

## Latest in Wound Care Technology at SBAMH

Are you suffering from a hard-to-heal wound? Turn to the Wound Care Program at Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital to receive educational tools and benefit from the latest technology in wound care services.

### Dr. Tamir— Wound Care Specialist

As the President of the Mid-America Wound Healing Society, Jeremy Tamir, MD, FAPWCA, Plastic Surgeon and Wound Care Specialist at Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital, works with wound care professionals to raise awareness about wound care training and treatment. He is highly experienced in treating patients with pressure sores, problematic surgical wounds, and venous insufficiency wounds.

“A large portion of my practice focuses on treating patients with chronic and very complicated wounds,” Dr. Tamir says. “I heal and close wounds successfully in 90 to 95 percent of cases and aim to reduce the number of hospital readmissions due to chronic wounds.”

Dr. Tamir also provides emergency wound care services through the Emergency Department at SBAMH on an “on-call” basis.

“Dr. Tamir has been very good about making himself available to us when we need him here,” says Robin Nikkel, Director of the Emergency Department.



For years, the Wound Care Program has been helping patients successfully address chronic wounds (wounds that do not heal by themselves) when traditional methods have failed.

“There are many causes for non-healing wounds,” says Jeremy Tamir, MD, FAPWCA, Plastic Surgeon and Wound Care Specialist at SBAMH. “Decreased oxygen supply to the skin is the most common cause. Non-healing wounds commonly occur because of diabetes, poor circulation, or infection. Fortunately, our team has extensive knowledge in the field of wound care and can work with patients individually to help determine the most appropriate treatment for their conditions.”

Other factors that can cause chronic wounds include:

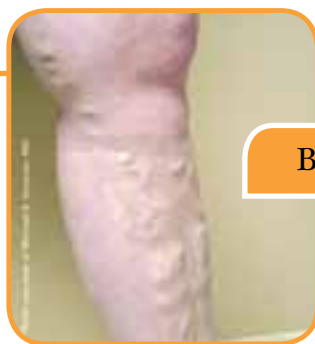
- Advanced age
- Unrelieved pressure
- Radiation therapy
- Nutritional deficits
- Varicose veins

### Advanced Wound Healing

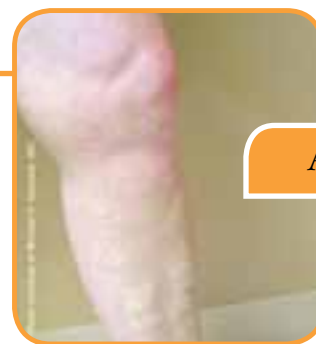
The Wound Care Program continually works to stay up to date on the latest state-of-the-art treatments used for the healing of chronic wounds. One of the newest advanced procedures is the VNUS Closure™. This procedure treats venous reflux or chronic venous insufficiency, which causes chronic leg pain, leg swelling, varicose veins, and chronic, non-healing wounds.

“Venous insufficiency is a very common condition that results from non-functional valves in the leg veins,” Dr. Tamir says.

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Before



After

# Bringing Specialists to You

While Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital is well known for its accomplishments as an acute care hospital, SBAMH also offers community members a wide range of specialty clinics right here, close to home. These clinics include:

