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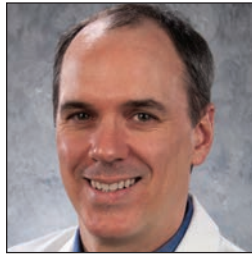
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**Keith Cummings, MD**



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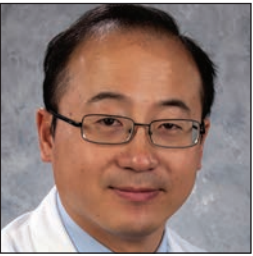
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**Akshai Janak, MD**



**Yi Jia, MD**



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**Carmalita Kelly, CRNP**



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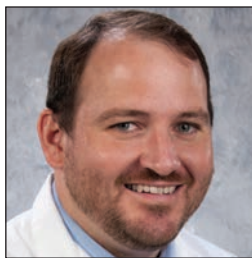
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**Srinath Nagapuri, MD**



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**Sam Peterson, CRNP**



**Brandon Phillips, CRNP**



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# A patient's guide to the North Alabama Hospitalist program

Our goal is to provide comprehensive, compassionate care of the highest quality to all of our patients. If you are admitted as a patient to the hospital, you may be cared for by one or more Hospitalists during your stay.

## What is a Hospitalist?

A Hospitalist is a physician who specializes in caring for patients while they are in the hospital. Our Hospitalists are board certified in internal medicine, family medicine and/or other specialties. Our Hospitalists do not see patients outside the hospital so they are able to dedicate their attention to hospitalized patients.

## The Hospitalist team

In addition to physicians, the Hospitalist team includes physician assistants (PAs) and certified registered nurse practitioners (CRNPs). The Hospitalist team is available 24-hours to provide care to patients in the hospital. Depending on the length of your stay, you may see more than one Hospitalist.

## Who is cared for by a Hospitalist?

- Patients of local physicians and medical groups who have chosen to use the Hospitalist program
- Patients who do not have a primary care physician
- Patients from outside the region who do not have a local primary care physician

## Benefits of Hospitalist care

- Hospitalists work only in the hospital and are on-site 24-hours daily.
- Hospitalists are readily available in emergency situations and when questions or concerns arise.
- Hospitalists are familiar with hospital procedures and processes to boost efficiency when ordering tests, consulting other specialists and adjusting treatments.

## How does the Hospitalist work with my doctor?

- When you are admitted to the Hospital, your primary care physician is informed of your condition by the Hospitalist team.
- While in the hospital, the Hospitalist will oversee your care and may communicate with your primary care physician as needed throughout your hospital stay.
- The Hospitalist will assist with the transition back to your primary care physician when you leave the hospital.
- Your primary care physician may visit you while you are in the hospital. However, it is more common that you will see your primary care physician after you are discharged from the hospital. If you do not have a primary care physician, the Hospitalist will refer you to one when you leave the hospital.

## Will I receive a separate bill for Hospitalist services?

Yes. It will come from the North Alabama Hospitalist group. If you have any questions, please contact the Physician Network Billing Office at (256) 265-9438.

## For more information

If you have questions about the Hospitalist program or need more information, ask your nurse to contact your Hospitalist or call the North Alabama Hospitalist office at (256) 265-3880.

