



News reflects our commitment to you

From history-making growth in a physician training program to a story about a physician who continues to make his mark in community history, we have a lot of exciting news in this quarter's edition of Reid M.D. Update.

The growth of the Family Medicine Residency Program further establishes Reid Health as a teaching center. The program will celebrate its first graduation ceremony soon and has succeeded in training a physician who has chosen to stay in the community when she completes residency. We anticipate nearly reaching capacity when the new academic year begins in July. The program that so far was only for residents with a D.O. will also begin accepting M.D. residents.

While the residency program's growth makes history with new physicians, **James Bertsch, D.O.**, continues to make an amazing impact on the community and on preserving the history of Cambridge City.

Jordan Raynor, M.D., discusses what it means to you for Reid Health to become a Certified Primary Stroke Center.

The work to become a Certified Primary Stroke Center has already reaped life-saving and life-improving benefits for patients.

The leadership at Reid Health and Reid Health Physician Associates is serious about our mission. We know we have to continually strive for excellence, expand services to meet the needs of our caregivers and patients, and remain competitive in attracting and keeping medical experts to care for our population.

If you have any suggestions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. We want to hear from our physicians. Your feedback is critical to the future success of our system. Thank you for everything you do to make Reid Health the amazing system it is.

— Kelly Beall, Vice President/Executive Director of Reid Health Physician Associates

Two hematology/oncology specialists join Reid

Michael Snell, M.D., and **Cecilia Choi, M.D.**, joined Reid Cancer Center this spring, bringing a wealth of experience and a passion for evidence-based care. The married couple sees their roles as the hematology/oncology specialists at Reid as a great opportunity to establish new care strategies, particularly in specialization.

"New research findings and treatment protocols come out every day, and it isn't possible to keep up to date with every type of cancer," says Dr. Snell. "So we are reorganizing our intake process in such a way that I care for patients with hemalignancies, blood diseases and lung cancer, while Dr. Choi specializes in colorectal and breast cancers. We are hoping to recruit another hem/onc specialist to focus on head, neck and genitourinary tumors. We will then split up the rest of the less common cancers to make sure all patients receive the care they need."

Dr. Choi decided to become a hematologist/oncologist because of her experience with cancer as a teenager, when she was diagnosed with synovial sarcoma. "I learned that when someone has cancer, it doesn't just affect that one person but all of their loved ones, and the treatment itself is a very small component of that person's well-being," she says. "Having cancer was an extremely difficult time in my life, but the nurses and doctors really made a difference—they were so kind and dedicated to my care. So I'm paying it forward, hopefully mirroring their dedication in the way

I treat my patients and their families."

Dr. Snell found the clinical and research aspects of hematology/oncology fascinating during medical school. Previously he worked at Metro Health Medical Center in Cleveland and at ProMedica Health System in Toledo as a hematology/oncology hospitalist. Dr. Choi has worked in several hospitals in a variety of roles. She has served as medical director for palliative medicine, hospice and hospitalist programs.

The physicians chose Reid in part because of their belief that all patients—not just those in big cities—should have access to quality care. "Richmond is a small enough town where I can still see my patients at Walmart or when we are out to eat," Dr. Choi says. "But Reid is big enough that we offer most subspecialties, have advanced technology, practice evidence-based medicine and can serve the larger region through satellite locations."

Both doctors consider their work partnership to be a professional and personal advantage, providing opportunities for collaboration and support any time of the day or night. "We are really excited to make connections with surgeons and other specialists who will work with us to care for our patients," Dr. Snell says. To make a referral, call (765) 935-8773.



Dr. Choi and Dr. Snell have a seven-year old daughter and live in Richmond.

Cologuard provides strong alternative to colonoscopy

"We're visiting primary care practices and community organizations to talk about the importance of colon cancer screenings and the effectiveness of Cologuard," Dr. Choi says. "The data from 2016-17 shows Reid patients were getting diagnosed a little bit earlier on average than patients nationwide, which is good. But we want to do even better."

