

9-14-2018

LVHN Weekly-Pocono

Lehigh Valley Health Network

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LVHN WEEKLY

POCONO

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Event will be at PPL Center Jan. 4 and 5.

Attend the
Colleague
College Fair

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Our Goals,
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LVHN news

Medical Oncologist Joins
LVH-Pocono

Understanding Esophageal
Cancer

Shape Up for Fall

Information on LVHN Weekly is for LVHN colleagues only and cannot be accessed on smartphones or computers outside of LVHN's network.

Get the Colleague Flu Shot Clinic Schedule

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

It's nearly fall, and the cold and flu season is upon us. The best way to avoid contracting the flu and transmitting it to our patients and others is by getting vaccinated in early fall. People who work in health care have a special obligation to be vaccinated because unvaccinated health care workers who spread the flu can cause serious harm to vulnerable patients. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend all persons six months and older receive a yearly influenza vaccine. This year, we hope to achieve a 98-percent vaccination rate across all LVHN facilities.

LVHN makes getting vaccinated easy. This year, colleague flu shot clinics will begin Monday, Oct. 1, and continue throughout the flu season. Click below to get the schedule for your location. Then print the schedule, post it in your department, get vaccinated and remind others to do the same.

- [Lehigh Valley schedule](#)
- [Hazleton schedule](#)
- [Schuylkill schedule](#)
- [Pocono schedule](#)

What you need to know

- Look for an email containing more information about getting vaccinated.
- Prior to attending a flu shot clinic, complete the electronic consent form, which is part of your first-quarter education bundle (except for colleagues at LVH–Pocono).
- You can also access the electronic consent form and additional information about influenza vaccination on the intranet home page by clicking “Influenza Information” under “Colleague Resources.”

Four types of vaccines provided this year

- Fluzone Quadrivalent protects you from four different influenza strains: two type A viruses and two type B viruses (available at the clinics and employee health services).



- FluMist contains a live virus and is delivered via nasal spray. It protects against four strains and is appropriate for people 49 years old or younger (available at the clinics and employee health services).
- Fluzone High-Dose is recommended for people 65 years of age or older (available at the clinics and employee health services).
- FluBlok is an egg-free vaccine for people who have a severe allergy to eggs (available at employee health services).

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LVH–Pocono Volunteers Bring Awareness and Education to Community

BY [HOLLY YACYNYCH](#) · SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

LVH–Pocono colleague volunteers attended the annual Stroud Fest community event in Stroudsburg and the Monroe Farmers Market where they provided information on services offered at the hospital. Lynne Garris, Clinical Nutrition Manager, attended the Monroe Farmers Market and provided a fermentation display on prebiotics and probiotics. She also provided recipes to community members on Sweet Garlic Sauerkraut, Kimchi-Style Sauerkraut and Passion Pink Sauerkraut.

The Monroe Farmers Market seeks to nurture a healthy community by offering local, healthy, fresh foods and specialty products in a vibrant education marketplace. LVH–Pocono is a proud sponsor.



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Get Same-day Appointments and Rapid Referrals at LVPG General, Bariatric and Trauma Surgery Practices

BY [MARCIANN ALBERT](#) · SEPTEMBER 10, 2018



Need a direct office contact to get your patient a same-day appointment at [LVPG General, Bariatric and Trauma Surgery](#) or [LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–Muhlenberg](#)? Michelle Laky and her amazing practice teams have established new “rapid referral” lines with the sole purpose of getting patients in to see a physician the same day.

If you are a referring or potentially referring a patient to these practices, call the respective phone number for a same-day appointment:

- LVPG General, Bariatric and Trauma Surgery: 610-402-3296
Practice location: 1240 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., suite 308
- LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–Muhlenberg: 484-884-1700
Practice location: 2649 Schoenersville Road, suite 202

Note: These “rapid referral” lines are for office staff only. Referral questions can be emailed to michelle.laky@lvhn.org, Practice Director.

