COMMUNITY NEWS FROM

Broadlawns Medical Center

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CENTER OF EXCELLENCE REDUCES LIMB LOSS IN IOWA

Murdoch Named New Director of Broadlawns Amputation Prevention Center

Des Moines, June 16, 2010 – Mica Murdoch, DPM has been named the new director of the **Amputation Prevention Center** at **Broadlawns Medical Center.**

The specialty center opened at Broadlawns in 2007, and has successfully affected the rate of limb loss for Iowans through specialized diagnostics and surgery for those with limb-threatening conditions such as chronic wounds, gangrene and infections. Limb loss is of particular concern to those suffering from diabetes, a chronic disease that affects about 200,000 Iowans.

Mica Murdoch, DPM

"We offer both inpatient and outpatient services to help our patients keep their lower limbs," said Murdoch. "We are also able to consult with at-risk patients and guide them on a path of treatment and lifestyle options to avoid developing the more serious problems. Amputations can be prevented, as our success rates here at Broadlawns have shown over the past three years."

A graduate of Des Moines University, Murdoch has been on the medical staff in the Foot and Ankle Surgery Department since July 2009. He received residency training at Benedictine Hospital in Kingston, NY, including training at the Kingston Wound Healing and Limb Salvage Center. He is also certified in total ankle replacement surgery.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that diabetes affects nearly 8% of the U.S. population or about 20 million Americans. In the United States, more than 60% of all lower-leg amputations that are not related to an accident are due to complications of

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diabetes. More than 80,000 non-traumatic lower-limb amputations are performed annually as a direct result of diabetes.

With a history that reaches back to 1903 as a community health center, Broadlawns Medical Center first opened its doors as a hospital to the residents of Polk County in 1924. Over the years, Broadlawns has adapted to the changing demands of public health care, yet remained true to its mission of offering quality health services to all Polk County residents and training tomorrow's health care professionals. Today, Broadlawns Medical Center is composed of:

- An acute care community hospital serving medical, surgical, mental health and primary care needs
- A 60-member physician practice overseeing numerous specialty clinics and outpatient services
- A Family Medicine Residency Program that graduates physician leaders who are serving 22 of Iowa's 99 counties and communities across the nation

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