Cologuard is a stool DNA test that detects abnormal DNA, with sensitivity as high as 93%. It is:

- A safe, non-invasive alternative to colonoscopy
- Almost as effective as colonoscopy in detecting precancerous & cancerous cells
- Available to patients when the provider requests the test at cologuardtest.com. Patients receive a kit in the mail.

Reid Health receives 'Primary Stroke Center' certification

Reid Health is now certified as a "Primary Stroke Center" by the Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP). **Craig Kinyon, Reid Health President/CEO**, says the successful effort to obtain the certification reflects the health system's ongoing dedication to quality and excellence. "Our focus is on improving patient outcomes when time is of the essence. Seeking the voluntary



Craig Kinyon

certification was a logical step in our historic dedication to always striving to improve and ensuring we provide the gold standard of care for any health issue. We always strive to be on the cutting edge of technology and processes to ensure care excellence for every health care situation."

Sam Iden, M.D., emergency physician, emphasizes that when a stroke is suspected it is important to go to the closest emergency facility. If that facility is Reid, the Stroke Center certification means the latest treatment protocols will be followed in rapid fashion, including -- when appropriate -- quick transfers to Primary Stroke Centers with which transfer agreements have already been established. "This certification, similar to our recent



Sam Iden



Reid Health Stroke Center



advances in trauma care, has put into place better efficiencies within the system to provide timely care to stroke patients," Dr. Iden says.

Misti Foust-Cofield, Vice President/Chief Nursing Officer, said the certification "has aligned Reid to serve our community with the highest level of stroke care and guide our patients and their families through this journey. From acute onset and intervention to a plethora of rehab needs, we will be able to care for stroke patients, offering life-changing outcomes."

Horia Draghiciu, M.D., medical director for critical care, said the certification "is a logical step in our growth as a regional referral center. This program offers the ability to have these acutely ill patients evaluated and treated in the best and fastest possible fashion." He noted the certification verifies that providers and ancillary staff are all versed in early recognition and prompt interventions



Horia Draghiciu

of all aspects of acute stroke management.

Aaron Wasserman, M.D., an emergency physician who worked with the team to help develop the new protocols for the flow of patients in the emergency department, says "this certification verifies that we are meeting or exceeding all national guidelines for the treatment of stroke."

"Reid Health clearly demonstrates a commitment to quality and patient safety," said **Lawrence Haspel, D.O.**, chairman of the Bureau of Healthcare Facilities Accreditation for HFAP. "We base our decision on the findings of an extensive and thorough on-site review of the hospital against recognized national standards for patient safety, quality improvement, and environmental safety. Reid Health has earned the distinction of HFAP certification through its performance in successfully meeting those standards."



Aaron Wasserman

What physicians should know about stroke certification Written by Jordan Raynor, M.D., Neurology



Jordan Raynor

What should physicians know about Reid Health's recent certification as a Primary Stroke Center? The certification came after almost two years of work and preparation involving numerous departments that come into play when a stroke response is called. We wanted to ensure patients have access to outstanding stroke care. While difficult for many hospitals to achieve, we are proud to have built a stroke response team that allows us to provide patients with access to therapies that are currently inaccessible for many patients in other parts of the country.

The certification brings recently updated guidelines for care that, when implemented, are providing improvement in stroke survival. Intravenous thrombolytics remain the standard of care for all eligible stroke patients. In 2013, several large randomized controlled trials showed the benefit of intra-arterial endovascular treatments including

thrombectomy for stroke patients with a proximal large arterial occlusion. Based off the most recent evidence, the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association updated the guidelines for 2018 to expand the endovascular treatment window to 24 hours for stroke patients with a large arterial occlusion and evidence of a mismatch in that region on perfusion imaging.

The process can help minimize or avoid long-term effects from what can be a deadly or debilitating health event. Stroke is the fourth-leading cause of death in the nation, and has historically caused debilitating and life-changing damage to a person who survives.

Treatments have been developed that greatly improve the outcomes for stroke patients. This is an exciting time for stroke. In the 1980s, no treatments were available. The focus was on diagnosis and prevention. Advancements in technology have allowed us to develop treatments once thought impossible.

The key with stroke is recognizing the

signs and pursuing quick treatment.

