NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

DR. JAFFAR LEADS HOSPITALISTS AT HALIFAX REGIONAL

ROANOKE RAPIDS, NC (August 9, 2010) Dr. Asra Jaffar, a board certified internal medicine specialist, has been appointed lead hospitalist at Halifax Regional.

She leads a team of seven hospitalists who care for patients admitted to the Medical Center. "My responsibility is to coordinate the work of the hospitalist team and serve as a liaison between the team and management," Jaffar says.

Dr. Jaffar graduated from medical school in India and completed her residency at McLaren Regional Medical Center in Michigan in 2008. She joined Halifax Regional in 2009.

Hospitalists are physicians who focus exclusively on caring for hospitalized patients. "There is a hospitalist in the Medical Center at all hours," said Mary Pat Whaley, who manages the program. "Patient care is the top priority for our hospitalists.

"The hospitalists are familiar with the Medical Center since their entire practice is spent there," adds Whaley. "They always are convenient to patients and provide personal care, working closely with one another throughout a patient's stay."

An additional benefit of the hospitalists program is that referring physicians have more time to spend with their office patients, since they do not have to care for patients in the Medical Center, said Whaley.

"The hospitalist program is a win-win situation for our patients," Whaley said. "They are receiving specialized care in a timelier manner."

For more information, visit <u>www.halifaxregional.us</u> and click on Halifax Hospitalists.

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About Halifax Regional

Halifax Regional Medical Center is licensed for 204 beds, including psychiatric and nursery. A non-profit organization, Halifax Regional is fully accredited by the Joint Commission. For more information, visit www.halifaxregional.us.