



# PULASKI COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY News

October 2021

## 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Pulaski County Medical Society

- Brian Wayne, MD – *President*
- Krishnappa Prasad – *President-Elect*
- Dana Abraham, MD – *Vice President*
- Kay Chandler, MD – *Immediate Past President*
- Kelly Burks, MD
- Nicholas Brucker, MD
- Bobby Kakati, MD
- Sayyadul Siddiqui, MD
- Gary Wheeler, MD
- Danny Wilkerson, MD
- Julienne Daniel – *UAMS Student Representative*

## 2021 COMMITTEES

### Pulaski County Medical Society

- Kay Chandler, MD  
*Nominating & Credentialing Chair*
- Gary Wheeler, MD  
*Bylaws Committee*
- Anna-Clair Pilkington  
*Social Media Committee*

## 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Pulaski County Medical Exchange

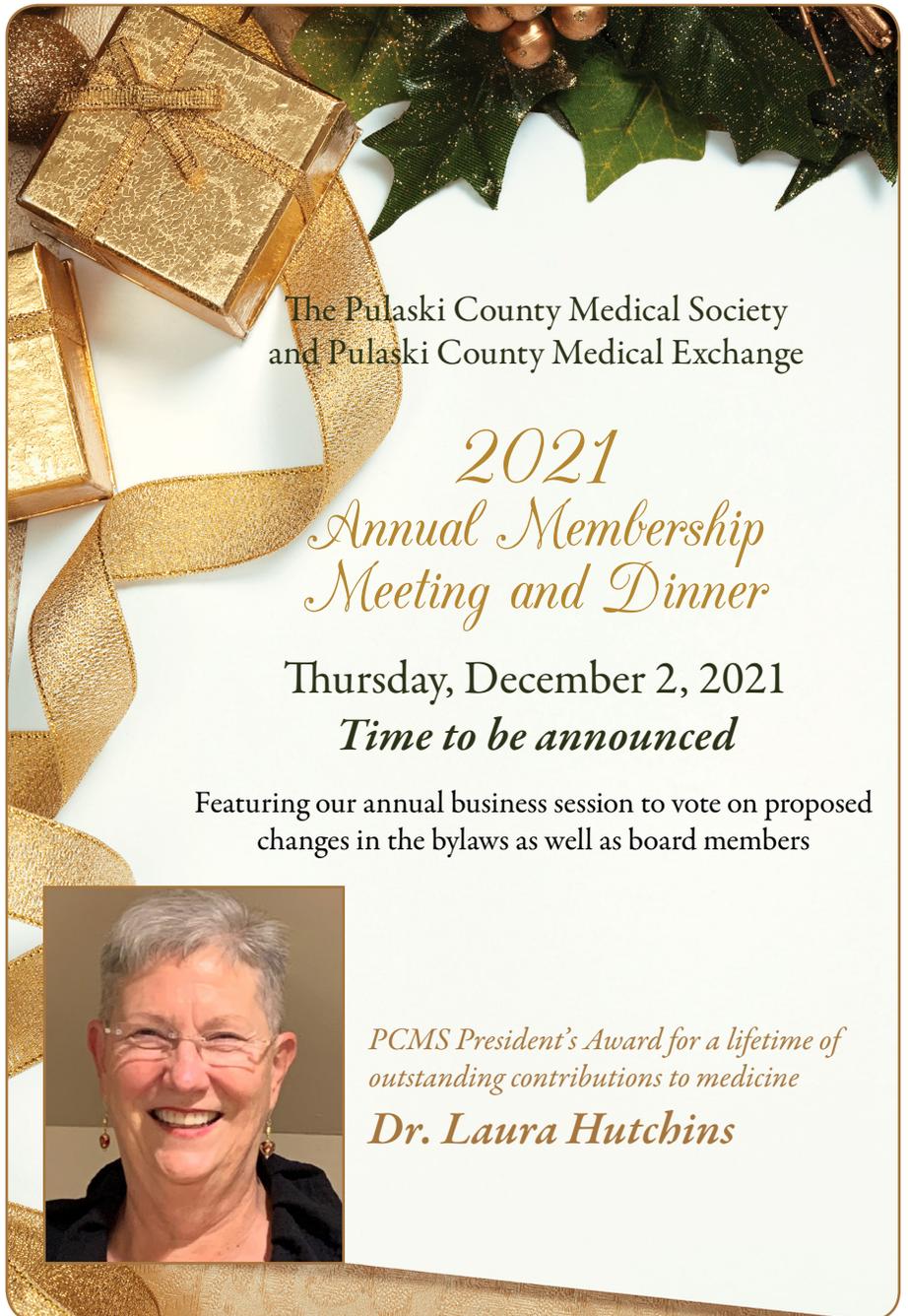
- John T. Baber, MD – *President*
- Chandra Lingisetty, MD – *Vice President*
- Marvin Ashford, MD
- Melissa Graham, MD
- Angela Lovett, MD
- Renee Montgomery, MD
- Zainab Siddiqui, MD

