

Published for the Medical Staff
and Advanced Practice Clinicians
of Lehigh Valley Health Network

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NEW CHAIR NAMED FOR DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE



Debbie Salas-Lopez, MD, MPH, who has been serving as acting chair since July, 2008, was recently appointed Chair of the Department of Medicine. Dr. Salas-Lopez has also served as Chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine since March, 2007, when she joined the Medical Staff.

In her two most recent roles, Dr. Salas-Lopez has developed a universal reputation for forthrightness, honesty, integrity and consistency. Within the Department of Medicine and the primary care community at large, she has demonstrated respect, boldness, and exemplary communication skills and emotional intelligence.

Born in Bronx, N.Y., Dr. Salas-Lopez graduated from Kean College in Union, New Jersey, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology. She received her Doctorate in Medicine from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-New Jersey Medical School. She also received a Masters in Public Health, Urban Health Policy and Administration from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-School of Public Health.

Dr. Salas-Lopez completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-New Jersey Medical School/University Hospital, where she also served as Chief Medical Resident in her final year.

Dr. Salas-Lopez is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Internal Medicine. She is an Associate Professor of Medicine of Penn State College of Medicine, and is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

Dr. Salas-Lopez and her husband, Rick Kwasny, have two children – Kristina and Leigh. They currently live in New Jersey, however, within the next year, they plan to relocate closer to the Lehigh Valley area. In her spare time, Dr. Salas-Lopez enjoys the theater, dining at home with family and friends, and long walks.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Think Green

How can it be March without a few shamrocks, a little luck of the Irish, and thinking green? However, thinking green is more than a March tradition these days with people striving to protect the environment and many of us are trying to live more gently on the Earth while conserving resources. This month seems like a perfect time to take pause and consider how the healthcare industry can join the effort and operate medically green.

In order to interpret the phrase medically green, one must first consider what it means to be green. One perspective on green living involves conservation of resources such as gasoline, food, electricity, or water. Another application encourages environmentally friendly behaviors that inflict minimal harm on the world around us. To apply these ideas of conserving resources and protecting the environment to medicine brings us to the concept of being medically green and the challenge to hospitals and physicians to practice green medicine.

How can hospitals be more medically green? In general, hospitals' conservation efforts focus on energy consumption, building construction, recycling programs, and food waste. With large facilities operating around the clock, the healthcare industry is second only to the food industry in total energy consumption. With this in mind, Catholic Healthcare West, which cares for the disadvantaged in California, Arizona and Nevada, has been identifying specific projects to reduce energy consumption since 2001. Their efforts have reduced electricity consumption by 16 percent and natural gas consumption by 7 percent. In turn, they have been able to direct the savings toward patient care. Due to the magnitude of energy use in hospitals, conservation in this area produces dramatic savings.

In an effort to encourage more environmentally friendly construction, the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System, developed by the United States Green Building Council, provides standards for

environmentally sustainable construction. Since its inception in 1998, LEED has grown to encompass more than 14,000 projects in 50 states and 30 countries covering 1.062 billion square feet of development area. The rating system addresses six major areas: sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, and innovation and design process. The first LEED gold-certified hospital in the United States is Providence Newberg Medical Center in Newberg, Ore. The hospital obtains 100 percent of its energy from renewable sources and consumes 40 percent less water and 26 percent less energy than a standard hospital of its size. This hospital also has 100 percent fresh air (not recycled). LVHN's new Kasych Building is LEED certified and has many features similar to Providence Newberg Medical Center. The Kasych tower will allow LVHN to conserve energy and direct saving to patient care for many years to come.

Another concept that is starting to make headway in hospitals and other industries is the use of biodegradable plastics in cafeterias. About one year ago, St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, Md., started using cutlery, bowls, and cups made from biodegradable sources such as sugarcane, corn, and potatoes. These products will decompose into dirt in a commercial composting facility in 45 days. Hopefully the development of biodegradable plastics will spread to include plastic medical supplies.

This brings us to our roles as physicians in being medically green. How can physician contribute to the conservation of resources? The answer is different for each of us. As an intensivist, I can be more medically green by reducing orders for labs and x-rays. Often labs and x-rays are ordered routinely for the following morning and may or may not be necessary. In the ICU, we are working toward reassessing labs and x-rays ordered for the next morning at the end of each day. By limiting the number of ancillary tests, we are able to save money, create less waste, and cause less harm to patients. What are the ways you can practice more medically green in your specialty?

Thanks so much for reading. I hope you all have a very nice (and green) month.

Matthew M. McCambridge, MD

Matthew M. McCambridge, MD
Medical Staff President



LVHN MAKES FORTUNE 100 “BEST COMPANY TO WORK FOR” LIST FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Good things do come in threes! For the third year in a row, Lehigh Valley Health Network is a FORTUNE 100 “Best Company to Work For.” LVHN is #76 on the magazine’s 12th annual list and is the **only** Pennsylvania health network/hospital ever to make the list since it was first published in 1998.

“This recognition is really a reflection on the quality of our staff,” said Elliot J. Sussman, MD, LVHN President and CEO. “They create a work environment in which everyone strives for excellence and contributes to our mission to heal, comfort and care for our community.”

“The 100 Best Companies to Work For” list is compiled by FORTUNE by the Great Places to Work Institute headquartered in San Francisco. The rankings are based on an evaluation of the policies and culture of each company and the opinions of the company’s employees. The employee opinion score, which makes up two-thirds of the total score, comes from a 57-question survey sent to a minimum 400 randomly selected employees. The remaining one-third of the score is based on an evaluation of workplace culture including company and employee demographics, pay and benefits programs, hiring practices, training and recognition programs.

