

[View this email in your browser](#)



Summer 2024



Hendrick Health began as West Texas Baptist Sanitarium on September 15, 1924.

Together for a Century of Care

Hendrick Health's original hospital opened on September 15, 1924, then known as West Texas Baptist Sanitarium. That afternoon, thousands lined up to tour the five-story facility in north Abilene staffed by doctors and nurses offering "some of the best medical equipment of the era." The first patient was admitted the next day.

From the beginning, Hendrick board members were committed to operating a healthcare facility that equaled Dallas-Fort Worth in terms of equipment, services and skilled staff, thus allowing patients to stay in their community for their medical needs.

A century later, Hendrick Health continues as a nonprofit, faith-based organization guided by a local, volunteer board. Providing the strength of a complete health system, Hendrick offers innovative treatments and preventive care that include heart and stroke care, neurology and neurosurgery, neonatal and pediatric intensive care, orthopedics, women's health and cancer services.

The original hospital building remains, but newer wings and towers have grown around it to meet the region's needs. Our legacy continues as we embark on the next century of providing high quality healthcare to the communities we serve.

This edition of *The Arch Report* highlights recent successes in bringing that vision to reality.

Delivering High Quality Care

Hendrick Health First in Texas to Implant Dissolvable Stent for Ischemia Below the Knee

In May, Hendrick Health became the first site in Texas to implant a new, first-of-its-kind dissolvable stent for patients suffering with chronic limb-threatening ischemia below the knee (BTK).

This condition can be painful and is a severe form of peripheral artery disease (PAD) that occurs when arteries become clogged with plaque, preventing blood flow and oxygen from reaching the lower legs and feet.

The Esprit™ BTK Everolimus Eluting Resorbable Scaffold System (Esprit BTK System) by Abbott was approved in April 2024 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and is designed to keep arteries open and to deliver a drug to support vessel healing prior to dissolving over time.

The new stent technology, comprised of materials similar to dissolving sutures, is twice as effective compared to the current treatment options, and dissolves over time.



Pictured are members of the Hendrick Health surgery team involved in completing a procedure involving a new first-of-its-kind dissolvable stent for patients suffering with chronic limb-threatening ischemia below the knee.

How an Exceptional Workplace Leads to Better Patient Care

Hendrick Health is the largest private employer in the region, and our workforce of 5,400 is the healthcare system's No. 1 asset. In April, Hendrick Health earned the 2024 Gallup Exceptional Workplace Award (GEWA) for the 18th consecutive year, making it the only healthcare organization in the world to achieve this track record. In addition, Hendrick is only one of two companies worldwide to be recognized as one of the most engaged workplace cultures for all 18 years of the award's existence.

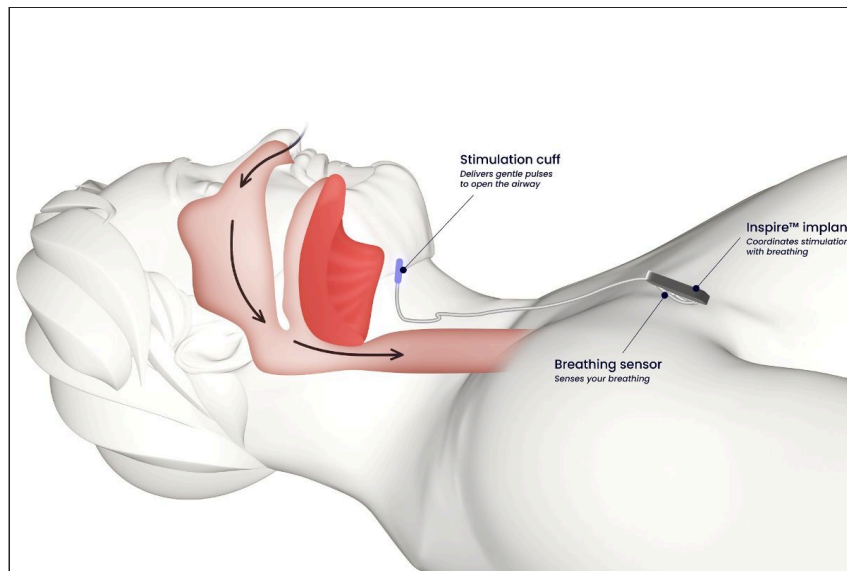
Our community benefits from such an engaged workforce. Studies show that highly engage organizations excel in several important business outcomes, including customer ratings, productivity, turnover, safety incidents, absenteeism and well-being. Excelling in such benchmarks is important in the Hendrick Health vision to be the leading healthcare provider of choice in our region and beyond, recognized for enhancing quality, expanding access and excelling in patient engagement.



In 2024, Hendrick Health earned the Gallup Exceptional Workplace Award for the 18th consecutive year, the only healthcare organization in the world to achieve this track record.

Also Noteworthy

New sleep apnea treatment: Hendrick Health is now offering a breakthrough treatment for obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) for those patients who have not been successful using the continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) system. For patients who find it difficult to tolerate a CPAP, the new Inspire Upper Airway Stimulation therapy system offers a significant advancement in treating their sleep apnea. Unlike the common CPAP treatment which involves the patient during sleep wearing a mask that is connected via a hose to a bedside unit that blows pressured air, the Inspire system uses a device surgically implanted under the skin. This small device works with a patient's natural breathing process to treat OSA. Gentle stimulation moves the tongue forward and opens the airway without disturbing sleep, allowing oxygen to flow naturally.



The new Inspire Upper Airway Stimulation therapy system for patients with sleep apnea is now available at Hendrick Health.