### Pulaski County Medical Society

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When you think professional, ethical, quality healthcare,  
think physicians of Pulaski County Medical Society.



The Pulaski County Medical Society  
and Pulaski County Medical Exchange

## 2021 Annual Membership Meeting and Dinner

Thursday, December 2, 2021

*Time to be announced*

Featuring our annual business session to vote on proposed changes in the bylaws as well as board members



*PCMS President's Award for a lifetime of outstanding contributions to medicine*

*Dr. Laura Hutchins*



## We have your back, so you can move forward.

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When a problem occurs, you need a proactive partner that can navigate unforeseen challenges and help you solve the tough legal issues that come with practicing medicine. In our collaborative claims process, our in-house attorneys and our roster of local defense attorneys help you – our valued members – to be ready for what lies ahead.

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[www.svmic.com](http://www.svmic.com)



# 2021 Annual Business Meeting Notifications

PCMS Bylaws state "The slate of candidates shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval and shall be mailed to all members prior to the Annual Business Meeting". It also says "bylaws may be amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members voting at a regular or special meeting of the Society. Proposed amendments shall be mailed to all members at least thirty days before the vote on such amendments is taken".

## Pulaski County Medical Society Board Nominees:

### Officer Nominees:

Krishnappa Prasad, MD . . . . . President  
 Nicholas Brucker, MD . . . . . Vice President  
 Derek Rudkin, CAE . . . . . Secretary/Treasurer  
 Brian Wayne, MD . . . . . Immediate Past President

### Nominees for Board of Directors (2-year term)

Ken Singleton, MD  
 Leticia Jones, MD  
 Bobby Kakati, MD

## Pulaski County Medical Exchange Board Nominees:

### Nominees for Board of Directors: (1 year term)

Marvin Ashford, MD  
 Melissa Graham, MD  
 Angela Lovett, MD  
 Renee Montgomery, MD  
 Priyantha Wijewardane, MD

