Discharge Folders Help Keep Patients on Track

In an ongoing process to provide the best possible patient experience, LVH–Schuylkill has introduced a new discharge folder that will help patients keep track of important information. The folder comes with five separate compartments:

- Discharge information
- New prescriptions and medications
- Educational material
- Billing and insurance
- Follow up

The folder contains an LVH–Schuylkill ID card, information on the patient portal as well as a quick response (QR) code a patient can scan to access the portal using a smart phone or tablet. It also has a checklist of important items that may help a patient better prepare for discharge and a section where a patient can track notes or questions for his or her provider.

“This was a good opportunity for us to coordinate our discharge packets and for our patients to be able to keep important information in one central place,” says Stacey Kelly, BSN, CCRN, Director of Medical/Surgical Services. “It will also be very helpful for patients as they receive follow-up care.”

Debra Zangari, RN, Informatics Specialist, Nursing Informatics says patients are responding very favorably. She is helping enroll patients into the portal prior to discharge and has been introducing the discharge folder to many of them. Patients appreciate assistance with the registration process, and with the introduction of our new folders, they seem even more excited about its use.

“They are noticeably pleased when I show them this option at the end of my teaching presentation,” Zangari says. “This is just one more example of how LVHN is positively impacting our community.”
NURSING STUDENT AWARDED BPW SCHOLARSHIP

Victoria Yaracz, a junior at the Joseph F. McCloskey School of Nursing, is pursuing a career as a registered nurse because she wants to make people feel better. She made those comments this week as she thanked members of the Pottsville Business and Professional Women’s Club (BPW) for presenting her with a $500 scholarship to the School of Nursing.

“I fell in love with nursing and hope to pursue a career path in emergency medicine or as a flight nurse,” Yaracz says. “For now, my goal is to do my best and graduate from our program.” Joining in the presentation were Lynne Hausman, MSN, Director of the School of Nursing, and Melanie Bendinsky, MSN, Medical/Surgical Coordinator for the School of Nursing.

BPW member Louise D.N. Wachter, PhD, says her organization has provided the scholarship for many years to a student at the School of Nursing. “We are very glad to offer this scholarship each year to a nursing student,” she says. “We are also very proud of the reputation the School of Nursing has in our community and beyond.”

In addition to being a full-time student, Yaracz works part-time in the emergency departments at LVH–Schuylkill and is a certified EMT working for both Hegins and Schuylkill EMS. Yaracz, her husband, Andy, and their son, Gabriel, reside in Minersville.

The Wall is Wired

New advanced audio-visual (AV) technology has arrived at the Wall Auditorium enabling that facility enhanced connectivity with the health network and anywhere else. Crews spent that past two weeks adding dual screens, cameras, high-resolution video projectors, surround sound, wireless microphones and other enhancements.

The high-tech auditorium made its debut this week first for a network medical staff meeting, LVPG group meeting and the monthly Leader to Leader broadcast throughout the health network.

“The quality of our images and audio is fantastic,” says LVH–Schuylkill AV Technician Palma Ruginis. “We have had the need to upgrade this room for some time. With more programs for colleagues and community members, the timing could not have been better.”

LVH–Schuylkill hosts many programs and events in the Wall Auditorium. The new technology greatly expands the capabilities of the room and the possibilities for new and different programs.
**EDUCATING OUR COMMUNITY**

The LVHN patient education department has added access to KidsHealth at LVH–Schuylkill. KidsHealth provides patient education materials for parents, teens and children. This resource covers both basic and complex health, behavioral and developmental topics with engaging and family-friendly online, print, and video content in English and Spanish. KidsHealth is free of medical jargon, so the information is in language that users can easily understand. Handouts are branded with the Lehigh Valley Children’s Hospital logo. Use the “LVHN Library Services/Patient Education” link to connect to the Library Services and Patient Education home page for our campus. KidsHealth is located under the “Patient Education” tab. For assistance with available e-resources, call 570-621-5033.

