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CONTACT: Michael Leathers
Lori Harlan

Office: 217-788-7086
Office: 217-788-3593

Pager: 217-467-2252

KidneyMobile to Offer Screenings at Memorial Medical Center

SPRINGFIELD – The KidneyMobile, the nation’s first mobile classroom and screening program for the detection of kidney disease and its risk factors, will visit Memorial Medical Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 25, to offer free screenings for kidney disease.

The screenings will be held in the hospital’s Wedeberg Conference Center. No appointments are necessary. Screenings include blood pressure, blood sugar, hemoglobin A1C, waist circumference, body mass index, urinalysis and a blood draw for calculation of glomerular filtration rate as necessary.

The National Kidney Foundation of Illinois provides the free early detection screenings to help raise awareness of chronic kidney disease, a condition that affects more than 960,000 Illinois residents and one in nine Americans.

“With so many people not knowing that they are at risk of kidney disease, this effort is another opportunity for Memorial to fulfill its mission to improve the health of the people and communities we serve,” said Deb Werner, nurse manager of Memorial’s acute dialysis unit. “We encourage people to take a few moments to be screened and take charge of their health.”

“As key players in preventing kidney disease, our partnerships are the best way to prevent and treat chronic diseases, such as diabetes, high blood pressure and kidney disease,” said Nicole Sisen, community programs manager for the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois. “We hope to empower participants to be proactive about their healthcare and to take initiative about testing for the conditions that lead to kidney disease.”



More than 73 percent – nearly three out of four people – of those who participated in the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois’ screening program find that they have at least one abnormal result that requires either an immediate referral or medication.

Early detection and treatment of chronic kidney disease, including lifestyle changes and medications, may slow or prevent its progression to kidney failure as well as lessen the risk of cardiovascular disease, Sisen said.

Rates of chronic kidney disease in the United States have increased by more than 20 percent over the last decade, causing kidney failure, loss of life and skyrocketing healthcare costs. More than \$57 billion of the U.S. Medicare budget is allocated to treat chronic kidney disease and \$19 billion to the treatment of end-stage kidney disease.

For more information about risk factors, visit the [National Kidney Foundation of Illinois’](#) website.

Memorial Medical Center, 701 N. First St., is a nonprofit, community-based hospital in the Mid-Illinois Medical District at Springfield. For more information about [Memorial Medical Center](#), visit the hospital’s website.

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