



# The Medical Center Physician Newsletter

A publication for Physicians and Office Managers

<https://Physicians.TheMedicalCenter.org>

**Ventilator Associated Pneumonias (VAP)** is an example of the success level of Commonwealth Regional Specialty Hospital. There are five to seven ventilator patients at a time at the specialty hospital, and while the national average mean of VAPs is 2.7 per thousand ventilator days, the specialty hospital has had only two since its opening in June 2004. That equates to a 0.0 mean per thousand. This is only one example of what committed staff, good training and equipment can do.

*To make a patient referral,  
please contact our  
RN Case Manager or  
Social Worker at  
(270) 796-6200  
Toll Free:  
1-800-949-3035*

**Commonwealth Health Corporation**  
Bowling Green, Kentucky  
**PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE**  
Scott Stivers, Director  
(270) 745-1531

## Commonwealth Regional Specialty Hospital Celebrates Anniversary

Five years seems like a short time but during that period, Commonwealth Regional Specialty Hospital is already playing a vital role in meeting the needs of patients who require continuing, specialized medical care in an acute care setting. "For five years, the specialty hospital has served as an alternative for patients who require a longer stay than typical acute care hospital patients due to their chronic or complex medical conditions," said Shirley Kendall, Administrator of Commonwealth Regional Specialty Hospital. "Many of our patients transfer from intensive care units from acute care hospitals, but may also be admitted directly from home, physician's office, skilled nursing facility, acute rehab facility or the Emergency Department. Here they receive specialized care focused on helping them recover and return home or to an appropriate level of care at another facility such as a skilled transitional unit or nursing home."



During an average 25 day stay, the hospital serves patients with conditions such as respiratory failure requiring ventilation weaning, complex pulmonary disorders, sepsis/infectious diseases requiring long-term IV antibiotics, chronic cardiac disorders, non-healing wounds and skin ulcers, post-operative complications, multi-system organ failure, and renal and vascular disease. The only one of its kind in Southcentral Kentucky, the specialty hospital serves as an alternative to long term acute care hospitals in Louisville and Nashville and allows families the convenience and comfort of staying close to home rather than having to travel to a large metropolitan area for their loved one's care.

Commonwealth Regional Specialty Hospital is not a nursing home or skilled nursing transitional unit. It is designed to meet the special needs of patients requiring a continuing care, inpatient hospital stay. An interdisciplinary team comprised of acute care nurses with a critical care background, rehabilitation specialists, respiratory therapists, wound care nurses, case managers, and social workers provides collaborative care.

If you would like more information or a tour of the 28-bed facility located on the sixth floor of The Medical Center at Bowling Green, please call Shirley Kendall at 270-796-6291.