Among the items measured in the survey that contributed to Lehigh Valley Health Network’s selection to the “100 Best Companies to Work For” list are:

- Keeps employees informed about important issues and changes
- Gives people a lot of responsibility
- Gives people the resources and equipment to do their jobs
- Genuinely seeks and responds to suggestions and ideas
- Feel you make a difference here
- Work has a special meaning that this is not “just a job”
- Feel a sense of pride about what we accomplish
- Proud to tell others you work here
- Feel good about the ways the company/organization contributes to the company
- This is a friendly place to work

The ranked list of the “100 Best Companies to Work For” is available at www.fortune.com and www.greatplacetowork.com.

Doctors' Day Celebration

In honor of Doctors’ Day, a buffet luncheon will be available for members of the Medical Staff on Tuesday, March 31, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the following locations:

- LVH-Cedar Crest & I-78 — Medical Staff Lounge
- LVH-Muhlenberg — Medical Staff Lounge
- LVH-17th & Chew — ASU O.R. Lounge

HAPPY DOCTORS’ DAY — ENJOY!

A PASSION FOR BETTER MEDICINE.™



2008 ONCOLOGY CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

The 2008 Oncology Clinical Practice Guidelines are now online and available to all clinicians.

These guidelines were developed by the respective Disease Management groups and approved by both the Cancer Committee and the Medical Executive Committee.

Guidelines can be launched from the following sources:

- Within LastWord – click on the Resources button on the upper right of the screen which will launch the “Physician Base” page. Go to the “Clinical Guidelines” section and select “Clinical Practice Guidelines.”

- From the hospital’s intranet, select “Resources” – “General” – “Physician Base.” Go to the “Clinical Guidelines” section and select “Clinical Practice Guidelines.” OR
- From the hospital’s intranet, select “Departments” – “Clinical” – “Cancer Services” and select “Disease Management Guidelines.”

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Debra Barraco, Research Associate, Cancer Program, at 610-402-0547.

PHYSICAL/OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CONSULTS AND THE MOBILITY PROTOCOL

Nursing staff members are primarily responsible for monitoring and facilitating the functional mobility of their patients (bathing and dressing, transferring into and out of bed and ambulation). Physical and Occupational Therapy are generally NOT indicated when the patient is at their baseline level and safety is not in question.

On the other hand, there are instances where patients WILL benefit from skilled Physical and/or Occupational Therapy services. Following are a few broad examples:

- When a patient has a decline in function directly related to a procedure or condition
- When a patient has a decline in function compared to their baseline function
- When a patient’s safety in the home is a concern

For evaluation/treatment to commence, a **weight bearing status** and an **activity order** must be in place. If weight bearing is not a concern, it should be indicated by marking “full weight bearing” or “weight bearing as tolerated bilateral lower/upper extremities.”

The Mobility Protocol

Because Physical and Occupational Therapy **require an activity order to complete an evaluation**, “The Mobility Protocol” can be an extremely useful order. The Mobility Protocol provides parameters in which therapy *and* nurses can progress mobility based upon clinical observation of patient status and response to mobilization. The required fields for the Mobility Protocol include:

- Starting level = patient’s current level of mobility
- Target level = patient’s goal level of mobility

The Mobility Protocol was designed specifically to facilitate mobility from the time a patient enters to the time he/she leaves the acute care setting.

Impacts Discharge: What does it Mean?

Impacts Discharge is a designation that should be reserved for **when skilled PT or OT services need to be consulted on the same date as the scheduled discharge**. If this priority is used for other circumstances, it may lead to delays answering the orders for patients who really are leaving that day.

If you have any questions or require more information regarding this issue, please contact Roxanne Krivenko, Project Coordinator for Rehabilitation Services, at 610-402-4438 or pager 610-402-5100 9757.

NEWS FROM CAPOE CENTRAL

Digoxin Dosing? Give it in the morning

Beginning in March, routine Digoxin doses will be administered at 9 a.m. This is consistent with the standard time for all daily medications. It is also more consistent with the dosing regimen that most of our patients utilize at home. This will decrease the potential for duplicate doses. If you are ordering Digoxin **after** 9 a.m. and you want a dose given today, remember to check the “First Dose Now” box. If there are any questions about this change, please contact Leroy Kromis, Medication Safety Officer, at 610-402-8087.

Change to Blood Culture Orders

The blood culture orders in CAPOE will be changed to reflect current best practices. Currently, there are options in the system for Single and Multiple Blood Cultures. The Single Blood Culture option will be removed to reflect evidence based care. It is recommended that when obtaining blood cultures to **always obtain two** and preferably from different sites. If this cannot be done, two blood cultures should be obtained from the same site one hour apart.

Single blood cultures should be limited to special circumstances, such as pediatrics, and in follow up to endocarditis or other septicemias where a clinician is looking for evidence of clearance of a specific organism. Please contact a member of the Division of Infectious Diseases with any questions.

Respiratory Treatments: It's more than just meds

When ordering respiratory treatments, it is very important to order BOTH the medication AND the Respiratory Treatment Order.

Some of the reasons why we need the Physicians to place the Respiratory Treatment order.