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**GET PUMPED UP ABOUT OUR ER**

The visibility of our emergency room marketing campaign is increasing with the addition of ads on gas pump toppers throughout the county. This message from a Schuylkill Haven service station shows one of the series of ads.

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**Picnic in the Park**

Despite high temperatures and humidity, hundreds turned out for this week’s Schuylkill Haven Borough Senior Appreciation Day and Picnic at Island Park. Colleagues from LVH–Schuylkill offered healthy eating nutrition tips for summer and provided information about our rehabilitation services. Students from the Joseph F. McCloskey School of Nursing conducted blood pressure screenings.

For many years, Schuylkill Haven has hosted a picnic that offers food, entertainment and the opportunity for organizations to provide health and general consumer information. “It was a very appropriate day to talk with people about the importance of proper hydration,” says Abby Owinski, RDN, LDN, Clinical Nutrition Manager. In addition to hydration, Owinski and members of her team discussed general healthy eating during the summer months, and provided copies of the “Healthy Bites” newsletter which this month features hydration tips.

Owinski and her team work regularly with Schuylkill County’s Vision Healthy Communities Program, which has been a part of LVH–Schuylkill’s Community Health Needs Assessment and Implementation.

“We had good representation from our post acute care team,” says Kristina Guers, MBA, OTR/L, Vice President of Post Acute Services. “Attendees were very engaged and curious about our services and integration with LVHN.”

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**New Dialing Instructions for Patient Scheduling (Call Center)**

Colleagues and physicians who call Patient Scheduling (Call Center) are reminded that they must now dial the full 10-digit extension 570-621-5999. Previously, callers within either hospital were able to reach the Call Center with four digit dialing. With the addition of communications hardware and software, all calls must go through 10-digit dialing.
Health Center at Palmer Township Opens

In a very special celebration, LVHN brought important health services to the people of Northampton County with the opening of the Health Center at Palmer Township. "This is an area steeped in family tradition," says Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, President and Chief Executive Officer of LVHN. "With this health center opening, we’re making important health care services more convenient for those families."

Health services available at the Health Center at Palmer Township include:

- **Children's ExpressCARE:** It's the only walk-in care service for kids in the entire region. When a child has a minor illness or injury, no appointment is needed.
- **Adult ExpressCARE:** The same walk-in service is available for grownups too.
- **LVPG Pediatrics–Palmer Township:** It's part of this health center's focus on children. There are four pediatric sub-specialties that will have a presence at the health center as well.
- **About a dozen adult specialty services** including cardiology, orthopedics and sports medicine and urology.
- **Rehabilitation, imaging and specialty diagnostic services,** both adult and pediatric.
- **Laboratory testing** – Blood testing from Health Network Laboratories.

Cindy Cappel Named Acting Vice President of DOE

Cynthia “Cindy” Cappel, DNP, has been named Acting Vice President of LVHN’s Division of Education effective July 1. She assumes her new role with the departure of current Vice President of Education Alexander “A.J.” Lemheney, who is leaving the health network in mid-July to become Chief Learning Officer at Knowledge to Practice, a technology startup in postgraduate medical education.

Cappel returned to LVHN in 2007 when she accepted the position of Director of Clinical Staff Development. In addition to her duties regarding clinical staff development, she’s also had responsibility for continuing education and the Epic electronic medical records training programs. She’s also been program manager for the Vizient Nurse Residency Program.™ Upon becoming Administrator for the division, she added the Simulation and Learning Center, Interprofessional Education team, and the education departments of LVH–Hazleton, LVH–Schuylkill, and LVH–Pocono to her areas of responsibility.

Cappel started her career at LVHN as a registered nurse before moving into nursing management positions. She was Nursing Director at Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Pottsville (now LVH–Schuylkill E. Norwegian Street) for almost 13 years before returning to LVHN.