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### **Doshier wound center announces 95% “heal rate”**

SOUTHPORT—In its first full year of operation, the Wound Care Center at Doshier Memorial Hospital healed 95 percent of diabetic foot ulcers and other wounds. At a media open house today, wound center staff members also announced they cared for 175 individual patients in 2015 during 1,774 visits, which included 821 hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) treatments.

“So many people wanted and needed this type of care, that we surpassed the expected number of first-year patients and visits by more than 50 percent,” John Stone, CHRN, program director, Wound Care Center, says. “For specialized treatments in our two HBO chambers, we actually doubled the projected volume of sessions.”

Doshier operates the only hospital-based wound center in Brunswick, New Hanover or Pender counties.

“While the figures are impressive, I’m proud that our wound team helped improve the quality of life for area residents. We saved limbs as well as lives, no doubt about it,” Brad Hilaman, MD, medical director, Doshier Wound Care Program, says.

While most people requiring wound care are patients with diabetic foot ulcers from poor circulation, others have hard-to-heal wounds from surgical incisions and other conditions.

After a thorough examination and X-ray or other radiologic testing, treatment options include topical wound therapy, bioengineered tissue, compression wraps, negative pressure wound therapy, debridement and HBO treatments. Some chronic wounds require 30 treatments or more.

Two recent Doshier wound patients attended the open house and described the high-quality care they received for foot ulcers and a recent incision that wouldn’t heal, respectively.

(More)

## **Dosher wound center announces 95% heal rate**

### **Page 2**

Carol Northup, RN, Doshier vice president and chief nursing officer, was the clinical leader for the wound program at Doshier. “Our research showing a high prevalence of diabetes in Brunswick County indicated our wound care program would be beneficial and make an immediate health impact for patients. First-year results show we got it right,” Northup says. “Once patients started receiving treatment that showed great results, the word spread and we now treat several patients per month from Wilmington and beyond, in addition to our Smithville Township primary service area.”

Based on the large number of patients and treatments the first year, Doshier recently expanded the staff with the addition of Sally Delmastro, ANP-BC, as a nurse practitioner in the unit.

Doshier’s clinical partner for wound care is Healogics™, the leading wound care provider in the U.S. With nearly 800 centers at hospitals across the country, the wound experts have successfully treated more than two million wounds.

For more information about the Doshier Wound Care Center, call (910) 454-1192 or visit [Doshier.org/wound](http://Doshier.org/wound).

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