

REGIONAL OPERATIONS NEWS

Improving Health, Enriching Life



message from the REGIONAL MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Introductions

New Neurosurgeon



Serge Rasskazoff, MD
Neurosurgery

Serge Rasskazoff, MD, board certified neurosurgeon at Altru Health System, specializes in treating patients with facial, back and leg pain. He has extensive experience in the areas of complex spine surgery, stereotactic minimal access brain microneurosurgery, and functional surgery for pain with neuromodulation. Dr. Rasskazoff earned his medical degree and began his residency training at the National Medical University in Kiev, Ukraine. He completed his residency and Complex Spine Surgery fellowship at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada. He completed a Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery fellowship at the University of Illinois in Chicago, Illinois.

Altru's Bold New Era of Care

Last November, Altru's executive leadership announced a plan for a bold new era of care which is a commitment to meet the region's future health and healthcare needs through an investment in our people, modern facilities and cutting-edge technology.

In addition to designing a new hospital on Altru's Columbia Road campus, Altru is also in the process of creating a master site and facility plan. The plan is driven by guiding principles which help us measure our success upon completion of each phase.

As the master plan is completed and we move forward with hospital design development, we will keep you informed.

New Altru Regional Physicians



Arshad Khan, MD
General Surgery

Arshad Khan, MD, will be joining Altru Clinic in Roseau, Minn., in July 2018. Dr. Khan earned his Master of Surgery degree and completed his General Surgery residency at Government Medical College in Jammu, India. He completed a fellowship in Multi-Organ Transplant Surgery and Pancreatic and Islet Transplant Surgery at the University of Illinois in Chicago, Illinois. He will be completing his General Surgery residency at Mount Sinai Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois in June 2018. He has experience in Trauma and Surgical Critical Care.



Jennifer Shaw, MD
Family Medicine with Obstetrics

Jennifer Shaw, MD, will start as a family medicine physician with obstetrics at Altru Clinic in Devils Lake, N. Dak., in July 2018. Dr. Shaw earned her medical degree from Saint Louis University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. She completed her residency at Southern Illinois University Quincy Family Medicine, Quincy, IL. She is scheduled to complete the Obstetrics Fellowship program at Altru Family Medicine Residency in June 2018. She is board certified in Family Medicine.



William G. McKinnon, MD, FACEP
Medical Director of Regional Operations
Altru Health System

This newsletter features Altru Health System's Neonatology Department, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and updates on new Outreach and Telemedicine sites and providers.

ONE CALL CENTER (855.425.8781)

For Inpatient or Emergency Transfers

Regional Nursing Transfer Coordinators now providing 24/7 One Call coverage

REGIONAL OUTPATIENT REFERRAL (877.247.7745)

Regional Referral Coordinators: Jill Bryant, RN and Janet Stocker, RN



ALTRU'S NEONATAL INTENSIVE

About 10 percent of all newborn babies will require care in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Altru's NICU takes care of more than 350 newborns every year.

Giving birth to a sick or premature baby can be quite unexpected for any parent. Unfamiliar sights, sounds, and equipment in the NICU can be overwhelming and we try to make the stay as normal as possible.

Babies may need to spend time in a NICU if:

- » They are premature (born before 37 weeks gestation)
- » There were complications during delivery
- » There are complications such as breathing problems, infections, birth defects or the baby needs surgery
- » They have a low birth weight (less than 2.5kg)
- » They are a twin, triplet or from other multiple births

NICU at Altru is a 16-bed Level IIIB unit with advanced facilities to take care of premature babies and sick neonates. The NICU combines advanced technology and trained health care professionals to provide specialized care for the tiniest patients.

The unit has been operational for more than a decade and is overseen by three full-time Neonatologist and more than 40 highly trained NICU nurses including transport nurses.

We serve a wide-ranging area including northeastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota and, in some cases, beyond.

Who will care for your baby in the NICU?

The following are some of the specially trained health care professionals who will be involved in the care of your baby:

- » Neonatologist: A pediatrician with additional training in the care of sick and premature babies. The neonatologist supervises nurses who care for babies in the NICU.
- » Respiratory therapists
- » Occupational therapists
- » Dietitians
- » Lactation consultants
- » Pharmacists
- » Social workers
- » Hospital chaplains

The members of the NICU team work together with parents to develop a plan of care for high-risk newborns.



Durga Panda, MD
Medical Director
Neonatologist



Kiran Dwarakanath, MD
Neonatologist



Pramod Mallipaddi, MD
Neonatologist



Amy Zabinski, RN
NICU Patient Care
Supervisor

Altru NICU provides world-class care for premature babies as early as 25 weeks gestation. The unit is equipped with the latest advanced equipment including high frequency ventilation, conventional ventilation, 24 hour TPN care services, and head cooling. Altru's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit is committed to Perinatal certification, demonstrating our dedication to world-class patient care and the community.

NEONATE CARE UNIT



Our transport team currently does ground transport and will soon begin air transport for our region. Highly qualified transport nurses, working under the guidance on the Neonatologists, take care of transferring sick patients safely from the region to Altru's NICU.

Reminders

Spring Regional Provider Conference will be held at **5:30 PM on Thursday, May 17, 2018** in the Altru Hospital Board Room (lower level). **Topic: Neonatology: Recognition of the Ill Neonate and Services Available - A Regional Approach** presented by Durga Panda, MD, Neonatologist.