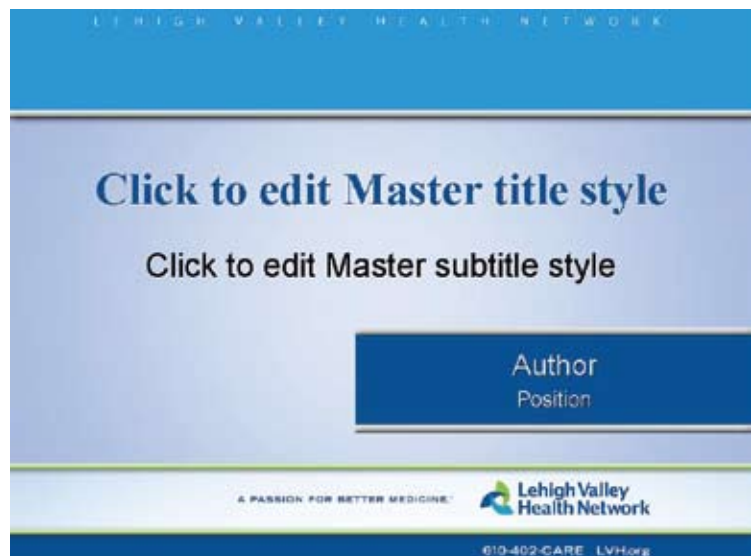
- To make sure the patient is getting the medication delivered in the appropriate manner.
- Patient Safety issue – The Respiratory Treatment order acts as a trigger to the Respiratory Therapy Department. Without a Respiratory Order, there may be a delay in the delivering of therapy and medication to the patient.
- Patients getting this medication are assessed every 3 days by the Respiratory Care Department and without the order they are not assessed for the need or efficacy of the therapy.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these or any other CAPOE issues, please contact Don Levick, MD, MBA, Physician Liaison, Information Services, at 610-402-1426 or pager 610-402-5100 7481.

NEW POWERPOINT TEMPLATES NOW AVAILABLE

Lehigh Valley Health Network is an integral, and highly visible, organization in our region. We are recognized as a national leader for quality care, an expert staff, and unending drive to achieve excellence in all that we do. Therefore, it is imperative that we present ourselves in a clear and consistent manner. All presentations that will be used at national and international conferences will need to adhere to the new corporate guidelines. For your convenience, PowerPoint templates have been developed and provide many options to choose from both in approved color schemes and layouts.

The templates are available on the LVHN intranet. To get there, go to “Departments” in the upper left-hand box, then select “Non-Clinical” – “Marketing and Public Affairs” – “Approved Powerpoint.” Read the easy-to-follow instructions for using the templates and then select one of the five color options to begin your presentation.



PHYSICIAN DOCUMENTATION

Consultation Services

The Center for Medicare/Medicaid Services (CMS) has strict guidelines for providers regarding consultative services, and with Recovery Auditor Contractors looming August 1, 2009, a review of documentation was completed to ensure lack of ambiguity and that these guidelines are being followed.

Consultation services must contain the 3Rs:

- A **Request** must be evident in CAPOE or in the written orders as a verbal request.
- The **Reason** must be medically relevant. “PKTY” (Patient Known to You) is not acceptable.
- A **Report** must be generated and documented back to the requesting provider (dictated or written).

The consultation cannot be written or dictated by a PA-C or CRNP then dictated by the attending, as this produces two documents which are then submitted to CMS, which is a duplication of services and cannot be billed. Options include the PA-C/CRNP doing the consult and signing and the attending then only co-signing the report, or the physician doing the entire consult alone. This produces one document per consult which is acceptable to CMS.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Anthony V. Matejicka II, DO, at 610-868-6880, or Joan B. Cuvo, Manager, LVPG Compliance, at (610) 798-4565.

PHYSICIAN QUERY UPDATE

Physician query deficiencies are available for completion in EHMR under the signature deficiency module. Several physician queries are being returned to physicians because they are being signed without the query being answered. In order to expedite the process and avoid queries being reinstated as a deficiency, please follow the directions below.

Status	Age of Def (Days)	Encounter	Admitted	Discharged	Diagnosis	Document	Patient	Assigned to	Deficiency Reason
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	CARDIAC CATH REPORTS	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	CONSULTATION	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	CONSULTATION	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	CONSULTATION	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	DISCHARGE SUMMARY	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	DISCHARGE SUMMARY	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	DISCHARGE SUMMARY	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	HISTORY AND PHYSICAL	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	HISTORY AND PHYSICAL	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	OPERATIVE REPORT	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	PHYSICIAN QUERY	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	PHYSICIAN QUERY	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	PHYSICIAN QUERY	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete	0	11111111	05/07/01	05/07/01	PHYSICIAN QUERY	IMNET_TEST F	HIM, DOCTOR	