## The Following are Proposed Changes in the Bylaws of the Pulaski County Medical Society

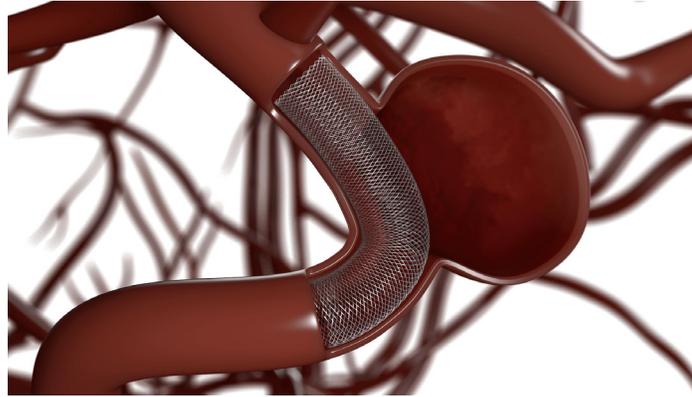
All highlighted areas in this column are words that have been omitted in the proposed wording	All highlighted areas in this column are words that have been added to the proposed change
Current Wording	Proposed Wording
<p><b>ARTICLE V. OFFICERS</b>                      Section 1                      The officers of this Society are as follows: President, <b>President Elect</b>, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Secretary/Treasurer.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE V. OFFICERS</b>                      Section 1                      The officers of this Society are as follows: President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, <b>and</b> Secretary/Treasurer.</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE V. OFFICERS</b>  <b>3.2 President Elect</b>                      The President Elect shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors and shall obligate himself to observe and participate in the affairs of the Society so as to prepare himself for induction into the office of President.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE V. OFFICERS</b>                      Section 3.2 would be deleted and numbering in successive items would be changed in Article V Section 3.                      3.2 would now be Vice President                      3.3 would now be Immediate Past President</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE V: OFFICERS:</b>                      Section 2 - Eligibility                      To be eligible for nomination as an officer in this Society a nominee must have been a member of the Society for at least two full years.                      3.5: Secretary/Treasurer                      The Secretary/Treasurer shall oversee the recording and maintaining of minutes of all meetings of the Society. He shall oversee the custodianship of records and papers of the Society. He shall work with the Executive Director to keep an accurate list of all members of the Society and shall perform other secretarial duties as the Society may require. He shall oversee all financial accounts, funds and securities of the Society. He shall oversee the deposit of Society funds in such depositories as he shall determine subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. He shall have the responsibility of overseeing the maintenance of adequate books and accounts for the Society and shall work with the Executive Director to have such books and accounts audited, reviewed, or within agreed upon procedures annually by a Certified Public Accountant. He shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors and as the Chairman of the Finance Committee.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE V: OFFICERS:</b>                      Section 2 - Eligibility                      To be eligible for nomination as an officer in this Society a nominee must have been a member of the Society for at least two full years, <b>or meet the requirements of the specific office.</b>                      3.4: Secretary/Treasurer                      The Secretary/Treasurer shall oversee the recording and maintaining of minutes of all meetings of the Society. He shall oversee the custodianship of records and papers of the Society. He shall work with the Executive Director to keep an accurate list of all members of the Society and shall perform other secretarial duties as the Society may require. He shall oversee all financial accounts, funds and securities of the Society. He shall oversee the deposit of Society funds in such depositories as he shall determine subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. He shall have the responsibility of overseeing the maintenance of adequate books and accounts for the Society and shall work with the Executive Director to have such books and accounts audited, reviewed, or within agreed upon procedures annually by a Certified Public Accountant. He shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors and as the Chairman of the Finance Committee. <b>The Executive Director may serve in this office.</b></p>

## Baptist Health First In State To Use New Device For Treating Brain Aneurysms

Baptist Health Medical Center-Little Rock recently became the first hospital in Arkansas to use a new device to treat brain aneurysms.

The Pipeline Flex Embolization Device with Shield Technology diverts blood flow away from a brain aneurysm and reconstructs the diseased section of the parent vessel. It is the first commercially available flow diverter and features a braided cylindrical mesh tube that is implanted across the base, or neck, of the aneurysm.

Brain aneurysms are weak or thin spots on a blood vessel in the brain that balloon out and fill with blood. A bulging aneurysm can put pressure on a nerve or surrounding brain tissue. In rare circumstances, the aneurysm can leak causing subarachnoid hemorrhage.



The more traditional treatment for an unruptured aneurysm involves inserting a flow-diverting stent; however, this can potentially result in blood clotting, which can lead to complications like stroke. The new Pipeline Flex Embolization Device with Shield Technology offered at Baptist Health Medical Center-Little Rock is coated

with a substance that in pre-clinical studies has been shown to reduce the risk of clot formation.