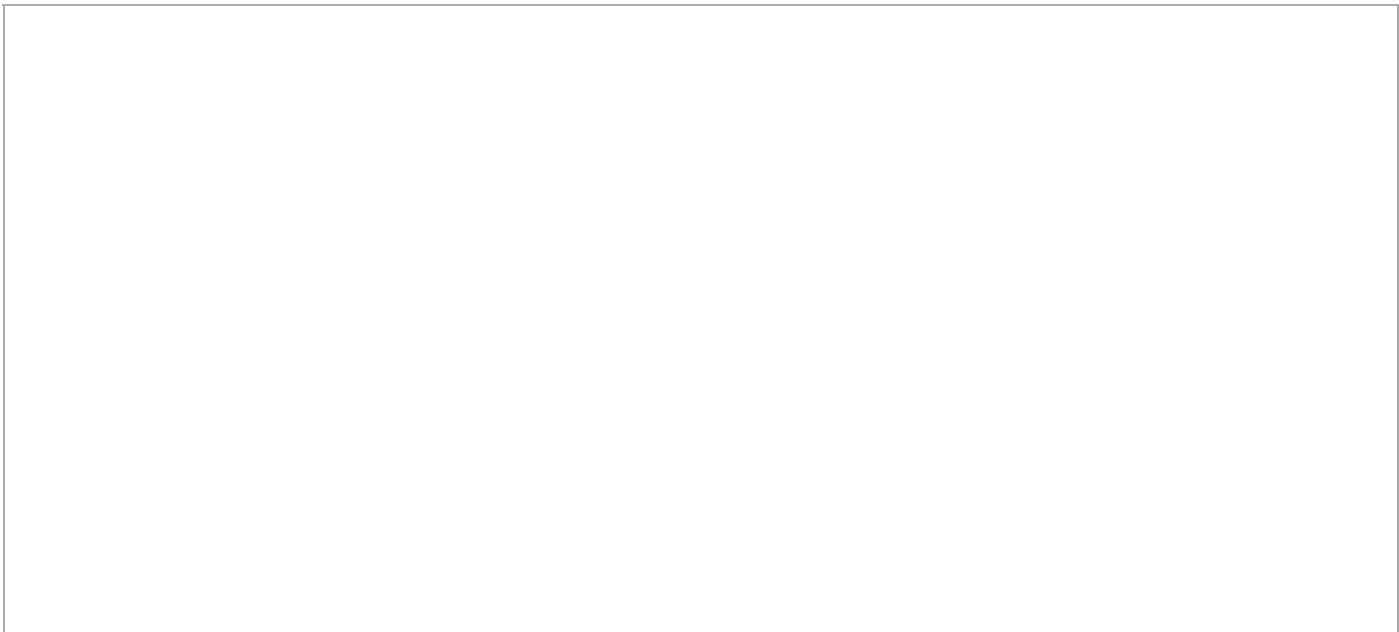
LVPG Practice of the Month: Lehigh Valley Physicians Practice – PHOTOS

BY [MARCIANN ALBERT](#) · SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

At the start of fiscal year 2018 (FY18), Lehigh Valley Physicians Practice (LVPP) had only two green quality indicators: lipid control and avoidance of antibiotic treatment in adults with bronchitis. Practice Director Kimberly Wittner, BSN, knew little changes would make a big difference in turning red quality indicators green. So, she and her staff outlined a proactive quality improvement plan. Wittner collaborated with colleagues to integrate educational interventions and worked to address areas of opportunity such as:

- Weekly resident education to review quality panels and dashboards
- Addressing the “Not Met Report” by having the front desk staff help with patient outreach and schedule follow-up visits
- Teaming up with Breast Health Services at LVH–17th Street to secure open appointments for patients to complete breast cancer screenings and mammograms
- Promoting patient education by giving patients at the time of discharge a pink ribbon asking them to pledge to get a mammogram if it was applicable/due and encourage other women age 40 and older to get one
- Embracing a team-based approach to improving Press Ganey scores, including residents Shraddha Patel and David Ochs

LVPP 1





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Wittner also helped develop a six-question questionnaire to be given to patients at the end of their outpatient visit. Survey results were collected weekly and shared with providers for real-time feedback. This information helped team members identify strategies to improve provider communication, listening and patient engagement. “We all take pride in providing the upmost quality care to our patients,” Wittner says.

By steadily working together on common quality goals and initiatives, LVPP achieved the following:

- 3 percent improvement in provider ratings
- 4 percent increase in provider communication
- Improved Medicare wellness visits from 21 to 58 percent at the end of FY18
- Finished FY18 with six green quality indicators (Medicare wellness visits, pneumococcal, breast cancer screening, diabetic eye exam, antibiotic treatment and lipid control)

“We provide reassurance to our patients letting them know we are here for them despite all the challenges they face such as low literacy, financial hardships, lack of transportation and housing difficulties,” says LVPP colleague Maria Dutan, Trained Medical Interpreter.