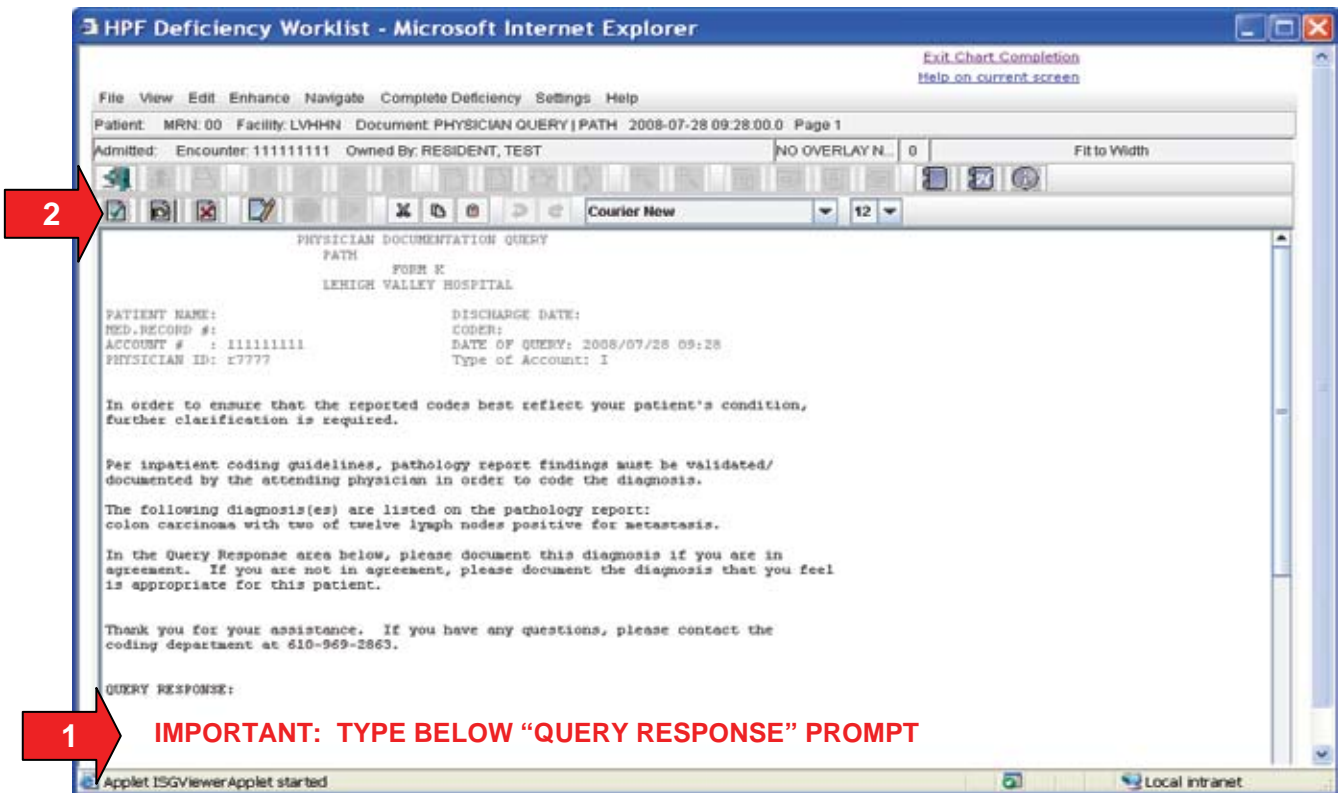
In the deficiency module, click “signature completion”

1. Note document field in alphabetical order
2. Click on the ✓ box for “physician query” deficiencies to prioritize them
3. Click “process” to complete all physician queries

Continued on next page

Continued from Page 6

A physician documentation query document will appear as follows:



1. Click and begin typing below "QUERY RESPONSE"
 2. Click "v" button (upper left) following completion of each query
- Once you have completed all the queries, system will return to remaining signature deficiencies.

- Queries will be initially assigned as a signature deficiency.
- For queries signed and not answered/completed, a new dictation deficiency will be assigned.
- Providers may dictate query response into the dictation system using work type #50.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Karen Haley, Operations Manager, Health Information Management, at 610-402-8049.

NUTRITION SERVICES ON PICU

In response to physician requests and increased demand for nutrition therapy on the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, an additional pediatric nutrition specialist has been added to the Nutrition staff. This addition will double the coverage on PICU as well as increase the staff's ability to initiate nutrition therapy and follow-up on the patients' response to it.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact either Melissa Faura, Inpatient Nutrition Manager, at 610-402-5100 4569 or Kim Procaccino, Nutrition Director, at 610-402-5100 0407.

RESEARCH CORNER

Department of Surgery Research

The Department of Surgery Research is actively recruiting subjects for the following trial – *“Clinical Study Comparing Dynamic Stabilization of the Lumbar Spine with the Stabilimax NZ® Dynamic Stabilization System to Posterolateral Instrumented Fusion.”*

The purpose of this study is to assess whether the Stabilimax NZ® is at least as safe and effective as the control therapy of fusion in patients receiving decompression surgery for the treatment of clinically symptomatic spinal stenosis at one or two contiguous vertebral levels from L₁-S₁.

Degenerative spine disease is a major source of disability and morbidity worldwide. Pain caused by degeneration of the spine generally stems from two processes, acting singly or in concert: 1) stenosis, the compression of the dura and/or root ganglion, and 2) the generalized irritation of local pain receptors in the spinal segment. The long standing gold-standard for clinically significant degenerative lumbar stenosis is surgical decompressive laminectomy, which usually leads to a destabilization of the posterior aspect of the spinal segment. Fusion may or may not be performed during the decompression surgery. Fusion,

though, if performed with decompression has well-known side effects, such as adjacent-level disease and complications arising from the bone harvest site.

Stabilimax NZ® is intended to preserve motion and provide flexible stabilization of the spine at one or two contiguous levels from L₁-S₁ in skeletally mature subjects with moderate to severe functional impairment receiving decompression surgery for the central, lateral, or foraminal spinal stenosis. The device is indicated for subjects with intermittent claudication, manifested in leg, buttocks, or groin pain that is relieved by flexion.

Principal Investigator: Jeffrey McConnell, MD

Lead Study Coordinator: Emese Futchko, RN, BSN, CRC

If you would like to learn more about the study or if you have a potential patient, please page the Trauma/Surgery Research Coordinator on call at 610-402-8999 or through WebXchange via the hospital's intranet.



LVHN DIGITAL LIBRARY

Even with an extensive print collection, over 3400 e-journals and 370 electronic books available through the Digital Library, you may find yourself unable to find a book or article that you need.

