



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Nurse Practitioner Joins Sacred Heart Pediatric Pulmonology and Sleep Medicine

Pensacola, Fla. — Nurse practitioner [Sonia Smith, DNP](#), has joined Sacred Heart Medical Group's pediatric pulmonology and sleep medicine team.

Smith will practice with pediatric pulmonologist and sleep-medicine specialist Gulnur Com, MD, who serves on the faculty of the University of Florida College of Medicine and cares for patients full-time in Pensacola.

Together, Smith and Com focus on treating lung problems and sleep conditions in children, including asthma, cystic fibrosis, prematurity-related lung disease, sleep apnea, sleep-maintenance problems and narcolepsy. Their office is located on Sacred Heart's Pensacola campus at 5375 N. Ninth Ave.

Smith has more than 30 years of pediatric nursing experience. In addition to bringing her expertise to pulmonology and sleep medicine, she has extensive knowledge and proficiency in primary care, neurology and emergency medicine. She currently serves as an adjunct assistant professor at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Smith received a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, a Master of Nursing in child health from Emory University in Atlanta and a Doctor of Nursing Practice from Troy University in Alabama. She has been published in several peer-reviewed journals, including the Journal of Pediatric Health Care. Smith has lectured locally and nationally on various pediatric health topics and is heavily involved in several pediatric health and nursing education research initiatives. She is a member of the National Sleep Foundation, the American Academy of Sleep Medicine, the American Telemedicine Association, the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners, of which she was past president of the Georgia chapter.

Smith and Com are accepting new patients and most insurance plans. For information or to schedule an appointment, please call 850-416-1575.

About Sacred Heart Health System

In Florida, Ascension operates Sacred Heart Health System based in Pensacola and St. Vincent's HealthCare based in Jacksonville. Together, Ascension operates seven hospitals in Florida and more than 100 other sites of care, and they employ more than 10,000 associates. Across the region, Sacred Heart and St. Vincent's have served North Florida communities for more than 145 years. In fiscal year 2017, they provided \$168 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty. Ascension (www.ascension.org) is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system, Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Ascension includes approximately 156,000 associates and 34,000 aligned providers. Ascension's Healthcare Division operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 151 hospitals and more than 50 senior living facilities – in 21 states and the District of Columbia, while its Solutions Division provides a variety of services and solutions including physician practice management, venture capital investing, investment management, biomedical engineering, facilities management, clinical care management, information services, risk management, and contracting through Ascension's own group purchasing organization. For more information on Sacred Heart Health System, visit www.sacred-heart.org.

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