

There's a lot going on at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN). In case you didn't catch all the latest news, here's a recap of what happened this week. Here are links to Mission Central posts, Dr. Nester's 2014 Annual Meeting presentation, the latest edition of Healthy You, information about screenings for blood pressure and BMI, and Lehigh Valley Health News, our blog on LVHN.org containing timely information and health network news.

[LVHN Accountable Care Organization Joins Medicare Shared Savings Program](#)

We've been selected as one of 89 new Medicare Shared Savings Program ACOs across the nation.

[More Casual Conversations With Dr. Nester Scheduled](#)

Make plans to talk with our president and CEO about the things on your mind.

[LVH-Muhlenberg Named Ebola Treatment Center](#)

Learn what it took to become one of four treatment centers in Pennsylvania.

[Share the Depth and Breadth of our Health Network – VIDEO](#)

Download the video shown at our Community Annual Meeting and include it in your next presentation.

[3 Ways to Reach our 'Better Health' Goal](#)

Doing your part is important for your health and helps us reach our goal.

[Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Coming to Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest](#)

Coming this summer, this new facility will allow us to continue to address the needs of our community.

[Win Free Lehigh Valley Phantoms Tickets](#)

All colleagues can register to win. Learn how.

[Joseph Patruno, MD, Named President-elect of LVHN's Medical Staff](#)

His thirst for knowledge and desire to share it will serve him well in this role.

[Announcing Final United Way Prize Winners](#)

See the list of winners and learn how much money LVHN raised this year.

[Wave 2 Super User News](#)

Look ahead to Aug. 1 when Wave 2 go-live for our Epic electronic medical record system occurs in inpatient settings.



Read the latest
issue of Healthy You

Better
Health
Better
Cost Better
Care

Watch
Dr. Nester's
Annual Meeting
Presentation

KNOW YOUR
NUMBERS

Get screened today.

READ LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NEWS

a blog on LVHN.org containing
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LVHN Accountable Care Organization Joins Medicare Shared Savings Program

*****This message is from Brian Nester, DO, MBA, president and chief executive officer*****

It is my great pleasure to announce Lehigh Valley Health Network's Accountable Care Organization (LVHNACO) has been selected as one of 89 new Medicare Shared Savings Program Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) across the country. This means we are joining more than 400 other health care organizations serving more than 7 million Medicare beneficiaries as ACOs. These organizations take on medical and financial responsibility for providing comprehensive, well-coordinated care to defined populations of Medicare beneficiaries in order to improve access and quality.

This designation by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is being announced in a [press statement](#) today. LVHNACO's participation as an ACO in the Medicare Shared Savings Program was effective Jan. 1. Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) is privileged to be able to join this effort to enhance our quality of service to seniors and people with disabilities in our community.

LVHN's participation in this program is consistent with our network's commitment to the triple aim – better health, better care and better cost. Our goal with LVHNACO is to help people live healthier lives, provide the best possible health care experience and make the cost of health care sustainable.

We will update colleagues periodically on developments regarding our ACO as they are implemented going forward. In the interim, those seeking more information should contact Jeff Etchason, MD, senior vice president, health systems research and innovation, who will serve as executive director of LVHNACO. Mark Wendling, MD, medical director, Lehigh Valley Physician Group, will serve as medical director of LVHNACO.

This is an exciting moment for LVHN as we strive to improve the care of the Medicare beneficiaries in our community while adapting to the changes being brought about by the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and other efforts to reform the delivery and financing of health care.

This entry was posted by [Admin](#) on January 6, 2015 at 9:51 am, and is filed under [Get News](#), [Learn](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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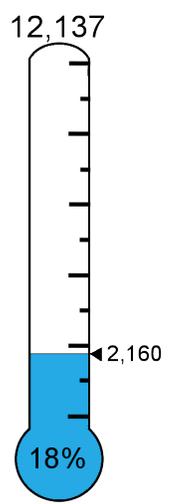
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More Casual Conversations With Dr. Nester Scheduled

President and chief executive officer Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, recently held his first ever Casual Conversations event at Lehigh Valley Hospital-17th Street. There were no scripts and no slides. It was simply an opportunity for you to ask him questions and share the things on your mind.



