

**MANA INTERNAL MEDICINE PARTNERS WITH WASHINGTON REGIONAL  
HOSPITALIST**

*--Physicians and Hospital Working Together to Improve Hospital Care--*

FAYETTEVILLE -- Monday, January 4, MANA Medical Associates announced a partnership with its Fayetteville Diagnostic Clinic Internal Medicine physicians and the hospitalist service at Washington Regional Medical Center to provide inpatient care for patients when hospitalization is needed Monday through Friday. MANA Fayetteville Diagnostic Clinic Internal Medicine physicians will be working with the hospitalists in sharing rotations at Washington Regional on weekends and holidays.

As healthcare continues to evolve, more physicians are beginning to use a hospitalist program. Hospitalists are physicians who specialize exclusively in hospital environment patient care. The hospitalist is available in the hospital throughout the day to direct patient care, change medications and order the tests. Hospitalist programs shorten patient time in the hospital. Once the patient leaves the hospital, patients return to their personal physician for follow up care. The hospitalists and the internal medicine physicians will work to maintain continuity of care between the clinic and the hospital.

MANA's FirstCare Family Doctors, a 17-provider family medicine group, started using the hospitalist program for their patients in 2006 with all their members coming on board in September of 2009.

MANA is a physician and clinic group owned by the physicians who practice medicine at the group's 15 clinic locations in Northwest Arkansas. Established in 2000, MANA includes family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, imaging, and specialists. Visit [www.mana.md](http://www.mana.md) for more information.

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