



By: Theresa Ward

Face-to-Face with Dr. Anthony J. Perri, Dermatologist

Montgomery County residents will be glad to know that Dr. Anthony J. Perri, board-certified dermatologist, is now accepting patients at Sadler Clinic's newest office located at 4015 I-45 N (at League Line Road) in Conroe. Dr. Perri is also pleased to announce his second and newest office location in The Woodlands! Dr. Perri will now see patients one day a week at 9305 Pinecroft Drive.

Locally educated, Dr. Perri received his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine, where he graduated among the top 10 percent of his class. He received his dermatology training at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston and was selected as Chief Resident.

Raised in Corsicana, Texas, Dr. Perri has chosen Montgomery County for his practice, where he is committed to caring for and treating county residents. Dr. Perri lives in South Conroe and is an active member of the community he serves.

As a dermatologist, Dr. Perri is an expert in skin, hair and nails. His services include general skin care health and cosmetic procedures such as sclerotherapy (spider vein treatment), Botox® for fine lines, Restylane® for deep lines, chemical peels and benign mole removal.

Dr. Perri's main area of interest is the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of skin cancer, which he says is common among pa-

tients he sees. When a person finds a discolored spot or mole on his or her skin, Dr. Perri says it is very important to have it checked out right away. "The best chance of survival and a good cosmetic outcome is early detection," says Dr. Perri. It is for this reason that he has made accessibility for his patients a key part of his practice. Many who call by 10 a.m. in the morning can schedule an appointment later that day.

Melanoma is the cancer that most people are afraid of, but it is not as common as others he sees. "Basal cell cancer is the most common cancer in Montgomery County," says Dr. Perri. In fact, in a normal day, he will biopsy approximately 5-10 of these cancers. This is



Sun Safety Tips in Montgomery County

- Avoid the peak hours of sun from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- If you have to be out during the peak hours use physical protection such as a hat and long sleeves. If any part of your skin is not covered apply sunscreen protection; 70 SPF is recommended.
- Limit your outdoor activities to the early morning and evening.

Same Day & Saturday Appointments Available

good news because if detected early and treated, basal cell cancer rarely spreads unless it becomes very large.

The second most common cancer that Dr. Perri sees among his patients is squamous-cell skin cancer, which he says is similar to basal cell, but it has more of a chance of metastasizing or spreading than basal cell cancer.

When patients are diagnosed with any form of skin cancer, Dr. Perri indicates that it is most often caused by exposure to the rays of the sun. "The Texas sun is very intense," says Dr. Perri. "In addition, all the outdoor

Continued on page 10 ➔

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activities that we do, including fishing, golfing and boating predispose us to developing certain forms of skin cancer." Dr. Perri also notes that once a person has had skin cancer, there is a higher risk he or she will develop another skin cancer. As a result, he recommends that patients who have been diagnosed with any form of skin cancer visit him twice each year. He also recommends that even those who have not been diagnosed with a skin cancer visit a board certified dermatologist for a full body exam once a year.

During each patient's first visit, Dr. Perri will perform a complete skin exam, including the back where people can't check for themselves and don't know they have a problem. If he finds any potential cancer he will biopsy a small portion. Should cancer be detected in the biopsy, Dr. Perri's office will call the patient and request a return visit so the cancer can be treated. This usually involves a 10 to 15 minute procedure with a local anesthetic. While keeping the patient comfortable, Dr. Perri takes a safety margin of normal skin around the cancer and then closes the area. Dr. Perri notes that patients are often surprised when the procedure is over, feeling almost no discomfort.

Dr. Perri says that certain people are at a higher risk of getting skin cancer, especially anyone who had a lot of sunburns in childhood or those who are fair-skinned. However, cancer doesn't spare any type of skin and darker skin colors are also at risk. Interestingly, 90 percent of all non-melanoma skin cancers are found on the face.

As we enter the fall season, Dr. Perri reminds everyone not to be fooled by the cooler weather. "Just because it is not as hot doesn't mean you can't get enough sun to get skin cancer. You can still get sun damage because the sun's rays are just as intense as in the summertime," he says.

Dr. Perri's new Conroe location is very easy to access; the three-story Sadler Clinic building is just off the I-45 freeway, and offers plenty of parking. Other family practitioners and specialists also practice in the facility, making it convenient for patients to get the care they need. For his patients located in Spring and in The Woodlands, Dr. Perri practices at his office in The Woodlands every Thursday.

When not on duty, Dr. Perri finds time to perform at least two free cancer screenings a month at local school districts, senior living facilities and other community events. In August, Dr. Perri participated in the Golfers Against Cancer Golf Tournament held at Walden Country Club, where he provided skin cancer screenings, sun safety tips and sunscreen for the golfers. The tournament raised funds to support cancer research and awareness, two subjects Dr. Perri is passionate about. ♦



Dr. Anthony J. Perri is a board-certified dermatologist who treats patients in Conroe and in The Woodlands. His main area of interest is the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of skin cancer. Providing convenience for his patients, Dr. Perri offers same day and Saturday appointments.

**Anthony J. Perri, M.D. Dermatology
Conroe - 4015 I-45 N (at League Line Road)
(936) 522-4966**

**The Woodlands - 9305 Pinecroft Drive
(281) 943-2749**

Office Hours:

Monday – Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Thursday – 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday – 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday – 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.