The event was so well received by colleagues, Dr. Nester is hosting several more Casual Conversations. All colleagues are invited. See the list below and stop by the event that is most convenient for you. And don't worry if you can't make the beginning or need to leave early. You can come and go as you please during the one-hour gathering. So stop by, have a complimentary coffee, tea or water, and talk with Dr. Nester.

- Jan. 14 – 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m., Lehigh Valley Hospital-Muhlenberg ECC rooms C and D
- Jan. 20 – 10:30-11:30 a.m., LVHN-One City Center 7th floor commons
- Feb. 2 – 1-2 p.m., Lehigh Valley Hospital-Hazleton lobby conference area
- Feb. 5 – 10-11 a.m., LVHN-Mack Boulevard auditorium
- Feb.11 – 11 a.m.-noon, LVHN-Tilghman 3rd floor conference room
- Feb. 12 – 2-3 a.m., Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest ECC rooms 7 and 8
- Feb. 19 – 2-3 a.m., Lehigh Valley Hospital-17th Street auditorium
- Feb. 25 – 10-11 a.m., Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest ECC rooms 7 and 8
- Feb. 26 – 2-3 a.m., Lehigh Valley Hospital-Muhlenberg ECC rooms C and D
- March 17 – 11 a.m.-noon, Lehigh Valley Hospital-17th Street, School of Nursing building auditorium

[Print this Casual Conversations schedule](#), post it in your department and encourage colleagues to attend.

This entry was posted by [Rick Martuscelli](#) on January 7, 2015 at 10:49 am, and is filed under [Connect with Colleagues](#), [Get News](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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Pennsylvania Department of Health Announces LVH-Muhlenberg as Ebola Treatment Center

*****This message is from Jim Geiger, Senior VP, Operations*****

The Pennsylvania Department of Health will announce today that Lehigh Valley Hospital-Muhlenberg has been designated as one of Pennsylvania's four official Ebola treatment centers. LVH-Muhlenberg joins the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center in this prestigious designation. [The announcement](#) follows a series of comprehensive site visits and inspections from the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Pennsylvania Secretary of Health Michael Wolfe.

Though LVHN has not treated any Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) patient to date and there are no cases at any LVHN facility, EVD remains a serious and highly contagious issue for many worldwide. Back in October, we felt then, as we do now, that we needed to take the necessary precautions to ensure the safety of our patients, our community and for you our colleagues.

As a designated treatment center, LVH-Muhlenberg's specially-outfitted isolation unit may be called upon to accept incoming patients from overseas and to treat and monitor those patients for the duration of their illness. This also means that we must have the proper preparations, protocols and staffing in place in order to treat these patients at a moment's notice.

Even if we never receive a single EVD patient, the hard work and dedication of the core teams and individuals involved with preparing the health network can be translated into other areas for virulent diseases as well. We are prepared to respond, protect and to treat our patients to the highest standards achievable.

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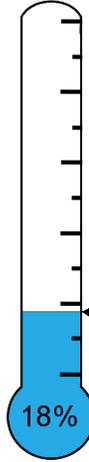
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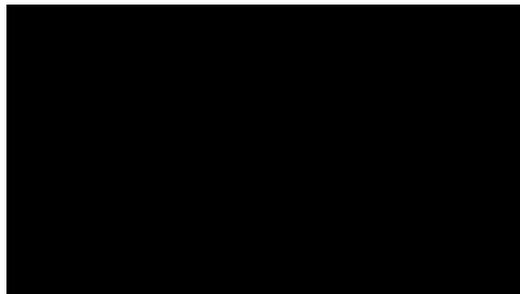
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Share the Depth and Breadth of our Health Network Throughout Our Community; Download our Video Today – VIDEO

At last month's Community Annual Meeting, we unveiled [a brand-new video](#) that shows the depth and breadth of how Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) cares for our community. Now we'd like you to share the message, and we're making it easier for you to do so.



If you are planning a presentation for a community, regional or national group, visit the "[Learn About Our Brand](#)" section of the Marketing and Public Affairs intranet page. There, you'll find a link that will allow you to download the video and share it with your friends, neighbors and colleagues. Also in that section, you'll find links to [PowerPoint templates](#) that are updated for 2015. Please be sure to download the newest template so your presentation has the latest information about LVHN.

