



News Release

Contact: Amy Blaser, Vice President

Phone: (402) 562-3371

Email: aebblaser@columbushosp.org

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Columbus Community Hospital Introduces New Inpatient Hemodialysis Service

For Immediate Release

(COLUMBUS, Neb.) – Columbus Community Hospital (CCH) is committed to offering area residents the care they need close to home. That’s why the hospital is adding a new inpatient hemodialysis service starting August 20.

Through this new service, CCH inpatients will be able to receive dialysis at the hospital.

Dr. Bryce Lund of Nephrology Care, LLC., a nephrologist, will serve as medical director of this new service. Nephrologists are doctors who specialize in kidney care and treating diseases of the kidneys. He will connect with patients at CCH through telemedicine technology provided by Bryan Telemedicine.

“Lots of rural hospitals today don’t have a nephrologist in town or as part of the hospital staff on an ongoing basis to manage these types of programs,” said Shane Fleming, cofounder and chief operating officer of Bryan Telemedicine, “So what we do, is provide a piece of technology– a telemedicine cart – that allows Dr. Lund to see those patients in a virtual capacity and assess them.”

After Dr. Lund consults with the patients virtually, the hemodialysis treatments will be administered by trained and certified staff from Dialysis Center of Columbus. Staff nurses in CCH’s acute care unit will work closely with the Dialysis Center nurses to coordinate this care.

“This is a service for an established, stable dialysis patient who is admitted as an inpatient for another condition,” said Janet Loseke, RN, BSN, CRNI, director of acute care at CCH. “They do not have to be a patient of the Dialysis Center of Columbus or Lincoln. We can care for patients from other centers.”

In the past, patients in the community who receive dialysis were obliged to go elsewhere when they required hospitalization, explained Dr. Lund.

“That prevented a lot of them from being able to stay local,” he said.



Now, area residents who require dialysis can confidently come to CCH for medical care that requires hospitalization.

“With inpatient hemodialysis, we’re able to meet people’s needs so they’re not going out of town,” said Sara Steenson, RN, unit manager of the Dialysis Center of Columbus. “It’s just easier on the patients and their families to have the option to stay in Columbus. Now, if they have to be admitted to the hospital, they can do that without missing a dialysis treatment.”

Dr. Kurt Kapels, at hospitalist at CCH, agreed with Steenson that being able to treat patients locally is one of the biggest benefits of the new inpatient hemodialysis service.

“It’s more local care for our patients, which I think will overall be a good thing for our patients and our community,” he said. “I think it’s going to be a great addition to our services and I think it’s going to be really beneficial for people.”

The new inpatient hemodialysis service will be available Monday to Saturday and it offered through a partnership between CCH, Bryan Telemedicine, Dialysis Center of Columbus, and Nephrology Care, LLC.

For more information on this new service which will allow CCH inpatients to receive this important care, close to home, visit www.columbushosp.org.

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