Distance Health (CDH), the LearnOnDemand.org web portal offers health care professionals the flexibility of earning continuing education (CE) credits on their own schedule, through an expanded array of teleconferences and online courses.

- Track all educational hours and credits earned inside or outside the program
- Ensure compliance with the CE requirements for the national accrediting organizations for physicians and nurses
- Earn certificates of attendance for a variety of other disciplines

LearnOnDemand.org
For information on LearnOnDemand, contact: cdheducation@uams.edu or 1-855-234-3348.

To request speakers or topics or to learn more about how the UAMS Physician Relations & Strategic Development team can help you, visit UAMSHealth.com/MD

In support of improving patient care, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the health care team. The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences designates this live activity for a maximum of 1 ANCC contact hour. Nursing contact hours will be awarded for successful completion of program components based upon documented attendance and completion of evaluation materials.

OCTOBER 2
Neurogenic Bowel
Tom Kiser, M.D.
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

OCTOBER 9
New Drug Updates
Rachael McCaleb, Pharm.D., BCPS
College of Pharmacy

OCTOBER 16
Chronic Pain: Challenges and New Innovations
Johnathan Goree, M.D.
Department of Anesthesiology

OCTOBER 23
Cervical Spondylotic Myelopathy: Diagnosis, Natural History and Treatment
Samuel Overley, M.D.
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

OCTOBER 30
Professional Development
The Patient Experience
Stephen A. Dickens, J.D., FACCME
SVMIC

NOVEMBER 6
Pressure Ulcers
Tom Kiser, M.D.
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

NOVEMBER 13
Update of Infertility Treatment: Focus on PCOS, Obesity and Age
Gloria Richard-Davis, M.D., FACOG
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

NOVEMBER 20 – CANCELED DUE TO HOLIDAY

NOVEMBER 27
Professional Development
The Future of Digital Health
Cam Patterson, M.D., MBA
UAMS Chancellor
Special Venue: I. Dodd Wilson Building Lecture Hall, Room 226

DECEMBER 4
Essential Tremor: How to Distinguish from Other Tremor Disorders and Manage
Rohit Dhall, M.D.
Department of Neurology

DECEMBER 11
Sickle Cell Update
Collin Montgomery, APRN
Adult Sickle Cell Program

DECEMBER 18
Barrett’s Disease
Benjamin Tharian, M.D., MRCP, FACP, FRACP
Department of Internal Medicine

DECEMBER 25 – CANCELED DUE TO HOLIDAY