Also, you can review the past year at LVHN by reading the [2014 LVHN Annual Report online](#). Here you can:

- Review highlights, facts and figures
- Get detailed information about LVHN's finances and community benefit report for fiscal year 2014
- See a list of LVHN leadership
- Download and print an Annual Report overview

This entry was posted by [Kyle Hardner](#) on January 7, 2015 at 11:30 am, and is filed under [Learn, Watch](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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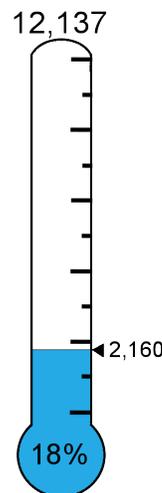
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Our Better Health goal is designed to help you take charge of your health and wellness so you can live the best quality of life possible. It's also an important step to ensure a healthy workforce. That's because staying well through diet, exercise and lifestyle choices can help us do a better job keeping our community healthy too.

KNOW YOUR NUMBERS

In order to meet our Better Health goal in 2015, 60 percent of colleagues must get screened for blood pressure (BP) and body mass index (BMI) through our Know Your Numbers campaign to meet our target goal (we hope that 70 percent will participate so we can reach our maximum goal). When your BP and BMI are in a healthy range, you're at reduced risk for diseases like diabetes, heart disease, stroke, certain cancers and other health risks.

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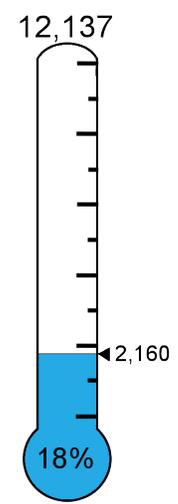
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When you know your numbers, you can identify your risks early and take action before conditions become chronic. You'll also make our nation healthier and reduce the overall cost of health care in our country – and in our network. After all, Americans spend about 19 cents of every dollar on health care.

Here are three ways you can help meet our better health goal by getting screened:

- **Visit employee health** during [walk-in hours](#) for a private, confidential screening.
- **Make an appointment with your personal physician.** Make sure to bring the [biometric health care screening form](#) to your appointment. Your doctor will fill it out, sign it and fax it to employee health.
- **NEW Ask your department head to call 610-402-CARE.** If your department has 16 or more colleagues who've committed to being screened, we'll send a registered nurse to you. All you need is a small area where we can conduct confidential screenings. Encourage your team members to participate. Departmental screenings take place in January and February only.

Want more information about our Know Your Numbers campaign? Read the [FAQs](#) on the employee intranet.



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This entry was posted by [Sheila Caballero](#) on January 7, 2015 at 1:00 pm, and is filed under [Learn](#), [Live Healthy](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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LVHN Adding Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility to Lehigh Valley Hospital—Cedar Crest This Summer

This message is from Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, president and chief executive officer

I am pleased to announce Lehigh Valley Health Network will be opening an inpatient rehabilitation facility (IRF) for adults 18 years and older this summer in the Kasych Family Pavilion's South Tower at Lehigh Valley Hospital—Cedar Crest. The 34-bed facility will occupy the sixth and seventh floors of the tower, which was expanded last year with the intention of accommodating future growth. All patient rooms in the facility will be private.

This new facility will allow us to continue to address the needs of our community. By providing short-term intensive rehabilitation, we're ensuring a seamless continuum of care for patients without leaving our health network. In addition, having the unit at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest allows patients access to our specialists should any additional medical problems arise.

The admission criteria for the IRF is to provide a minimum of three hours of intensive, specialized rehabilitation therapy per day for an average of two weeks for patients who need such care. People recovering from conditions such as stroke, neurological disorders, orthopedic injuries, amputations, post-surgical conditions or other debilitations are most likely to use this new unit. Our IRF team will strive to help each patient regain function and return to the highest level of independence.

The Transitional Skilled Unit (TSU), which located at Lehigh Valley Hospital-17th Street, will continue to serve patients who require short-term rehabilitation but do not meet the admission criteria for the IRF. Together, the IRF and TSU will provide patients in need of this level of care with the most appropriate intensity of medical, nursing and rehabilitation services for their condition.

Additionally, this new unit is a key component in terms of our health network recently being named a Medicare Accountable Care Organization (ACO). Being an ACO means we will be held accountable for coordinating care provided to more than 32,000 Medicare beneficiaries. Our estimates indicate that 75 percent of the recipients of our inpatient rehabilitation services will be Medicare patients. Our ability to provide these services extends our continuum of care for Medicare patients in the spirit of the ACO.

