

LVH-Hazleton Earns Stroke Achievement Award

Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)-Hazleton received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award with Target: StrokeSM Honor Roll Elite. The award recognizes our commitment to providing the most appropriate stroke treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines based on the latest scientific evidence. This marks the ninth consecutive year that LVH-Hazleton has been recognized with this quality achievement award.

To qualify for the Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite, hospitals must meet quality measures developed to reduce the time between the patient's arrival at the hospital and treatment with the clot-busting drug tPA, the only drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat ischemic stroke. If given intravenously in the first three hours after the start of stroke symptoms, tPA has been shown to significantly reduce the effects of stroke and lessen the chance of permanent disability. LVH-Hazleton earned the award by meeting specific quality achievement measures for the diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients at a set level for a designated period.

These quality measures are designed to help hospital teams follow the most up-to-date, evidence-based guidelines with the goal of speeding recovery and reducing death and disability for patients who suffered a stroke. A patient who suffers a stroke loses 1.9 million neurons each minute treatment is delayed.



This recognition further demonstrates our commitment to delivering advanced stroke treatments to patients quickly and safely. Through the stroke telemedicine and stroke alert programs at LVH-Hazleton, patients are assessed, diagnosed and treated in the quickest time possible.

These awards recognize all of our caregivers and support staff who work so diligently to provide our patients with high quality, best practice care. Congratulations on these achievements.

New Children's Health Resource Available

KidsHealth, the No. 1 most trusted source for physician-reviewed information and advice on children's health and parenting issues, is now available to LVH-Hazleton health care providers. This patient education resource is supplemental to Care Notes. To access KidsHealth, visit the LVH-Hazleton intranet home page and click the Patient Education link. You will find KidsHealth under Resources. You may also visit instructions.kidshealth.org. For more information, contact Sharon Hrabina, library services, at **570-501-4847**.

Leadership Rounds Continue

LOCATION	DATE AND TIME	LEADER
7th floor	July 6 at 6 a.m.	Melissa Curto
6th floor	July 6 at 4 p.m.	John Fletcher
4th floor	July 6 at 4 p.m.	Anthony Valente, MD
2nd floor	July 3 at 3 p.m.	Michael Golden, RN
ED	July 6 at 6:30 a.m.	Murray Swim



Creating a Better Patient and Colleague Experience

Colleagues on our hospital campuses often see opportunities to improve the patient and colleague experience before anyone else. When you share your unique perspective, everyone benefits. That's why leaders throughout the health network are more visible than ever – asking questions, sharing news and getting your thoughts about what's working and what areas need improvement.

COMMUNICATE. LISTEN. RESPOND.

Over the past several months, presidents of our hospital campuses and LVPG communicated important news and listened to what's on your mind during Town Hall meetings. More recently, Kim Jordan, DNP, our Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer, also held Town Halls at LVH–Cedar Crest to reach nursing colleagues. Town Halls are a great way for leaders to share news with you. They're also a way for you to share your challenges.

PRIDE Rounding is another way we're keeping our ear to the ground by talking to colleagues and patients to learn where we are excelling and where we can do better. While rounding at LVH–Cedar Crest, we heard how proud you are of our teamwork, patient care and your fellow colleagues. Patients said they most appreciate the great care they received from LVHN, our nurses and staff.

PUTTING FEEDBACK TO WORK

Leaders are busy using your feedback to resolve issues and respond to your concerns. Here are some of the things we heard during Town Halls and PRIDE Rounding, and what we're doing to make things better:

What's on your mind: Information technology (IT) issues hindering performance at LVH–Hazleton

Response: A series of walk-throughs and meetings were held at LVH–Hazleton to document the IT issues colleagues and providers were having. A plan to resolve the issues, along with a timeline, has

been developed and is currently being implemented.

What's on your mind: Staffing and reductions at LVH–Pocono

Response: There are no planned reductions for LVH–Pocono. Open positions will be evaluated based on the needs of our patients and our community.

What's on your mind: Campus integration at LVH–Schuylkill

Response: Phase II of the integration plan will include maternity and pediatrics moving to LVH–Schuylkill E. Norwegian Street. We also plan to close the ED at LVH–Schuylkill S. Jackson Street. Architectural plans for the new maternity unit are in development, as is a plan to address pediatric beds. We are pursuing a single hospital license with the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

We're working to create a great colleague and patient experience at LVHN. When we keep the lines of communication open and work together to solve problems, we can only get better.



Terry Ann Capuano

About me: My name is Terry Capuano, RN and I am the executive vice president and chief operating officer at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN). I have worked at LVHN for 30 years serving as COO for the last five years. I greatly enjoy meeting colleagues, sharing stories and enhancing relationships throughout the network.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Parkinson's Support Group

Wednesday, July 5 • 1 p.m.
Health & Wellness Fitness Center
Call **570-501-6717** to register or for more information.

What Every Person Should Know About Stroke

Wednesday, July 5 • 2 p.m.
Gunderson Center for Inpatient Rehabilitation
Learn about the signs, symptoms, treatment and rehabilitation available. Call **570-501-4600** to register or for more information.

Bariatric/Weight-loss Management Information Session

Monday, July 17 • 6–8 p.m.
Best Western Plus Genetti Hotel, Wilkes Room
77 E. Market St., Wilkes-Barre
Call **570-501-4LVH** to register or for more information.

Miller-Keystone Blood Drive

Wednesday, July 19 • noon–5 p.m.
LVH–Hazleton, first floor lobby conference room
Register online at giveapint.org or call **570-501-4249**.

