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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Dr. Chrystal Sumrall earns distinction with AAFP Degree of Fellow

RIDGELAND – Laurel family physician Dr. Chrystal A. Sumrall, MD, FAAFP, recently achieved the **Degree of Fellow** from the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

Dr. Sumrall was presented with the Degree July 18 at a special MAFP convocation ceremony, at which former AAFP President Dr. Robert Wergin conferred the Degree. Dr. Sumrall can now use the letters “FAAFP” after her name to indicate her status as a Fellow.

Dr. Sumrall was also recently selected as a district representative on the Mississippi Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP) Board of Directors. She has been a MAFP member since 2000.

Dr. Sumrall is a family physician at Laurel Family and Immediate Care, where she has served as Senior Physician since 2015 and Supervising Physician since 2012. A native of Laurel, she has served the Jones County area her entire career, including years spent with South Central Regional Medical Center, Laurel Family Clinic and Ellisville Medical Clinic.

“Being recognized with the Degree of Fellow has great significance among family physicians,” said MAFP President Katherine Patterson, MD, FAAFP, of Indianola. “Not only does it represent the respect of one’s peer physicians, but it symbolizes high personal standards as well. We are so pleased to include Dr. Sumrall in our ranks.”

Dr. Sumrall earned an undergraduate and graduate degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. She then completed the University of Mississippi School of Medicine as well as an internal medicine internship and a family medicine residency with the UMMC Department of Family Medicine in Jackson. *(continued on page 2)*

MISSION: Dedicated to advancing the specialty of Family Medicine and improving the health of all people in Mississippi.

Dr. Sumrall is a past officer of the South Mississippi Medical Society and a member of the American Medical Association. She and her husband, David Clapp, have one son, Charlie.

The Degree of Fellow recognizes AAFP members who have distinguished themselves among their colleagues, as well as in their communities, by their service to family medicine, by their advancement of health care for the American people, and by their professional development through medical education and research. Fellows of the AAFP are recognized as champions of family medicine. They are the physicians who make family medicine the premier specialty in service to their community and profession. From a personal perspective, being a Fellow signifies not only “tenure” but one’s additional work in your community, within organized medicine, within teaching and a great commitment to continuing professional development and research.

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The MAFP has over 1,000 members consisting of physicians, residents and medical students. The MAFP is dedicated to advancing the specialty of Family Medicine and improving the health of all people in Mississippi. The vision of the MAFP is for every person in Mississippi to have access and availability to a well-trained family physician to manage their medical care.