LVHN's multidisciplinary approach to rehabilitation care includes specialized rehabilitation physicians, rehabilitation nurses, and physical, occupational and speech therapists. The inpatient rehabilitation facility is expected to bring more than 125 new jobs to LVHN. All qualified candidates who would like to be considered for those jobs should apply when they are posted at LVHN.org/careers in mid-January.

This entry was posted by Admin on January 8, 2015 at 2:01 pm, and is filed under Get News, Learn. Follow any responses to this post through RSS 2.0. You can leave a response or trackback from your own site.

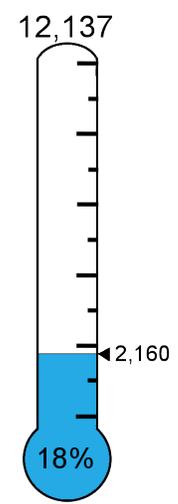
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Win Free Lehigh Valley Phantoms Tickets

All Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) colleagues are eligible to win free tickets to an upcoming professional ice hockey game at Allentown's brand new all-purpose arena, the PPL Center.



A random drawing will be held for 75 pairs of tickets to see the Lehigh Valley Phantoms play the Binghamton Senators in an American Hockey League game on Saturday, Feb. 28, at 7:05 p.m. The tickets are for seats in the lower level behind one of the goals in sections 109 and 111.

One lucky winner will get to drop the ceremonial first puck prior to the start of the game. That winner will be selected randomly as well.

You can register for the random selection process by calling 610-402-CARE between Jan. 5 and Jan. 31. Winners will be announced the afternoon of Feb. 2 on Mission Central. Winners can pick up their tickets at the PPL Center will-call window beginning Feb. 9.

This entry was posted by [Ted Williams](#) on January 5, 2015 at 3:17 pm, and is filed under [Get News](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

3 comments

- Kimberly Herman** 7 DAYS AGO

So exciting!

[LOG IN TO REPLY](#)
- Jeni Betancourt** 5 DAYS AGO

Hope i win, i would love to be able to go see a game this year.

[LOG IN TO REPLY](#)
- Donna Stout** 2 HOURS AGO

That's my birthday! It would be fun to celebrate at the Phantoms game!

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Lehigh Valley Health News Digest: Jan. 5 - 9

Joseph Patruno, MD, Named President-elect of LVHN's Medical Staff

Joseph Patruno, MD, comes from a family of educators. His father taught Italian at their hometown institution, Bryn Mawr College. His mother was a high school math teacher. That's why it comes as no surprise to hear Patruno say, "Education is my passion."



Joseph Patruno, MD, has been named President-elect of LVHN's Medical Staff

Patruno's thirst for knowledge and desire to share it will serve him well as president-elect of Lehigh Valley Health Network's (LVHN) medical staff. He replaces Jarret Patton, MD, who advances to president. During his two-year term as president, Patton will serve as the liaison between the members of our medical staff and the Board of Trustees.

As president-elect, Patruno also becomes the newest member of the board, serving alongside Patton and past medical staff president Robert Motley, MD. How did a person who is passionate about education end up in a leadership role for a health care organization? "I was always interested in health care," Patruno says, "especially the business side of health care early in my career."

After graduating from Dickinson College, Patruno started his career in marketing at one of the nation's largest hospital management companies. There, he helped develop one of the first physician telephone referral services, marketed a plastic surgery practice and recruited physicians. When the thought of earning an MBA entered his mind, Patruno chose another career path instead - medical school.

At Brown University School of Medicine, Patruno became interested in obstetrics and gynecology. "It's a specialty that offers incredible diversity in terms of the care you provide to patients," he says. Patruno completed his residency at Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, where he served four years as medical school clerkship director, one of the first of many leadership roles he would hold throughout his career. "I've always tried to lead by example, to work hard and walk the walk," he says.

That was the case at Christiana Care Health Systems, where Patruno helped establish an obstetrics and gynecology triage unit in one of the busiest ERs in Delaware. As triage director, Patruno focused on workflow, risk management, quality assurance and budgetary issues to ensure the unit was prepared to provide quality care to up to 60 patients each day. During his time at Christiana, Patruno also served as associate residency program director.