Hands-only CPR Class

Learn lifesaving skills without mouth-to-mouth breaths.
Ages 13 and up
Wednesday, July 19 • 5:30 p.m.
Health & Wellness Fitness Center
Call **570-501-6600** to register or for more information.

Treatment Options for Parkinson's Disease



Neurologist J. Gabriel Hou, MD, PhD, LVPG Neurology–Cedar Crest, will present “Current Treatment Options for Parkinson's Disease” at an information session on July 20. The free event, which is open to the public, will be held from 6-7 p.m. at the Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton.

Parkinson's disease affects nerve cells in the brain that produce dopamine. Parkinson's disease symptoms include muscle rigidity, tremors, and changes in speech and gait. After diagnosis, treatments can help relieve symptoms, but there is no cure.

Parkinson's disease is a progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects movement. It develops gradually, sometimes starting with a barely noticeable tremor in just one hand. But while a tremor may be the most well-known sign of Parkinson's disease, the disorder also commonly causes stiffness or slowing of movement. In the early stages of Parkinson's disease, your face may show little or no expression, or your arms may not swing when you walk. Your speech may become soft or slurred. Parkinson's disease symptoms worsen as your condition progresses over time.

Although Parkinson's disease can't be cured, there are treatments that can improve the symptoms. Learn what these treatments are at the event. Call Shai Post at **570-501-6717** to reserve your seat.

LVH–Hazleton is committed to treating symptoms of Parkinson's disease in patients through specially designed physical and occupational therapy. This service is provided on an outpatient basis at the Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton. A Parkinson's disease support group is also available. For more information on these services, call **570-501-6717**.

Your PRIDE is Showing

Below are comments recently posted on the LVH–Hazleton Facebook page. Thanks for showing your PRIDE when caring for our patients.

“I received very special attention from the doctors, nurses and the whole staff. I have nothing to claim because everyone was very good when I was in emergency. Thank God and all the staff. I feel much better.” (Translated from Spanish.)

“I was a little hesitant on having my son there being that my prenatal care was in Wilkes-Barre. I arrived in labor around 4 a.m., and the girl in registration, Ashley (Bobal), was phenomenal. She came right out to me to get me registered instead of making me wait until after I was seen by triage. I was able to go right up to the maternity floor! The labor and delivery nurses were just as amazing. Janine (O'Hazzo, RN,) went above and beyond to make sure I was as comfortable as possible while we waited for my son's arrival. I can't thank them enough.”

“Thank you to Dr. Vilushis and the 7th floor nursing staff for your excellent care! My daughter is home doing much better!!”



Colleague and Community Engagement

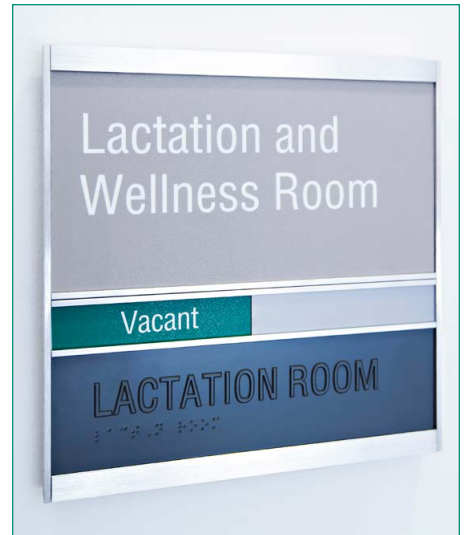
The Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton recently hosted a meeting of “Live Well Luzerne County,” a community health consortium. “Live Well” is part of the Healthy Communities movement and sponsors educational programs, exercise promotional activities and other initiatives to promote good health. LVH–Hazleton occupational health colleague Joe Aquilina, a member of the Live Well Steering Committee, and LVH–Hazleton dietitian Molly Sweeney were present at the meeting.



Martin Walko, MD, LVPG Surgery–Health & Wellness Center (left), educated viewers on hernias, while **Arvind Srinivasan, MD, urology** (right), educated viewers on men’s health during separate episodes of WYLN’s “Community and You” news spots.



Mike Bigatel, exercise physiologist at the Fitness Center at the Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton, promoted the upcoming Athlete’s Edge fitness program on SSPTV.



Private Space for Breastfeeding Moms

LVHN has been on a journey to become a World Health Organization (WHO) Baby Friendly Hospital. We’re doing that by educating moms about the health benefits of breastfeeding, respecting their choice to breast or bottle feed, and providing support throughout the breastfeeding journey. One way we’re providing support to moms is by making lactation/wellness rooms available throughout the health network.

Our lactation/wellness rooms offer a comfortable space for colleagues and community members to breastfeed, pump breastmilk or bottle feed their infants. Individuals who need a private space to manage chronic conditions such as diabetes, can also use them.

LVH–Hazleton’s lactation room is located in the Family Birth and Newborn Center on the hospital’s second floor and is available to colleagues only.



QUICK NOTES

✔ **Colleague Picnic** – The deadline to register for LVH–Hazleton’s colleague picnic at Knoebels Amusement Park is July 3. The registration form can be found on the intranet under Recreational Activities. For more information, contact the administration office at extension 6204.

✔ **Mandatory Education** – June 30 is the last day to complete your Mandatory Education bundle. Go to the LVH–Hazleton intranet and click the Annual Mandatory Education link. For assistance, contact your manager or the education department at extension 4326 or 4906.