- **Cardiology Clinics**  
To schedule an appointment with:  
Husam Bakdash, MD, cardiologist, call (316) 321-8739.  
Joseph Lemlek, DO, cardiologist, call (316) 616-2020.  
Aziz Maksoud, MD, cardiologist, call (316) 322-4517 or (316) 265-1308.
- **Free Blood Pressure Clinics**  
These are available on the first and third Thursdays of every month in the Hospital Main Lobby (no appointment is necessary).
- **Cardiac Rehabilitation**  
To schedule an appointment for cardiac rehabilitation, call (316) 322-4517.
- **Dermatology Clinic**  
To schedule an appointment with Steven Passman, MD, dermatologist, call (866) 294-7546.
- **Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) Clinic**  
To schedule an appointment with Eric Bunting, MD, otolaryngologist, or Glenn Kubina, MD, otolaryngologist, call (800) 794-4368.
- **Nephrology Clinic**  
To schedule an appointment with Joseph Abdallah, MD, nephrologist, call (800) 263-3366.
- **Neurology Clinic**  
To schedule an appointment with Sarab Alseoudi, MD, neurologist, call (316) 283-4005.
- **Pain Clinic**  
To schedule an appointment at Mid-America Anesthesia Services, call (316) 321-8772.
- **Urology Clinic**  
To schedule an appointment with George Zakharia, MD, urologist, call (316) 636-6113.
- **Wound Management Clinic**  
To schedule an appointment, call (316) 321-8737 or (316) 322-4517.
- **Wound Management/Plastic Surgery Clinic**  
To schedule an appointment with Jeremy Tamir, MD, plastic surgeon, call (316) 321-8737.

For more information on the specialty clinics, including the dates and times of availability, please visit [www.sbamb.com](http://www.sbamb.com).

## Going Above & Beyond

Each quarter, Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital recognizes an individual who stands apart from the rest. Beyond delivering the highest level of care, this individual is always ready with



a smile, helpful information, and a kind attitude. Our most recent Employee of the Quarter is:

**Name:** Shelia Call

**Position:** Surgery Aide

**Years at SBAMH:** 4

**Responsibilities:** "My job is to make it easier for the rest of the surgical staff by stocking and cleaning rooms in preparation for surgery and ordering supplies daily."

**What do you enjoy most about your job?:** "I enjoy being part of a team that works together to get the job done efficiently and correctly. The great people I work with are supportive and team-oriented, which makes me happy to come to work every day."

## Meet Dr. Schewe

Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital is proud to announce the recent addition of Brenda Schewe, MD, board-certified Internal Medicine Physician, to the Hospital's medical staff.

As an internist, Dr. Schewe provides outpatient services and general office procedures for people ages 14 and older. Dr. Schewe also has a special interest in women's health and prevention of chronic conditions.

"I consider myself a health 'consultant,'" says Dr. Schewe. "I encourage patients to take responsibility for their health and do what they can to be healthier. I'm excited to be joining the experienced physicians and staff at the Hospital."

Dr. Schewe is a member of the El Dorado Internal Medicine Group, LLC, located in Suite 201 of the SBA Medical Clinic East. To schedule an appointment, please call (316) 321-2100.

To see more info about Dr. Schewe and other physicians on staff at SBAMH, visit [www.sbamb.com](http://www.sbamb.com).



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### How It Works

During the procedure, which is performed under local anesthesia, the physician inserts a catheter into the varicose vein. The catheter delivers radiofrequency heat directly to the wall of the vein, causing the wall to collapse and cut off the backflow of blood. Once the diseased vein is closed, multiple healthy veins take over, and normal blood flow returns.

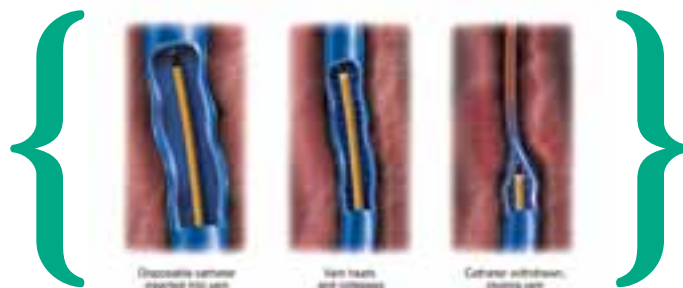
“The procedure is performed on an outpatient basis and typically only lasts 30 minutes to an hour,” Dr. Tamir says. “The VNUS procedure effectively treats venous insufficiency in about 90 percent of cases.”

Benefits of the VNUS Closure procedure over traditional vein surgery include little to no pain, minimal bruising, and quicker return to normal activities, typically within one day.

### Another Advanced Procedure

A second advanced surgical option available for chronic wounds is skin grafting.