When books or articles are needed to supplement our library resources, the library places requests for loans with other medical libraries. As a member of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine under the umbrella of the National Library of Medicine, Library Services can tap into an online network of over 5,000 health sciences libraries. Library Services also participates in another resource sharing system which includes many libraries in Canada. Certain copyright restrictions do apply.

Journal articles can usually be obtained quickly. If there is a need for an article for urgent patient care, every effort is made to obtain the article the same day. Book loans normally require two to three weeks to be received.

Your feedback on interlibrary loans is always welcome and strongly encouraged. At times, a member of the Library Services staff may contact you to determine the purpose for your request. This feedback helps the library demonstrate support of its mission – to contribute to positive patient, education, research, and administrative outcomes in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

To request a book or article that you cannot find in Library Services resources, use the request form on the Digital Library homepage or contact Chad Carver in Library Services by email or phone (610-402-8407).

ADVANCED PRACTICE CLINICIANS UPDATE

The Advanced Practice Clinicians (APC) quarterly meeting, held on January 22, was well attended and informative. Following are highlights from the meeting.

APC Subcommittee Reports

Community Outreach

The Community Outreach Committee members held a food drive in early February. APCs placed collection boxes throughout the network and encouraged staff to participate. Almost 800 pounds of non-perishable food and personal care items were collected and donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Education

Members of the Education Committee developed a welcome letter with information for new APCs. The letter will be included in the Medical Staff Services orientation packets. Members continue to plan an Infectious Disease Conference for September 18, 2009.

Professional Advancement

The Professional Advancement Committee is seeking additional members to assist with committee activities. Please contact **Debra Kramer, CRNP** (chair) or **Mary Kaland, PhD** (vice chair) if interested and to obtain meeting dates. Currently, they are developing a network-wide listing of committees and activities in an effort to avoid duplication.

Medical Staff Services Update

Ruth Davis, Director of Medical Staff Services, provided an update of Medical Staff Services activities related to Advanced Practice Clinicians. Mrs. Davis indicated that Medical Staff Services appreciated the efforts of the APCs in submitting their recredentialing packets in a timely fashion. She explained that in conjunction with Magnet recommendations, three evaluations are required for CRNPs – one from a peer, a collaborating physician and a nursing administrator. Additionally, Mrs. Davis clarified that APCs do not need to resubmit life support certificates or cards (e.g., BLS, ACLS, etc.) if they are listed as current on their recredentialing application.

In preparation for The Joint Commission (TJC) survey visit, pocket guides were distributed to all APCs in attendance. The handbook is full of important and useful information which should be reviewed, including the 2009 National Patient Safety Goals. Additional copies of the handbook are available in Medical Staff Services. In addition, Mrs. Davis also mentioned that the Pennsylvania Department of Health is also scheduled to visit this year.

Guest Speakers

- **Donna Petrucelli, CRNP**, Lehigh Valley Heart Specialists, provided an update on the Center for Advanced Heart Failure
- **Linda Schwartz, MDE**, Library Information Specialist, reviewed PEPID – Quick Answers at the Point of Care
- **Kelly Roberts, BA**, Division of Education, discussed the process and requirements for offering CMEs at seminars

Next Quarterly Meeting

The next quarterly meeting of the Advanced Practice Clinicians will be held on **Thursday, April 23**, beginning at **5:30 p.m.**, in **Kasych ECC 7 and 8**.

If you are interested in speaking or presenting information about your role within LVHN, please leave a message on the APC Hotline at **610-402-APC1**.

The APC Executive Council welcomes and encourages all APCs to become involved through quarterly meeting attendance and participation on a subcommittee.

In April, the terms of three at-large members of the Executive Council will expire. Elections for three new at-large members will be held at the next meeting on April 23. Please stay tuned for email updates and more information regarding the nomination and election process.

CONGRATULATIONS



Robert E. Wilson, DO, Division of Pain Medicine, has successfully completed the American Board of Anesthesiology program for recertification in the Subspecialty of Pain Medicine. Dr. Wilson has been a member of the Medical Staff since September, 1997. He is in practice with Pain Specialists of Greater Lehigh Valley, PC.

PAPERS, PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS



Indru T. Khubchandani, MD, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, was one of the editors of the book – “Surgical Treatment of Hemorrhoids” – Second Edition, which was released in December, 2008.



Emily A. Peterson, MD, Plastic Surgery Chief Resident; **Robert X. Murphy, Jr., MD**, Medical Director, LVH-Muhlenberg and Plastic Surgery Residency Program Director; **Victor R. Risch, MD, PhD**, Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology; and **Geoffrey G. Hallock, MD**, Associate Chief, Division of Plastic Surgery, co-authored an article – “Regional Lymphatic Dissemination of Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Face” – which was published in the January 2009 issue of *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*.



Michael D. Pasquale, MD, Department of Surgery Senior Vice Chair and Chief, Division of Trauma-Surgical Critical Care; **Rovinder S. Sandhu, MD**, Division of Trauma-Surgical Critical Care/General Surgery; and **Dale A. Dangleben, MD**, General Surgery Residency Assistant Program Director, authored two chapters – “Central Vein Catheterization” and “Pulmonary Artery Catheterization” – which were published in the surgery textbook *Surgical Pitfalls: Prevention and Management*, which was published in December, 2008.