From the EMS first at the scene, to the triage nurse who meets the patient in the ED, to the CT technician quickly performing the CT scan, to the lab performing the bloodwork, this certification shows that multiple different stroke team members at Reid hold themselves to a higher standard of stroke care.

The certification means the latest treatment protocols will be followed in rapid fashion, including -- when appropriate -- quick transfers to Comprehensive Stroke Centers with which transfer agreements have already been established.

More questions? You can reach me at Jordan.Raynor@ReidHealth.org.



Family Medicine Residency Program At a Glance

Total residency positions: 18
Total clinical faculty members: 60
Program director: Phillip Scott, D.O.
Core faculty: Nuzhat Nisa, M.D., and Novera Inam, M.D.
Additional preceptors: William Black, M.D., Janet Meckley, M.D., Lloyd Javier, M.D., Tina Reichley, M.D., David DeSantis, M.D.
Executive sponsor: Tom Huth, M.D., Reid Vice President of Medical Affairs

Residency program continues to shine

This summer marks a major milestone for Reid Health's Family Medicine Residency Program, as its first class graduates and six new residents begin their training.



Phillip Scott

The program, established in 2015 with an osteopathic focus, is designed to build our pipeline of primary care physicians and further develop Reid's reputation as a teaching hospital. "Our program is becoming known as a high-quality training site," says **Phillip Scott, D.O.**, program director. "This year, we interviewed many prospective residents, and filled all six of our spots through the osteopathic residency matching program. We are very excited about the new people coming on board."

Next year the program will become even more competitive when the application process is opened up to M.D.s, now that it is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

The change stems from the anticipated 2020 merger of the ACGME and the American Osteopathic Association. "It is important that we continue emphasizing osteopathic medical education, and we anticipate that many of our residents will still be D.O.s," Scott says. "Opening up the program to M.D.s means we will have a larger applicant pool, including doctors from international programs."



Nuzhat Nisa



Novera Inam

The program recently added new core faculty members, **Nuzhat Nisa, M.D.**, and **Novera Inam, M.D.**, both of whom are family physicians with additional training in diabetes and sleep medicine. Preceptors and other core faculty members provide lectures and supervise residents in the outpatient and hospital care setting. Residents see patients at the Reid Health

Residency Clinic, 795 Sim Hodgkin Pkwy., in a newly renovated space that re-opened in April. The renovation added patient care areas and workspace for residents to do charting and other administrative tasks.

"It's been great to see this program gain momentum and grow over the past few years," Scott says. "Training the next generation of family physicians is extremely gratifying for the faculty, and these young doctors are having a positive impact in patients' lives, and the community as well."

Congratulations to 2018 program graduate Kristi Hair, D.O., who is joining Drs. Tina Reichley and Janet Meckley at State Line Family Medicine this summer!

Pictured above are current residents (left to right): Akito Ledda, D.O., Tara Gravenstine, D.O., Kit Joos, D.O., Erin Chung, D.O., Timothy Cobb, D.O., Kristi Hair, D.O., Jay Bhavsar, D.O., Justin Tudino, D.O., Emily Lynch, D.O., Gudars Rahnema, D.O., Soha Khan, D.O., Stephanie Kidd, D.O., and Megan Welker, D.O.

Welcome to the team



Cecilia Choi

The husband and wife team of **Cecilia Choi, M.D.**, and **Michael R. Snell, M.D.**, has joined Reid Oncology Associates. Dr. Choi received her M.D. from Sint Maarten in the Dutch Caribbean. Dr. Choi attended American University of Integrative Sciences, and did her residencies and fellowship at the MetroHealth Medical Center/Case Western Reserve University. In addition to her many years of clinical practice, she also has teaching experience. She comes to Reid from the Division of Hematology & Oncology at the University of Toledo School of Medicine. Dr. Snell received his medical degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, where he completed an internal medicine residency and a fellowship



Michael R. Snell

in hematology/medical oncology. Dr. Snell was previously with ProMedica Physician Group, and vice chair of internal medicine at ProMedica Toledo Hospital.