Coordinating Resources and Care

Supporting Region's Rural Healthcare Providers

Hendrick Health consistently works to strengthen its rural healthcare partners through initiatives like:

- Offering quarterly Practice Management Institute continuing education courses, at no charge, to medical office staff and providers throughout the Hendrick Health service area.
- Providing enduring continuing medical education to providers at their convenience through the Hendrick CME Portal, as well as through the Annual CME Symposium hosted by Hendrick Health.
- Supporting coordinated care with regional partners through standing meetings with rural healthcare clinical staff to ensure consistent access to care, and to discuss and collaborate on quality, safety and performance improvement metrics throughout the region.

Expanding Access, Increasing Capacity



Hendrick Health has participated in research studies for decades, but the scale has increased significantly since 2020. To effectively manage this growth, Hendrick Center for Research recently moved to a renovated office building on Hickory Street.

Hendrick Participates in More Research Studies

Hendrick Center of Research manages the health system's participation in clinical trials in cardiology, infectious disease, respiratory/surgical, oncology and other medical specialties. Through such research initiatives, some of the latest advances in healthcare are available closer to home for the benefit and convenience of our patients.

In 2023, Hendrick enrolled approximately 160 patients in 25-plus research programs. Hendrick Health also became the first study site in the country to be initiated for a global clinical trial for heart failure patients.

New research in 2024 includes involvement in the TRANSFORM clinical trial that compares a stage-based treatment of patients with coronary artery disease – or who are at risk of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease – based on a cardiac computed tomography angiography (CCTA) exam, with a risk-factored based treatment, which is the standard of care. Hendrick is one of 47 sites conducting this research across the United States, Europe and Japan.

Also Noteworthy

- **Expanding services in south Abilene:** Renovations and updates continue at Hendrick Medical Center South (HMCS), such as installation of a new CT scanner and other imaging equipment. In addition, recent Pulmonary Rehabilitation department updates allow for outpatient testing for EEG, home sleep studies and pulmonary function at both Hendrick Medical Center (HMC) and HMCS.
- **Building the Brownwood healthcare community:** Since Hendrick Medical Center Brownwood (HMCB) became a part of Hendrick Health in October 2020, the healthcare system has invested approximately eight times more in HMCB facilities and infrastructure than the previous owner invested. Also, 214 jobs have been created and 15 providers recruited.

- **Additional lab location:** In February, Hendrick Health opened a seventh outpatient laboratory in Abilene for the convenience of customers on the north side of town. The newest location is on the first floor of Cedar Mall at 1150 N. 18th Street, just south of Hendrick Medical Center.
- **New blood mobile:** Hendrick Regional Blood Center (HRBC) added in April a third mobile donation bus to its fleet for blood drives in Abilene and the region. HRBC supplies blood products to 20 hospitals in an 18-county region.



The new Hendrick Regional Blood Center blood mobile has the ability to accommodate double red cell donations.

Investing Locally

Hendrick Advances Workforce Development Initiatives

When Hendrick Health was founded in 1924 as West Texas Baptist Sanitarium, the hospital included a school of nursing. Through the years, the health system continued initiatives to train not only skilled nurses but also employees in a variety of healthcare disciplines. In 2023, Hendrick launched the Workforce Development Program to develop a long-term strategy to work with local and area residents, students and employees to grow our own healthcare professionals at Hendrick Health.

The Workforce Development Program includes:

- **Healthcare Academy:** This program is for students in grades 9–12 who are interested in learning more about healthcare. Participants will attend a Healthcare Expo featuring various healthcare-related job demonstrations, participate in an open lab at a local college or university and job shadow healthcare professionals at Hendrick Health.
- **Hendrick Dual-Credit Scholarship Program:** This program provides scholarships for dual-credit courses to high school students in grades 9–12 who declare an intent to pursue a career in healthcare.

Also Noteworthy

- **Promoting health careers in Brownwood:** This summer, HMCB relaunched its Junior Volunteer program. Twelve teens were accepted to help in clinical and nonclinical areas of the hospital, gaining insight into the many healthcare career opportunities. Also, the HMCB Florence Hass Volunteer Scholarship was established to be awarded to students enrolled in an allied health field program.
-

Extending Our Mission

Support for Employees on Mission Trips

As part of its commitment to encouraging employees to maintain a work/life balance, Hendrick Health assists eligible, full-time employees who choose to participate in mission efforts. Through a Christian outreach project, Hendrick provides cash time off benefits. In the first six months of 2024, 20 employees have taken advantage of the program.

Also Noteworthy

- **Donation of AEDs:** As part of a commitment to partner with others for better community health, Hendrick Health donated in the spring two automated external defibrillator (AED) units to the Paramount Theatre in Abilene. An AED is a portable, lifesaving device to aid people experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. The donation also included Hendrick Health educators training the Paramount staff on how to use the AED during an emergency.
- **Promoting reading:** Hendrick Health has partnered with United Way of Abilene to participate in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program that encourages reading books to children. Along with other community partners, Hendrick is helping underwrite the program locally. In addition, HMC and HMCS are providing enrollment information for the reading program to parents or guardians of infants born at the hospitals.



Hendrick Health pediatric healthcare ambassadors Brother Bear and Sister Bear from The Berenstain Bears book series visit with youngsters at Day Nursery of Abilene Orange Street Center to mark a partnership with United Way of Abilene supporting the local chapter of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

Mission focused

Our Mission

To deliver high quality healthcare emphasizing excellence and compassion consistent with the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.

Our Vision

To be the leading healthcare provider of choice, in our region and beyond, recognized for enhancing quality, expanding access and excelling in patient engagement.



Copyright © 2024 Hendrick Health, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).