Orion A. Rust, MD, Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine/Obstetrics made several presentations at the 29th Annual Meeting of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine held January 26-31, in San Diego, Calif. Titles of the presentations included:

- Oral presentation – “Is Mid-Trimester Short Cervix a Sign of Intra-Amniotic Inflammation?”
- Poster presentation – “Comprehensive Amniotic Fluid Cytokine Profile Evaluation in Women with a Short Cervix: Which Cytokine(s) Correlate(s) Best With Outcome?”
- Poster presentation – “Effectiveness of Cerclage by Severity of Cervical Length Shortening”
- Poster presentation – “Collagen Integrity of the Uterine Cervix Reflects Amniotic Fluid Cytokine Profile”
- Poster presentation – “A Novel Method of Assessing Cervical Collagen Integrity Utilizing Image Segmentation Analysis”



John C. Smulian, MD, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Vice Chair and Chief, Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine, made a poster presentation at the 29th Annual Meeting of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine held January 26-31, in San Diego, Calif. The title of the poster presentation was “Role of Angiogenesis-related Genes in Fetal Growth Restriction.”



Thomas V. Whalen, MD, Chair, Department of Surgery, was invited to attend the 17th annual “Medicine Meets Virtual Reality” conference held on January 20, in Long Beach, Calif., where he presented “Simulation and Surgical Residency: An RRC Perspective.”



**Lehigh Valley Health Network
17th Annual Golf and Tennis Classic
Monday, May 18, 2009
Saucon Valley Country Club**

Sponsorships/Reservations

Tennis

Tennis package includes tennis fees, tournament gift, light refreshments and cocktail reception. In the case of inclement weather, tennis will be relocated to Lehigh Valley Racquet & 24-7 Fitness Club (West End).

Golf

Golf package includes all greens fees, cart, tournament gift, luncheon, on-course refreshments and cocktail reception. In the case of inclement weather, Saucon Valley Country Club has the discretion to cancel play.
Raindate: TBD

Premier Sponsor	\$ 15,000
Platinum Sponsor	\$ 7,500
Gold Sponsor	\$ 5,000
Closest-to-the-Pin Sponsor	\$ 3,000
Longest Drive Sponsor	\$ 3,000
On Course Refreshment Sponsor	\$ 3,000
Registration Table Sponsor	\$ 3,000
Tennis Court Sponsor	\$ 1,500
Tee/Green Sponsor with Golfer	\$ 1,000
Tee/Green Sponsor	\$ 500
Individual Golfer	\$ 500
Individual Tennis Player	\$ 250

**For sponsorship, reservation or event information, contact:
Amy Burrows at 610-402-9123 or Sandi Marsh at 610-402-9119**

A PASSION FOR BETTER MEDICINE.™



Save the Dates!

**48th Annual
Summer Festival
August 12-15, 2009
Campus of LVH-Muhlenberg**

**14th Annual
Nite Lites Gala
Saturday, October 3, 2009
Campus of LVH-Muhlenberg**

UPCOMING SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

The Power of Health is in Your Hands

The nation's leading health issues are impacting Pennsylvania businesses and *your* bottom line. Valley Preferred and HealthAmerica are proud to present four expert speakers who have the insight to help your practice's wellness program to succeed.

The program will be held on **Tuesday, March 31**, from **8 a.m. to noon**, at the Historic Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main Street, Bethlehem, Pa. A breakfast buffet will begin at 7:30 a.m. (Additional parking is available at the Walnut Street and Broad Street garages.)

Topics/speakers for the program will include:

- “Improve the Bottom Line by Improving Employee Health” – Steven G. Aldana, PhD, former professor of lifestyle medicine at Brigham Young University and current CEO and founder of WellSteps
- “From the Medical Directors’ Desk” – Jack Lenhart, MD, Medical Director of Valley Preferred, and John Wallendjack, MD, Vice President, Medical Affairs for HealthAmerica
- “Pushing Forward When Things Change” – Randy Snow, a four-time paralympian who will show you how to embrace change and inspire others to achieve extraordinary results

Although there is no charge for the event, reservations are requested by March 24. To register, call 1-800-955-6620, Option 0 or email Register@ValleyPreferred.com. All participants will receive a free worksite wellness toolkit!

Clinical Ethics Symposium

As part of Ethics Week, a Clinical Ethics symposium will be held on Tuesday, **April 14**, from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. An agenda of the events for the day is as follows:

7-7:30 a.m. — Registration and Continental Breakfast – Presidents’ Room

7:30-8:30 a.m. — Surgical/Pediatric Grand Rounds – Auditorium — “Quality Improvement: Everyday Ethical Issues in Healthcare”

8:40-9:40 a.m. — “The Ethics of Ethics Consultation: Issues of Method and Process”

9:50-10:45 a.m. — “Death and Organ Transplantation”

10:55-11:50 a.m. — “Issues in Capacity and Competency”
Noon-1 p.m. — Medical Grand Rounds — Auditorium — “Emergency Research: Informed Consent Waivers, Community Consultation and Other Challenges”

Guest faculty will include George Agich, PhD, Professor of Philosophy, Bowling Green State University, and John Lizza, PhD, Professor of Philosophy, Kutztown University.

Although there is no charge to attend, pre-registration is strongly encouraged as space is limited for some of the sessions. Reservations may be made by emailing Diane Biernacki at diane.biernacki@lvh.com or via phone at 610-402-6000.

Medical Grand Rounds

Medical Grand Rounds are held on Tuesdays, beginning at noon, in the Auditorium at Cedar Crest & I-78, and teleconferenced to the ECC Room B at LVH-Muhlenberg. Topics to be discussed in March will include:

- March 3 – “GME Annual Report” – Thomas V. Whalen, MD, and James Orlando, MD
- March 10 – “Non-pharmacologic Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation: Can we cure?” – Sultan M. Siddique, MD
- March 17 – “Lupus” – Robert Lahita, MD, PhD, Vice President, Chair of Medicine, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center
- March 24 – “From Stingers to Seizures – Management of Common Neurologic Conditions in Sports” – Jay D. Varrato, DO
- March 31 - TBA

For more information, please contact Becky Sherman in the Department of Medicine at 610-402-8045.