Alexis Robinson

Alexis Robinson, PA, has joined Emergency Medicine of Eastern Indiana. She obtained her Master's of Physician Assistant Studies from Kettering College in Kettering, Ohio, and is a graduate of Indiana University East with a degree in human life sciences.



Christina Barr

Christina Barr, NP, recently joined Reid Hospitalists. Her master's and bachelor's degrees in nursing are from the University of Cincinnati. She comes to Reid from Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton.

Quick news & thank yous

The Reid Health Governing Board has approved the replacement of one of the health system's linear accelerators, which is expected to be operational in 2019. **Gene DiTullio, director of radiology services**, said the new Varian Edge will replace a Varian iX that was installed when the new Reid Outpatient Care Center was completed in 2007. "The Edge has many technological advances, all of which contribute to more precise targeting of tumors with radiation and sparing normal tissue. One of the areas of particular enhancement is stereotactic radiosurgery." The Edge will join the Varian True Beam linear accelerator that was installed about six years ago.

Thank you to... Henry Chong, M.D., and Maria Muhlenkamp, NP, for presenting at Wayne HealthCare as a part of the Healthy Moments Program.

Provider Networking Series

All sessions will start at 5 p.m.

Cocktails & appetizers • 5 p.m. | Dinner • 5:30 p.m.

Presentation • 6:30 p.m.

Please RSVP: (765) 983-3122 or email
Suzie.Marcum@ReidHealth.org

July 30

Population Health

Featured speaker:

Michael Hubble

is a managing director and national spokesperson for the Advisory Board Company. His areas of focus include general hospital administration/management, health system economics, and health policy.



Oct. 29

Save the Date

Forest Hills Country Club • 2169 S. 23rd St.
 Richmond, IN 47374

2019 Dates will be announced soon!

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Community roots run deep for long-time physician

He loves history and dairy farming. He enjoys traveling and has been “all over the world.” His passion? “My family -- my wife, Norma, and my family are number one,” says **James Bertsch, D.O.**, long-time physician in his native Cambridge City. “Then it’s my profession that allows me to do all these things.”

Dr. Bertsch has practiced in Cambridge City for more than 40 years. He will celebrate his 70th birthday and his 50th wedding anniversary this summer. “I figure I’ve probably finished the first half of my career,” he quips. His many interests include:

History. He has been president of Western Wayne Heritage historical organization for 30 years. He has saved and refurbished historic buildings in Cambridge City, including his current office. About a year ago, he sold a historic property known as the General Meredith home, built in 1836. The home was frequented by Abraham Lincoln, who was a good friend of the Civil War General.

Teaching. He teaches for Indiana University, Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine and Kansas City University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dairy farming.

He owned Bertschland Farms for 40 years, was active in 4-H, dabbled in cattle cloning in the early days and remains active in Holstein Association USA. “At one time we had the number one herd in the country for about 10 years.”

Medicine. He’s one of the area’s first doctors of osteopathy. He practiced in Ohio after obtaining training at the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Bertsch also had an office in Hagerstown for 30 years.

With his love of farming and animals, Dr. Bertsch once thought he would become a veterinarian. “I met a doctor in Vincennes who was a D.O. He’s the one who really turned me on to medicine.”

He returned to his hometown soon after completing his degree. He remembers receiving patient records that were on index cards in a shoebox. When he joined Reid Health Physician Associates, he estimates the



Left: Standing, from left to right: Daryl, Rodney and Kevin Bertsch; Seated: Norma and Dr. Bertsch. Right: The General Meredith home in Cambridge City.



network took over as many as 30,000 records.

He and Norma graduated from Lincoln High School in 1966 and were high school sweethearts. They have three sons, seven grandchildren and one great-grandson.

The practice moved into the current office building in 1989 after a renovation of what is yet another historic property. The building was built in 1848 and had been a warehouse, a theater, a car dealership, a wood shop and a Foundry before becoming a medical practice.

His patients sometimes share their concern about how long he will practice. “I plan on working full-time as long as I feel like it,” he says. “It’s a pleasure to do what I do and a privilege to take care of the community.”