An estimated 500,000 people throughout the world die each year due to ruptured brain aneurysms, with half the victims younger than 50 years of age. As the most studied flow diverter worldwide, Pipeline Embolization Device has been used to treat patients in the United States since 2011 and is now available with Shield Technology.



The team at Little Rock Allergy & Asthma is excited to announce that their new clinic, at 2301 Springhill Road Ste. 100 in Bryant, is open and receiving patients. The hours of operation, and more, can be found on their website [www.littlerockallergy.com](http://www.littlerockallergy.com).

## Little Rock Allergy & Asthma opens new clinic in Bryant



## UAMS-Led Study Links Mental Health Conditions to Higher Costs, Severe Maternal Morbidity During Labor, Delivery



Clare Brown, Ph.D., MPH

Women with mental health disorders are 50% more likely to experience a severe clinical condition while giving birth compared to women without a mental health disorder and have an average of \$458 in additional costs per delivery, according to a

study led by Clare Brown, Ph.D., MPH, at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS).

Researchers say women with a stress- or trauma-related mental health disorder are 87% more likely to suffer a severe clinical condition while giving birth, and have a per-delivery cost that is \$825 more expensive compared to women without a stress- or trauma-related disorder.

"The findings underscore the importance of identifying and treating mental health conditions among pregnant individuals or those who may become pregnant, not only to lower costs per delivery, but also to increase the chances that the mothers have a healthy delivery," said Brown, assistant professor in the Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health.

Brown, a senior research fellow at the Institute for Medicaid Innovation in Washington, D.C., led the study along with three co-authors from the institute. The paper was selected for publication in a special issue of the prestigious, peer-reviewed journal *Health Affairs*. Brown will speak on the study at a virtual briefing held Oct. 8, which will feature five studies from the perinatal mental health special issue.

Rates of severe maternal morbidity, including heart failure, cardiac arrest, hysterectomies or a need for mechanical ventilation, have nearly tripled in recent decades. There has been a corresponding rise in the number of women diagnosed with perinatal mood disorders and serious mental illness during pregnancy.

Of the 11 different mental health conditions studied, anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder and stress- and trauma-related disorders were the most common. Across more than 7 million represented hospitalizations, 5.9 percent of pregnant women had one of these 11 conditions.

A key takeaway from the study was that 68% of women with stress- and trauma-related disorders had a diagnosis of an unspecified post-traumatic stress disorder.

So-called safety bundles aid providers with screening, diagnosis, and treatment of anxiety and depression, and Brown suggested that it may be important for safety bundles to be expanded to additionally consider trauma- and stress-related conditions.

"We need to continue to promote safety bundles that have trauma-informed care in mind," Brown said. "It's not something that everyone would need, but for someone who has experienced a traumatic event, such safety bundles could potentially be very valuable in preventing adverse outcomes."

The study recommends that health care providers and perinatal programs adopt trauma-informed care approaches, improve care between pregnancies and extend insurance coverage and postnatal care especially for women with noted physical and mental health conditions.

Brown received support for the study from the Arkansas Center for Health Disparities, which is supported by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health.

## Baptist Health Medical Center-Conway Celebrates Five Years Serving Faulkner County, Surrounding Communities

On September 16th, Baptist Health Medical Center-Conway celebrates five years of addressing the health care needs of residents in Faulkner County and surrounding communities.

"At our five-year anniversary, we can look back at the nearly 100,000 unique patients and their families that we have impacted – whether through a simple outpatient lab test, radiology scan, emergency room visit, or inpatient stay," said Tim Bowen, president of Baptist Health Medical Center-Conway. "We've made a significant impact on the health of our community, and we will continue to respond to our community's needs with Christian compassion as we serve each other."

Since opening in 2016, the medical center has performed more than 15,000 surgeries and seen more than 120,000 emergency room visits. Last year, the medical center was designated as a Level III trauma center. Additionally, units on all three of its floors are now open to serve patients.