“A skin graft involves placing a healthy, thin sheath of skin on a wound site,” explains Dr. Tamir. “Healthy skin is taken



from a place on your body called a donor site. Skin grafting closes the wound, which prevents infection, protects the tissue underneath, and expedites healing.”

This type of surgery is appropriate for people who have a relatively superficial ulcer that does not heal.

“The need for wound care in our communities is increasing,” says David Shaw, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at SBAMH. “Through the technology available at SBAMH, patients can feel confident they are receiving some of the most advanced treatments available to achieve the outcomes they desire. The Wound Care team is committed to offering patients the least invasive treatments available close to home.”

*To find a physician at SBAMH, visit [www.sbamb.com](http://www.sbamb.com) or call (316) 321-3300.*

# ACHOO! How to Avoid the Flu

With flu season quickly approaching, protect yourself and your family by getting vaccinated this fall.

**I**nfluenza (flu) is a virus that spreads from person to person and causes the rapid onset of symptoms ranging from mild to severe. Symptoms may include:

- body aches
- coughing
- fatigue
- fever
- sneezing
- sore throat

“Last year’s flu season saw a new strand of the virus—H1N1—that took the country by storm,” says Janet Frey, RN, MSN, CIC, Director of Infection Prevention and Employee Health at Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital. “The 2010 seasonal flu vaccines will include the new H1N1 virus for optimal protection. On a first-come, first-served basis, a total of 1750 doses will be provided **free of charge** by Susan B. Allen at two different clinic locations: Augusta and El Dorado later this fall.”

### Who Should Be Vaccinated?

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, which advises the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on vaccine issues, voted on February 24 to expand the recommendation for annual flu vaccination to include all persons ages 6 months and older.

“Not only will the 2010 flu vaccine include H1N1, SBAMH’s free flu clinics will also offer a limited number of doses of FluMist®, a nasal-spray form of the flu vaccine,” explains Frey. “The nasal spray is recommended for healthy people ages 2 to 49.”

The SBAMH free flu clinics are for anyone 3 years and older.

*For more information about flu vaccinations or clinics, keep watching local media outlets or call (316) 321-8791, ext. 2205.*





Susan B. Allen  
Memorial Hospital

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# A Different Way to Give Back

We've been there for the birth of your first child. We took care of you after your car accident and when you had your appendix removed. Don't you want the care you received to be there for future generations?

**T**he Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital Foundation offers this opportunity through named endowed funds.

"Giving opportunities can serve to motivate and inspire donors to participate in the life of the Hospital," says Mary Luebbert, Director of Development at SBAMH. "These funds are created when a donor, either through current donations or deferred gifts, provides \$10,000 or more to establish the named endowed fund."

Once the fund is created, it can be named after a loved one, business, or other entity of the individual's choosing. The donor can designate the money be used in a particular area of the Hospital. If no specific purpose is named, the Foundation Board will decide, on an annual basis, where the money would best be utilized based on the current needs of the Hospital.

*To make a contribution to the SBAMH Foundation or to learn more about ways to donate or volunteer your time, please contact Mary Luebbert at (316) 321-8741 or [mluebbert@sbamb.org](mailto:mluebbert@sbamb.org).*



## Save the Date for Holiday Tables

Do you love to decorate or just enjoy celebrating the holidays? Consider participating in "Holiday Tables." Local businesses, civic groups, and individuals are invited to decorate a table representing a season, holiday or any special occasion. New this year is a silent auction, on Friday evening only, featuring two-to-four-foot-tall decorated artificial trees. You can choose to decorate a table, provide a decorated tree for the silent auction, donate items for the silent auction, or (if you can't make up your mind), do all three.

This year's biennial event will take place on Friday, October 22, and Saturday, October 23.

*Need more details? Want to participate or buy tickets? Call Mary Luebbert at (316) 321-8741 or e-mail her at [mluebbert@sbamb.org](mailto:mluebbert@sbamb.org).*