Neurology Conferences

The Division of Neurology conferences are held on Thursdays beginning at noon at the noted location. Topics to be discussed in March will include:

- March 5 – “Behavioral Aspect of MS: Tales of Troubled Minds” – Alexander D. Rae-Grant, MD, Neurologist, Cleveland Clinic – Cedar Crest Auditorium
- March 12 – “Multiple Sclerosis Update” – David E. Jones, MD – Kasych ECC 7
- March 19 – “Neuroendocrinology in Multiple Sclerosis” – Peter Riskind, MD, Director, MS Center, University of Massachusetts Memorial Health Care – Kasych ECC 6
- March 26 – Division of Neurology meeting

For more information, please contact Sharon Bartz, Conference Coordinator, at 610-402-9001.

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Pediatric Grand Rounds

The Department of Pediatrics holds Grand Rounds every Tuesday, beginning at 8 a.m., in ECC Room 1 on the first floor of the Anderson Wing at Cedar Crest & I-78. Topics to be discussed in March will include:

- March 3 – “Updates in Surgical Oncology” – William D. Hardin, Jr., MD
- March 10 – “Congenital Renal Failure: Intervention Is Not An Easy Decision” – Jonathan Heiliczer, MD, St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children
- March 17 – TBA
- March 24 – TBA
- March 31 – “Pre-participation Sports Physicals” – Mitchell Cooper, MD

For more information, please contact Kelli Ripperger in the Department of Pediatrics at 610-969-2540.

Psychiatry Grand Rounds

“Self Injury in Adolescent and Young Adults” will be presented by Colleen Jacobson, MD, at Psychiatry Grand Rounds on Thursday, **March 19**, beginning at **noon** (registration at 11:45 a.m.) in the Banko Family Center on the LVH-Muhlenberg campus.

Dr. Jacobson is currently in the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Columbia University/New York State Psychiatric Institute. She has recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, during which time she devoted approximately three years to the investigation of the epidemiology, phenomenology and treatment of nonsuicidal self-injury in adolescents.

For more information, please contact Tammy Schweizer in the Department of Psychiatry at 610-402-5255.

Schwartz Center Rounds

“Gyn/Onc: The Role of Palliative Care and Patient Wishes” will be presented by Dr. Jennifer Uxer and Team at the next Schwartz Center Rounds on Wednesday, **March 4**, in **Kasych ECC 6** at Cedar Crest & I-78. Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m., followed by rounds at noon.

For more information, please contact Krista Hirschmann, PhD, Medical Educator in the Department of Medicine, at 610-402-1583.

Spine Conference

Conferences relating to interesting spine cases are held on the first Wednesday of every month beginning at 7 a.m. Attendees typically include spine surgeons, neurosurgeons, physiatrists,

pain management specialists, radiologists, among others. All clinicians are invited to bring interesting cases to the meeting.

The next Spine Conference will be held on Wednesday, **March 4**, in **ECC 1** on the first floor of the Anderson Wing at Cedar Crest & I-78. Marie S. O’Brien, DO, Division of Rheumatology, will present a discussion on “Spondyloarthropathies.”

For more information, please contact James C. Weis, MD, Co-Chief, Division of Spine Surgery, or Laura Warner, Clinical Coordinator, at 610-973-6338.

Surgical Grand Rounds

Surgical Grand Rounds are held on Tuesdays, beginning at 7 a.m., in the hospital’s Auditorium at Cedar Crest & I-78, and via teleconference to the First Floor Conference Room at LVH-Muhlenberg. Topics to be discussed in March will include:

- March 3 – “Perioperative Risk Factor for Infection in Elective Colorectal Surgery” – David Berg, MD, Chief Colon and Rectal Surgery Resident
- March 10 – “Lifelong Learning” – Jo Buyske, MD, Associate Executive Director, American Board of Surgery
- March 17 – “Molecular Basis and Genetics of Colorectal Cancer” – Sanjay Thekkeurumbil, MD, Chief Colon and Rectal Surgery Resident
- March 24 – “Volume, Outcomes and Surgical Specialization” – John Daly, MD, Dean, Temple University

DATE CHANGE – Switching with M&M, which will be held on March 31.

- April 3 – “Surgical Infections” – J. Wesley Alexander, MD, Professor of Surgery, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

For more information, please contact Cathy Glenn in the Department of Surgery at 610-402-7839.

Save the Date to Celebrate!

2009 Resident Graduation

Friday, June 12, 2009

6 p.m.

Kasych Pavilion

- Formal Invitation to follow

WHO'S NEW

This section contains an update of new appointments, address changes, status changes, resignations, etc. Please remember to update your directory and rolodexes with this information.

