MERCY BREAST SURGEON RECEIVES HIDDEN SCAR™ CERTIFICATION

Dr. Susan Beck, medical director and breast surgeon at Katzmann Breast Center, has been recognized as a certified surgeon for Hidden Scar™ Breast Cancer Surgery. Dr. Beck is the first surgeon in central Iowa to perform this advanced approach to breast cancer surgery that hides scars, minimizing the daily emotional reminder of a breast cancer diagnosis. Katzmann Breast Center has also been named a Center of Excellence for Hidden Scar™ Breast Cancer Surgery.

Each year, approximately 232,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer that requires surgery. According to the American Cancer Society, in Iowa, 123 out of every 100,000 women will be impacted, with many unaware of all the surgical options available, including minimally-invasive approaches that can help restore their self-image and allow them to begin the emotional healing process. Hidden Scar Breast Cancer Surgery allows Dr. Beck to remove the cancerous tissue through a single incision made in an inconspicuous area, preserving the natural shape of the breast while reducing visible scarring. Patients who undergo this approach experience optimal clinical and cosmetic outcomes, and are at no higher risk of recurrence than patients who undergo any other surgical technique.

Performing breast cancer surgery through a smaller incision requires consistent illumination throughout the surgical cavity, so surgeons can clearly see and effectively remove the tumor. Dr. Beck is using Invuity’s Intelligent Photonics™ technology to improve her visibility during procedures such as lumpectomy and nipple-sparing mastectomy — enabling them to perform complex, in-demand surgeries with greater confidence and give more women access to transformative options.

“I am very enthusiastic about the opportunity to offer our breast cancer patients this advanced surgical option,” said Dr. Beck.

For more information on Hidden Scar™, visit www.myhiddenscar.com and www.breastcancersurgery.com.


Mercy announces new Obstetric Emergency Department

Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines is launching a new service that will benefit our maternity patients. Beginning Wednesday, Nov. 16, there will be an obstetric hospitalist available 24/7 in the new Obstetric Emergency Department (OB ED). The new area will be located in the OB ED and Antepartum Unit on the 3rd floor in the East Tower at Mercy central campus, formerly known as the Maternity Triage and Treatment Unit. Patients who require admission will be cared for in the antepartum area of the unit.

While other hospitals in Iowa offer laborists to provide 24/7 OB care, Mercy will be the first hospital in the state to offer an OB ED. Women who are 14 weeks or more gestation will be cared for when they present with emergency symptoms related to their pregnancy. Each patient will be seen by the OB hospitalist on call within 30 minutes of arrival. The OB hospitalist will also provide care for women who present with an OB emergency and don’t have a designated OB, and give them contact information for care after discharge.

The OB hospitalist will be dedicated to only providing care to patients in the OB ED, but will also provide benefits to the OB providers delivering at Mercy. Some of those benefits include: coverage arrangements if a provider knows he or she will be unavailable, ability to start a delivery if the patient’s provider is not there to start and ability to assist with a delivery if a provider requests assistance. Additionally, the hospitalists program will provide inpatient acute care for transported high-risk patients from outlying areas until they are discharged back to the care of their local provider.

Mercy has partnered with OB Hospitalist Group, a national physician group specializing in the care of pregnant women, to offer the OB hospitalist and OB ED services. OB Hospitalist Group has contracted with the following local providers to cover the OB hospitalist services at Mercy:

- David Lang, D.O.
- Dr. William Oduro, M.D.
- Matthew Brown, M.D.
- Karen Kemp-Glock, D.O.
- Melinda Hansen, M.D.
- Stephen Feltz, M.D.
- Roy Hart, D.O.

For 10 years, OB Hospitalist Group (OBHG) has led the nation in elevating the quality and safety of women’s health care. OBHG’s national network includes more than 450 dedicated OB hospitals in nearly 100 partner hospitals across 26 states.

2017 benefit enrollment underway

Annual enrollment for benefits is taking place through Wednesday, Nov. 16. Learn about 2017 benefit options on the My Healthy Spirit Annual Enrollment page on Inside CHI. Even if you don’t think you want to make any changes to your benefits for 2017, it’s important to review your benefits to make sure they will meet your needs. Read about important reminders for enrollment and benefit changes for 2017, and use the new plan comparison tool to decide which medical plan option is right for you. Also, make sure that your dependent information is up-to-date, including Social Security numbers, as required by the IRS.

Don’t miss this opportunity to review or update your benefit elections. After Nov. 16, changes can only be made for 2017 if you have a qualifying life event.