An eight-bed inpatient acute rehabilitation unit opened in March 2020 inside Baptist Health Medical Center-Conway. Baptist Health Rehabilitation Institute-Conway offers specialized treatment to help patients regain their independence and restore them to the highest level of function for a variety of diagnoses and impairments.



Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Baptist Health Medical Center-Conway has also conducted more than 14,000 COVID-19 tests at its on-campus drive-thru location, administered more than 11,000 COVID-19 vaccines and cared for more than 500 patients with COVID-19.

"Our greatest achievement is wrapped up in the positive impact that we make in each and every patient's life that we have the pleasure of serving," Bowen said. "Of course, we've reached many milestones over the last five years, but our biggest impact is on the individuals that we have been able to provide care for."

## Harmony Health Clinic: Call for Volunteers



[Harmony Health Clinic](#), a free medical and dental clinic for uninsured and underserved Pulaski County residents who fall 300% or more the Federal Poverty Line. Since 2008, we have served thousands of patients and have done so with a medical staff comprised

100% of volunteer physicians, APNs, medical students, lab directors, pharmacists, and dentists. Harmony is currently in need of physicians and/or APNs to volunteer as Attendings for medical students during medical clinics in evenings and/or Saturday mornings. We are searching for volunteers who might be interested in volunteering monthly, quarterly, or a few times a year. For more information, please reach out to Executive Director, Angela Harris at [angela@harmonyclinic.org](mailto:angela@harmonyclinic.org) or 501-375-4400.

## UAMS Research Team Finds Potential Cause of COVID-19 ‘Long-haulers’

A UAMS research team has identified a potential cause of long-lasting symptoms experienced by COVID-19 patients, often referred to as long-haulers. The findings were published in the journal, [The Public Library of Science ONE \(PLOS ONE\)](#).

At the heart of the team’s findings is an antibody that shows up weeks after an initial infection and attacks and disrupts a key regulator of the immune system, said lead researcher John Arthur, M.D., Ph.D., professor and chief of the Division of Nephrology in the UAMS College of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine.

As many as 30% of COVID-19 patients experience lingering fatigue, brain fog and shortness of breath. The cause of long COVID-19 has eluded scientists, but the UAMS team’s discovery sheds important new light on the molecular-level mechanisms behind it.

“Everything that we’ve found is consistent with this antibody as the instigator of long COVID, so it’s an exciting development that merits further study,” Arthur said.

The antibody creates problems for the immune system by attacking the angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2). The ACE2 enzyme helps regulate the body’s response to the virus by metabolizing a peptide that activates the immune system. The attacking antibody interferes with ACE2’s work, which makes the antibody a prime suspect for the long-lasting illness.

The research team was brought together quickly this spring by the UAMS Translational Research Institute to test the hypothesis that developed through discussions

between Arthur and UAMS’ Terry Harville, M.D., Ph.D., a professor in the College of Medicine Department of Pathology and medical director of the Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Laboratories.

Researchers Karl Boehme, Ph.D., Craig Forrest, Ph.D., and Shana Owens, Ph.D., in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology developed the assay (test) used to identify the two antibodies.

Researchers tested plasma or serum for ACE2 antibodies in 67 patients with known SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) infection and 13 with no history of infection. In 81% of blood samples from patients in Arkansas and Oklahoma with a history of COVID-19, the samples had the antibody that attacked the ACE2.

In participants with no history of COVID-19, no antibodies were created to attack the ACE2 enzyme.

“If we show that the whole hypothesis is right, that this interference of ACE2 really does cause long COVID, then it opens up many potential treatments,” Arthur said. “If our next steps confirm that this antibody is the cause of long COVID symptoms, there are medications that should work to treat them. If we get to that phase of research, the next step would be to test these drugs and hopefully relieve people of the symptoms they’re having.”