Medical Staff

New Appointments



Kristin A. Bresnan, MD
Community Physician Practice Growth Initiative
1650 Valley Center Parkway
Suite 100
Bethlehem, PA 18017-2344
Phone: 484-884-4440
Fax: 484-884-4465
Department of Family Medicine
Provisional Active



Kim B. Edford, DO
LVH Department of Medicine
Lehigh Valley Hospital
Cedar Crest & I-78
P.O. Box 689
Allentown, PA 18105-1556
Phone: 610-402-5200
Fax: 610-402-1675
Department of Medicine
Division of General Internal Medicine
Provisional Limited Duty

Status Change

Gene H. Ginsberg, MD
Department of Medicine
Division of General Internal Medicine/Geriatrics
From: Active
To: Affiliate

Six-Month Leave of Absence

Peter A. Keblish, Jr., MD
Department of Surgery
Division of Orthopedic Surgery
Section of Ortho Trauma
1/1/2009 to 6/30/2009

Resignations

Cindy M. Barter, MD
Department of Family Medicine

Anjam N. Bhatti, MD
Department of Medicine
Division of General Internal Medicine

Change of Address

Pulmonary Associates

John P. Galgon MD
Susan G. Gerhardt MD
Jonathan Hertz MD
Nirupama Kakumanu MD
Jay H. Kaufman MD
Robert J. Kruklitis MD, PhD
Jeffrey A. Marsh MD
Peter S. Marshall MD, MPH
Matthew M. McCambridge MD
Joseph R. Paprota MD
C. Gerard Petersen MD
Daniel E. Ray MD
Vanessa A. Ribaldo Kaufman MD
Jennifer C. Rovella DO
Joseph B. Schellenberg MD
Francis Schwiep MD
Richard J. Strobel MD
Joseph E. Vincent MD
Center for Advanced Health Care
1250 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Suite 205
Allentown, PA 18103-6271
Phone: 610-439-8856 Fax: 610-439-1314

New Fax Number

Richard J. Strisofsky, DMD
Fax: 610-351-9862

Fax Correction

Samina Wahhab, MD
Fax: 610-770-1412



Continued on next page

Allied Health Staff

New Appointments



Marie A. DeFrancesco-Loukas, CRNA
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services, PC
1210 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Suite 1100
Allentown, PA 18103-6241
Phone: 610-402-1374
Fax: 610-402-4230
Supervising Physician: Thomas M. McLoughlin, Jr., MD



Sarah L. Ferreira, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
Gastroenterology Associates, Ltd.
3131 College Heights Blvd.
Suite 1200
Allentown, PA 18104-4858
Phone: 610-439-8551
Fax: 610-439-1435
Supervising Physician: J. Harry Pickle IV, MD



Wendy H. Mortimer, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
HealthWorks
1243 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Allentown, PA 18103-7982
Phone: 610-402-9230
Fax: 610-402-9293
Supervising Physician: Kevin A. Vrablik, MD



Adrian P. Pena, CST
Certified Surgical Technician
OAA Orthopaedic Specialists
250 Cetronia Road
Second Floor
Allentown, PA 18104-9168
Phone: 610-973-6200
Fax: 610-973-6546
Supervising Physician: Paul F. Pollice, MD



Terry S. Savan, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
HealthWorks
1770 Bathgate Drive
Suite 200
Bethlehem, PA 18017-7334
Phone: 484-884-2249
Fax: 484-884-8034
Supervising Physician: Basil Dolphin, MD

Change of Supervising Physician

Renee M. Lehmann, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
(The Heart Care Group, PC)
From: Raymond A. Durkin, MD
To: William G. Combs, MD

Cheryl L. Lichner, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
(St. Luke's Center for Advanced Gynecologic Care)
From: Larry R. Glazerman, MD
To: Michael S. Patriarco, DO

Luis A. Martinez, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
From: Mishkin, Shore & Associates – Nancy A. Urankar, MD
To: Lehigh Valley Heart Specialists – David B. Goldner, MD

Matthew J. Ottinger, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
From: OAA Orthopaedic Specialists – Kevin K. Anbari, MD
To: VSAS Orthopaedics – Prodromos A. Ververeli, MD

Suzanne M. Skweir, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
(The Heart Care Group, PC)
From: Raymond A. Durkin, MD
To: Shehzad M. Malik, MD
(Muhlenberg Primary Care, PC – Michael J. Ehrig, MD)

Resignations

Ruth G. Barker
Administrative Support
(The Heart Care Group, PC)

Mary G. Kulik, MA
Medical Assistant
(The Heart Care Group, PC)

Lee E. Speed, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
(Lehigh Valley Heart & Lung Surgeons)

Liza M. Towne, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
(Neurosurgical Associates of LVPG)



Medical Staff Services Office

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President-elect, Medical Staff

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Past President, Medical Staff

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Managing Editor

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Thomas A. Hutchinson, MD

Bryan G. Kane, MD

Michael W. Kaufmann, MD

Robert Kricun, MD

Linda L. Lapos, MD

Richard S. MacKenzie, MD

Edgardo G. Maldonado, MD

Matthew M. McCambridge, MD

Thomas M. McLoughlin, Jr., MD

William L. Miller, MD

Suresh G. Nair, MD

Edward R. Norris, MD

Michael J. Pistoria, DO

Victor R. Risch, MD, PhD

Debbie Salas-Lopez, MD, MPH

Elliot J. Sussman, MD

Ronald W. Swinfard, MD

John D. Van Brakle, MD

L. Kyle Walker, MD

John F. Welkie, MD

James T. Wertz, DO

Thomas V. Whalen, MD

S. Clarke Woodruff, DMD

*Visit us on the new LVHN internet site at
www.lvh.org*

*Select "Information for: Physicians" in the lower black
section, then select "Medical Staff Services" and
"Services for Members of the Medical Staff"*

***Progress Notes** is published monthly to inform the Medical Staff, Advanced Practice Clinicians, and employees of Lehigh Valley Health Network of important issues concerning the Medical Staff and Advanced Practice Clinicians.*

Articles should be submitted by e-mail to janet.seifert@lvh.com or sent to Janet M. Seifert, Medical Staff Services, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Cedar Crest & I-78, P.O. Box 689, Allentown, PA 18105-1556 by the 15th of each month.

If you have any questions about the newsletter, please contact Mrs. Seifert by e-mail or phone at (610) 402-8590.