

April 2010

Welcome to the April issue of *PlusNotes for Members*, your source for news on your health plan and healthy living information.

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Two Exciting Announcements from Meriter

Meriter Named a Top 100 Hospital [Meriter Hospital](#) was recently named one of the nation's [Top 100 Hospitals](#) by [Thomas Reuters](#), a leading provider of information and solutions to improve the cost and quality of healthcare. The award recognizes hospitals that have achieved excellence in clinical outcomes, patient safety, patient satisfaction, financial performance and operational efficiency.

Meriter Orthopedics Clinic Set to Open You are cordially invited to an open house celebration of Meriter's new [orthopedics clinic](#) in Middleton. The event will be Thursday, April 29, 5:30 p.m., 2275 Deming Way, Suite 180. During the open house, you can:

- Meet the clinic's physicians: James Bowers, MD; Amy Franta, MD; and Jeff Everson, PA.
- Take a tour.
- Learn more about the leading-edge procedures that Meriter surgeons provide for knees, hips, shoulders and elbows.

Health Care Reform 4-1-1

After many, many months of debate and discussion, a health care reform bill was recently approved by the U.S. government. The bill is a massive piece of legislation that will affect all of us and will be implemented incrementally over the next several years.

We aren't experts yet, but we're learning details of the reform bill as quickly as possible, and we want to help you do the same. We're creating a [dedicated section](#) of [pplusic.com](#) to act as an information clearinghouse of sorts for what we know about the reform bill. You'll find summary information that may apply to you along with many helpful links to external agencies with more detailed supporting information. We'll update as we find out more, so check back often!

Aspirin Use to Prevent Heart Attacks and Strokes

Did you know that taking an aspirin regularly can be an easy and inexpensive way to help reduce the risk of heart attacks and strokes? The [U.S. Preventive Services Task Force](#) recommends individuals talk to their doctors about regular aspirin use if they meet one of the following conditions:

- Have had a heart attack or stroke.
- Are a man aged 45–79; click [HERE](#) to learn more.
- Are a woman aged 55–79; click [HERE](#) to learn more.

Tell Us What You Think

Physicians Plus wants feedback, suggestions and ideas for improvement from you! All ideas are reviewed, so if you have a suggestion, please let us [know](#).