Altru Health System's Trauma Service offers the Rural Trauma Team Development Course (RTTDC) to our region. To schedule a course contact: Leigh LaRoque, RN, BSN Trauma Program Coordinator at 701.780.5337 phone or email llaroque@altru.org. The course has been presented at 6 regional sites to date, most recently November 29, 2017 at Cavalier County Memorial Hospital in Langdon, ND.

Recent changes in the region include:

Retirement Announcement

Dr. Tom Lohstreter, MD, Kittson Memorial Health Center, Hallock, MN. Will be retiring this summer. He has been with Kittson Memorial since 2008. We wish him well.

Administrative Announcements 2018

- » Amber Stokke, RN, Regional Clinic Manager, Altru Clinic I Devils Lake, ND
- » Shayla Solberg, Regional Clinic Manager, Altru Clinic I Crookston, MN
- » Marcus Lewis, CEO, First Care Health Center, Park River, ND
- » Steve Forde, CEO, Nelson County Health System, McVile, ND
- » Jeffry Stampohar, Vice President of Hospital Operations/CEO, CHI LakeWood Health Center, Baudette, MN

New Physicians, Advanced Practice Providers and Services

- » Frank LeBlanc, MD, FAAFP, North Valley Health Center, Warren, MN
- » Jill Smith, NP, North Valley Health Center, Warren, MN
- » Erik Burke, FNP-C, Northwood Deaconess Health Center, Northwood, ND
- » Cassie Ulyott, NP, Family Practice, Towner County Medical Center, Cando, ND
- » Jeanmarie Dahl, PA-C, Northwood Deaconess Health Center, Northwood, ND
- » Christina Brooks, PA-C, Nelson County Health System, McVile, ND
- » Rachel Pearce, DNP, FNP-C, will be starting Aesthetic/Botox treatments at Altru Clinic I Warroad, MN

New Regional Outreach Providers and Sites

- » Nkechinyere Ijioma, MD, Cardiology, Altru Clinic I Roseau, MN
- » Laura Carlson, FNP-C, Dermatology, Altru Clinic I Roseau, MN
- » Pierre Barbot, MD, OB/GYN, Altru Clinic I Roseau, MN
- » Ramneek Nakai, DO, Allergy and Immunology, Altru Clinic I Thief River Falls, MN
- » Shoua Lo, DPM, Podiatry, Altru Clinic I Crookston, MN
- » Heather Shimek, FNP-C, Orthopedics, Altru Clinic I Crookston, MN
- » Matthew Marquardt, DO, Orthopedics, Altru Clinic I Devils Lake, ND
- » Wade Olson, NP, Orthopedics, Altru Clinic I Roseau, MN
- » Daniel Persinger, MD, General Surgery, Altru Clinic I Crookston, MN
- » Robert Guttormson, MD, General Surgery, Altru Clinic I Crookston, MN
- » Agatha Ottem PA-C, Urology, Altru Clinic I Crookston, MN, Altru Clinic I Devils Lake, ND and Altru's Specialty Care I Cavalier, ND
- » Jennifer M. Peterson, MD, Pediatrics, Altru Clinic I Crookston, MN
- » Rabeea Aboufakher, MD, Cardiology, Towner County Medical Center, Cando, ND

NOTE - Altru Advanced Orthopedics has expanded scheduling options offering patients quick and convenient access to orthopedic care in Grand Forks. If a patient desires more immediate orthopedic care then offered, through outreach, at their local clinic, scheduling can be completed through the online portal at altru.org/myhealth. Same day appointments are often available, giving the patient options to choose the most convenient time to be seen by a provider.

New Telemedicine Providers

- » Family Medicine Altru Clinic I Crookston, MN and satellites - Debra Myrfield, PA-C
- » Cardiovascular Surgery - Jenna Kelsch, NP-C
- » Allergy and Immunology - Ramneek Nakai, MD
- » Behavioral Health - Lacy Suby, LCSW
- » Interventional Pain Management - Peter Papapetrou, MD

New Telemedicine Specialties

- » **Telemedicine Family Consult:** Patient's family requested to be included in their father's telemedicine encounter from a distance. "The ability to connect and participate in my dad's appointment by telemedicine saved me 11 hours on the road and 2 days of missed work. Even though the doctor was in Grand Forks, ND, my parents were in Roseau, MN and I was in Two Harbors, MN, I was able to see and hear them all, ask questions, and be part of the discussion about my dad's ongoing care just as if we had all been in the same room together" - from daughter. Family is an important part of delivering care and empowering the patient and their support system.

Telemedicine Statistics 2017

- » 2017 - **Telemedicine Visits = 6,819** compared to **5,322 in 2016** and **3,497 in 2015**/eVisits – **694**/Video Visits – **5**/Tele-Pharmacy – **2,110** for a **total of 9,628 Telemedicine Encounters**
- » **Altru's Telemedicine Program** has been selected to receive the "**Outstanding Rural Health Program**" award. This award is presented to a program that delivers services in innovative ways through collaborative partnerships to improve the access and quality of care to rural North Dakota residents. The award will be given at the Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health in June.



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VALUES

Our Patients

Meeting the needs and expectations of our patients is our highest priority.

Our Care

We provide quality care that is demonstrated to achieve the best results for patients.

Our Team

We work as a team and treat each other with honesty, loyalty and respect.

Our Communities

We are committed to improving the health of our communities.

PROMISE

Every moment of every day, we promise to provide an excellent health care experience. We will be respectful, compassionate and thorough. We know your family and friends are an important part of your care; we will involve them as you wish and extend the same promise of excellence to them.

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