



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Thoms First Wisconsin Surgeon Certified in Stereotactic Breast Procedure by American Society of Breast Surgeons

GREEN BAY, Wis.—June 15, 2009— Prevea Health is proud to announce Dr. Carrie Ann Thoms, General Surgery—Breast Health Specialty, is the first surgeon to be certified by the American Society of Breast Surgeons in Stereotactic Breast Procedures in the state of Wisconsin. Currently, there are fewer than 25 surgeons in the country certified in Stereotactic Breast Procedure. Dr. Thoms received her certification in May, and practices at the Prevea Health Allouez site, 1821 S. Webster Avenue.

Screening for breast cancer using mammography saves thousands of lives each year. When abnormalities in the breast are detected by mammography, it is not possible to tell whether a growth is benign or cancerous. A breast biopsy must be performed to sample a suspicious area in the breast, to be examined under a microscope and to determine a diagnosis.

Stereotactic Breast Biopsy provides a patient with a minimally invasive technique for assessing a breast abnormality detected by mammography. The procedure allows a physician to sample a very precise area of breast tissue, preserves normal breast tissue, lessens scarring and shortens recovery time.

Physicians seeking certification in stereotactic breast biopsy have to pass an incredibly stringent process to be certified, which includes a written exam, submittal of cases, and performance of the procedure in front of two peers. The certification in Stereotactic Breast Biopsy was recently created by the American Society of Breast Surgeons and will help to improve the quality of care for patients with breast disease.

The American Society of Breast Surgeons, the primary leadership organization for general surgeons who treat patients with breast disease, is committed to continually improving the practice of breast surgery by being an advocate for surgeons who seek excellence in the care of breast patients. This mission is accomplished by serving as a forum for the exchange of ideas and by promoting education, research, and the development of advanced surgical techniques. For more specific information regarding the requirements to earn this certification, please see the attached link:
http://www.breastsurgeons.org/certification/stereotactic_certification.php.

Prevea Health's mission is to take care of people with passion, pride, and respect. Founded in 1996, Prevea Health partners with St. Mary's and St. Vincent Hospitals in Green Bay, and St. Nicholas Hospital in Sheboygan to provide access to more than 200 providers in over 50 specialty areas. Prevea's 18 locations are throughout metropolitan Green Bay and in Marinette, Oconto, Plymouth, Pulaski, Seymour, Sheboygan and Sturgeon Bay. Visit www.prevea.com for more information.

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