The multidisciplinary team also includes College of Medicine researchers Christian Herzog, Ph.D., Department of Internal Medicine; Josh Kennedy, M.D., Department of Pediatrics; and Juan Liu, Ph.D., from the Department of Pathology.

## Vascular Surgeon Dr. Steven Meadors Joins CHI St. Vincent Cardiovascular Surgery Clinic

CHI St. Vincent announced that vascular surgeon Dr. Steven Meadors has joined the CHI St. Vincent Heart Institute and is currently seeing patients at the CHI St. Vincent Cardiovascular Surgery Clinic at 5 St. Vincent Circle, Suite 501 in Little Rock.

Dr. Meadors attended medical school at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. He completed his residency in general surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, where he also completed his fellowship training in vascular surgery.



*Dr. Steven Meadors*

## Baptist Health Hospitals Earn National Recognition For Efforts to Improve Stroke Treatment

Four Baptist Health hospitals have received American Heart Association Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Quality Achievement Awards for their commitment to ensuring patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines based on scientific evidence.

Baptist Health-Fort Smith and Baptist Health Medical Center-Little Rock were each presented with Gold Plus while Baptist Health Medical Center-Conway was awarded Gold and Baptist Health Medical Center-North Little Rock received Bronze.

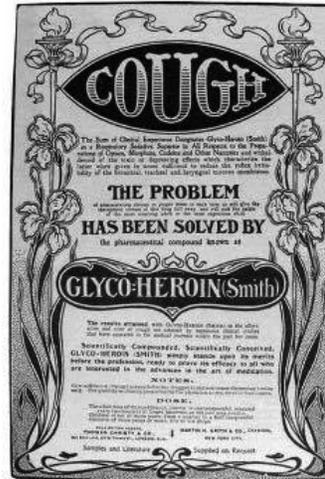
Additionally, Baptist Health-Fort Smith, Baptist Health Medical Center-Little Rock and Baptist Health Medical Center-Conway received the Association’s Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll award.

To qualify for this recognition, hospitals must meet quality measures developed with more than 90% of compliance for 12 consecutive months for the “Overall Diabetes Cardiovascular Initiative Composite Score.”

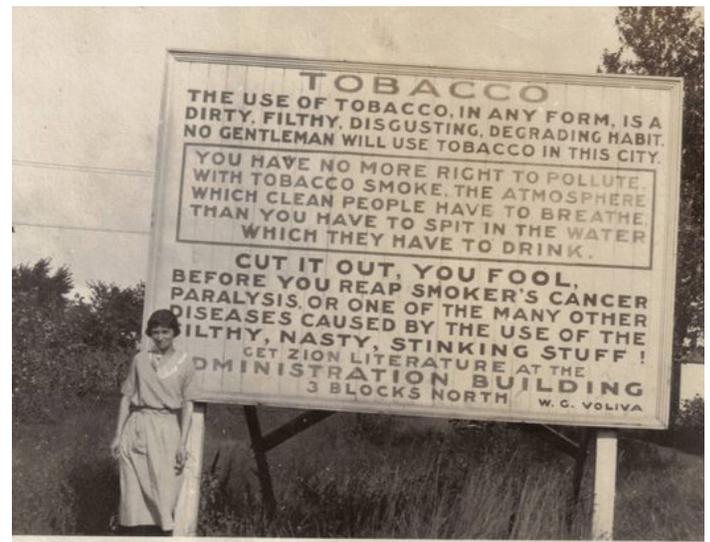
Stroke is the No. 5 cause of death and a leading cause of adult disability in the U.S. On average, someone in the U.S. suffers a stroke every 40 seconds, and nearly 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year. Early stroke detection and treatment are key to improving survival, minimizing disability and speeding recovery times.

## How Times Have Changed

In 1898 Bayer begins Mass production of heroin as a remedy for coughs and colds.



They did not mince words on this anti-smoking sign in Illinois from 1915.



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