



## Welcome Hannah Smith, FNP-C



Please join us in welcoming Hannah Smith, DNP, RN, FNP-C to our Thunderbird and Sonoran offices. Her professional passions are women's preventive health, contraceptive management, obstetrics and adolescent health education.

After earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Grand Canyon University, Hannah completed her Doctorate of Nursing Practice – Family Nurse Practitioner degree at Arizona State University.

“My goal is to build relationships with open communication,” she said. “This allows individual needs to be addressed with a plan in which the patient feels confident.”

## Study Shows COVID-19 Vaccinations Safe for Pregnant Women

New research by a team at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, suggests that the COVID-19 vaccine offers antibody protection to the fetus. In fact, the longer the period of time between vaccination to delivery, the higher the rate of antibody transfer offering more protection to the baby.

## Congrats Top Docs!

Desert West is proud to announce that two of our physicians — Kelly Goad, DO and Judy Tom, MD — were selected as Phoenix Magazine 2021 Top Docs. This survey of healthcare professionals is conducted by the publication in a variety of specialties including obstetrics & gynecology. Congrats Dr. Goad and Dr. Tom!

## Masked Visitors Now Welcome!

All five Desert West locations are now allowing adult and children visitors. Patients and visitors older than age 3 must wear a mask at all times during their visit. We ask for your continued support of our efforts to optimize the safety and well-being of patients and staff.

## Don't Delay Treatment for Uterine Fibroids

Fibroid symptoms, such as heavy menstrual bleeding and abdominal pain, are increasingly driving women to the emergency room. Research analyzing more than 487 million emergency visits by women ages 18-55 between 2006 and 2017 showed the number of ED visits for fibroids among this age group more than doubled during the study period, up from 28,732 to 65,685 visits.

Uterine fibroids are the most common benign gynecologic condition in the U.S., affecting up to 70% of all women by age 50 and a disproportionate number of African Americans. Many women delay treatment for uterine fibroids because they think their symptoms are “normal” or are unaware of what types of non-surgical treatments are available. Schedule a visit to discuss excessive menstrual bleeding and abdominal pain with your DWOOG provider.