“Our patients know they can count on us,” says Dianne Chomko, RN. “We don’t judge them and we treat them like family.”

“We are passionate about the patient population we serve at LVH–17th Street,” says Medical Assistant Magdalena Montag. This sentiment of compassion and community support is reflective in LVPP’s daily

efforts and patient interactions. It is poignantly summed up by Medical Assistant Jennifer Delgado who says, “We do this work because we care.”

Learn more about [Lehigh Valley Physicians Practice](#) on LVHN.org.

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Get Tickets to Fall Family Fun Days at Dorney Park

BY [EMILY SHIFFER](#) · SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

Join us for LVHN Fall Family Fun Days at Dorney Park Oct. 5, 6 and 7. Tickets are only \$28.50 plus taxes and fees. Tickets are valid for 2018 one-day admission on the date selected. Tickets are available online only. To purchase tickets, click [here](#).

You'll enjoy time at the park's fall events, including:

Haunt: 7 p.m.- park close (Oct. 5, 6 and 7)

Great Pumpkin Fest: 12-5 p.m. (Oct. 6 and 7)

Visit dorneypark.com for park hours.



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Get 20% Off LVHN Sport Tek Jackets

BY [EMILY SHIFFER](#) · SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

Now you can shop for LVHN-branded apparel and merchandise at a discounted price in our gift shops and online. Each month, a new item will be featured.

Discounted apparel in September is the Men's and Ladies LVHN Sport Tek Jackets:

- Sport Tek Ladies Tech Fleece Full-Zip Hooded Jacket: Originally \$48.95, now \$38.95
- Sport Tek Sport Wick Fleece Full-Zip Hooded Jacket: Originally \$40.95, now \$32.95



There isn't a promo code; it's already reduced in stores and online when you click the "September Special" image.

To shop, visit the [LVHN Shop](#).

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Attend LVHN's 50+ Wellness Expo

BY [EMILY SHIFFER](#) · SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

Attend the eighth annual 50 + Wellness Expo on Saturday, Sept. 15, from 9 a.m. until noon in LVH-Cedar Crest's Kasych Family Pavilion.

The expo will promote health and preventing falls, as well as providing:

- Free flu shots
- Health screenings
- Health information
- Raffles and giveaways
- Healthy snacks

Funds for the expo are provided by the Drs. Joseph and Rose Mattioli Endowment Fund for Continuing Excellence in Trauma Care.

To register, call 888-402-LVHN.



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Regional Urology Symposium at Skytop Lodge Oct. 19-20

BY [EMILY SHIFFER](#) · SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

The 4th Annual Urology Symposium will be held Oct. 19-20 at Skytop Lodge, 1 Skytop Lodge Road in Skytop, Pa.

New this year is a Nursing Breakout Sessions.

Urology topics for Friday, Oct. 19, include:

- Men's Health/Erectile Dysfunction/Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH), 8:15-10:15 a.m.
- Endourology, 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- Nursing Breakout, 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- Female Urology/Reconstruction, 1-3 p.m.
- Oncology, 3:15-5:15 p.m.
- Networking Reception, 6-7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 20, topics include:

- Oncology, 8-10 a.m.
- Nursing Breakout, 8-10 a.m.
- Endourology, 10:30 a.m.-noon

For the full schedule, click [here](#).

Registration fees for the event are as follows:

Physicians: \$250; on site is \$275

Nurses/Advanced Practice Clinicians: \$100; on site is \$125

Residents/Medical Students: \$50; on site is \$50

Registration ends Oct. 15. To register, complete the online registration and payment [here](#). Anyone with questions should call the Department of Education at 610-402-2277.



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LVHN Exclusive: Indoor Auto Racing Presale Tickets

BY [EMILY SHIFFER](#) · SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

Enjoy a weekend of racing at the PPL Center on Saturday, Jan. 4, 2019, and Sunday, Jan. 5, 2019. The races will feature TQ Midgets, Champ Karts and Slingshots.

The ticket presale begins on Tuesday, Sept. 18, at 10 a.m. and ends at 11:59 p.m.

To purchase tickets, click [here](#) and enter promo code: PTLVHN.



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