



Banner Good Samaritan
Medical Center



1300 N. 12th St., #508
Phoenix, AZ 85006
602-839-3927
www.BannerHealth.com

Internal Medicine Center

The mission of the Banner Good Samaritan Internal Medicine Center (IMC) is to provide personalized, compassionate care in an environment that values the integrity of the individual. We strive to provide effective and efficient health care for these individuals and our community.

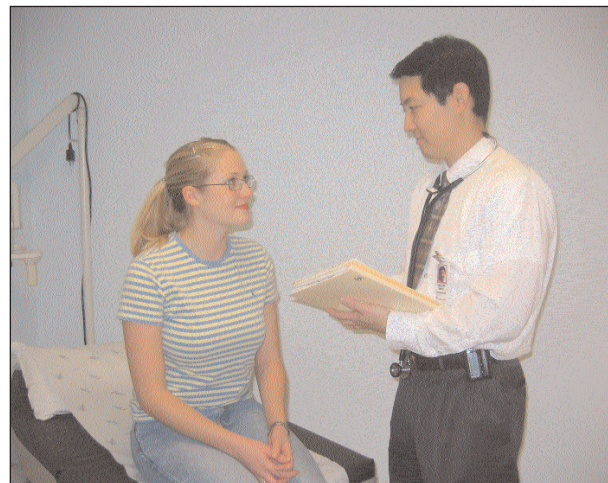
"Our faculty physicians, residents and staff are dedicated to excellence in patient care. We are very proud of the outstanding reputation that our group has with patients and other community physicians," says Mary Ellen Dirlam, MD, the IMC's Medical Director.

Since 1995, *Phoenix Magazine* has published an annual list of "Top Docs" in the Valley, and every year several IMC specialists have been named in the article.

The Banner Good Samaritan Internal Medicine Center is one of the largest primary care offices in the Valley. The diversity of the physicians and staff lends itself to addressing the needs of a diverse patient population. Because of the size of the practice, patients with an acute ailment can usually be seen within a 24-hour period.

The IMC physicians expertly and compassionately care for patients from the ages of 14 and up providing both preventive care and individualized treatment of complex chronic illnesses. The faculty physicians are comprised of seven board certified physicians, two of whom are also board certified in Geriatric Medicine.

The faculty works closely with residents from the Banner Good Samaritan Internal Medicine



Patients at the Banner Good Samaritan Internal Medicine Center benefit from the expertise of the hospital's attending physicians and resident staff. The IMC specializes in both well care practices and multiple chronic illnesses.



The Internal Medicine Center believes the healing atmosphere of the garden epitomizes our philosophy of medicine.

Our mission:

We exist to make a difference in people's lives through excellent patient care.

Residency Program, geriatric fellows and medical students. These residents confer with the faculty physicians who are readily available to assist with the patients' care. The IMC's involvement with the education of resident physicians enhances patient care as well as allows the patients to be part of the process of educating a new generation of physicians. Although it is always the patient's choice whether to see a resident, those patients who have done so have reported a positive experience.

The IMC faculty performs several tests within the office for the patient's convenience, including well woman exams, heel ultrasounds (a test for osteoporosis), flexible sigmoidoscopies, joint injections, lesion removals, and skin biopsies. Dr. Gary Salzman, Geriatrician, sees patients 75 years and older and specializes in Alzheimer's and Osteoporosis.

The IMC is always looking for ways to improve healthcare and recently received a research grant to help support Coumadin (blood thinner) care to improve the health of our patients.

The IMC physicians are open to alternative treatments and work in conjunction with alternative medicine therapists. In addition, we work closely with the highest quality board certified specialists.

The Banner Good Samaritan Internal Medicine Center is located in the Edwards Medical Plaza, Suite #508, across the street from Banner Good Samaritan Medical Center on the southwest corner of 12th Street and Willetta. This location is especially convenient for patients who may need to be admitted into the hospital by their physician, or who may need diagnostic testing.

Directory

Internal Medicine Center Physicians

Mary Ellen Dirlam, MD, PhD
Board Certified in Internal Medicine

Ethiopia Gebeyehu, MD
Board Certified in Internal Medicine

Harvey Hsu, MD
Board Certified in Internal Medicine

Ester C. Little, MD
Board Certified in Internal Medicine

Michelle Park, MD
Board Certified in Internal Medicine

Paul Stander, MD
Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Geriatrics

Gary Salzman, MD
Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Geriatrics

In Focus

Warfarin study earns IMC a Banner Philanthropy grant

TREATMENT and prevention of blood clots with the blood thinner Warfarin (also known as Coumadin) is common, but not always precise. A 2005 Philanthropy Award from Banner Health Foundation will allow physicians at the Banner Good Samaritan Internal Medicine Center (IMC) to develop a system that will track and regulate patients' blood INR—a standard measure of anticoagulation.

"Warfarin therapy is a fact of life for many patients and their physicians," said Mary Ellen Dirlam, MD, Medical Director of the IMC, and primary investigator. "Our question is: how can we develop a system that enables the physician to determine the appropriate dosage of Warfarin in 'real time' while the patient is in the office."

The study will monitor a patient's INR and dosage for six months and compare that to the previous six months' INRs to see if the new protocol is successful in maintaining appropriate INR range consistently.

"The development of the process should provide better patient outcomes by avoiding over- or under-coagulating," said Dorothy Garcia, Administrative Director for the IMC. "Not only will the process enhance patient care, but will also enhance the education of the support staff."