In 2005, Patruno joined LVHN as chief of gynecology. Under his leadership, Lehigh Valley Hospital was named one of the nation's best hospitals for gynecology on the 2007 U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals list. It was the first time we were recognized for this specialty.

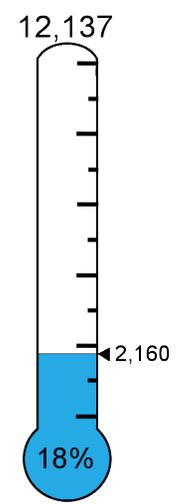
In 2008, Patruno was named our residency program director for the department of

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[obstetrics and gynecology](#), a position he holds today. His passion for education has shined at LVHN. He helped establish a medical education division in our [Center for Women's Medicine](#) and helped develop one of the nation's premier robotic surgery training programs at LVHN.

In his new role, Patruno will tap his passion for education to help our health network achieve the Triple Aim (better health, better care and better cost). He hopes to strengthen our focus on physician credentialing to ensure our medical staff has the skills to meet LVHN's high-quality standards. He also hopes to further the growth of our [SELECT](#) medical school program and entice more students to join our medical staff following graduation.

In his private life, Patruno also is somewhat of an educator. He enjoys coaching his sons, Nick and Danny, in soccer and reinforcing what his daughter, Caroline, learns during singing lessons. Even his wife, Megan, works for an educational institution, Muhlenberg College, where she is assistant athletic director.

This entry was posted by [Rick Martuscelli](#) on January 9, 2015 at 9:23 am, and is filed under [Get News, Learn](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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Announcing Final United Way Prize Winners

Our annual LVHN United Way campaign ended on Dec. 30. Each week, colleagues who donated were entered into a drawing to win prizes. Below is the list of winners for weeks 13 and 14.

- Jody Mitch / Coding Integrity** – LVHN Fitness Center – One Month Pass (One City Center)
- Rose Grimshaw / Plant Engineering** – LVHN Fitness Center – One Month Pass
- Kim Wechsler / 17th Street Operations** – LVHN Apparel – Jacket/Vest
- Donna Burkos / Adolescent Psych Unit** – LVHN Apparel – Jacket/Vest
- Nicole Quaranta / 6K Med Surg** – United Way Campaign Gift Bag
- Melissa Solt / SPU** – Olive Garden – \$40 Gift Card
- Loretta Pendry / OR Centralize Scheduling** – United Way Campaign T-shirt
- Kathleen Schaeffer / Credentialing Services** – United Way Campaign T-shirt
- Kevin Gross / Radiology** – Lehigh Valley Hospital-17th Street Parking Spot
- Lori Kressler / 3A IPCU** – Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest Parking Spot
- Kathleen Tomel / Benefits Verification** – Lehigh Valley Health Network-Mack Boulevard Parking Spot
- Karen Hanzelman / ASU** - Lehigh Valley Hospital-Muhlenberg Parking Spot

Thank you to all colleagues who participated in the campaign. Your donations have helped the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley support vital community-based programs that focus on education, food access, healthy aging and emergency services. [Watch this video](#) to see how some area families have benefited from these programs.

Total Number of Donors: 816

Total Amount of Donations: \$195,853.22

This entry was posted by [Admin](#) on January 5, 2015 at 2:49 pm, and is filed under [Get News](#), [Help Others](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

2 comments

- Kim Szep** 6 DAYS AGO
It would be interesting to know how these numbers compare to last year.
[LOG IN TO REPLY](#)
- Dswanda Jones** 6 DAYS AGO

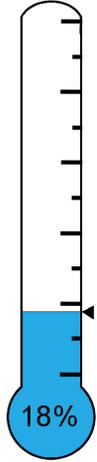
Welcome to Mission Central. It's the place to get and share information about our health network. Here, you can share stories, ask questions, be inspired, celebrate our accomplishments, learn to be at your best and more. Visit frequently to stay energized at work and help make our mission possible.

KNOW YOUR NUMBERS

Help Us Reach Our 'Better Health' Goal!

Many colleagues have already gotten their biometric screenings for blood pressure and body mass index.

12,137



There's still time to [Know Your Numbers](#), win prizes and help us reach our shared success plan goals (SSP).

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Kim, here is how we compare to last year. For 2013 we had 1,133 donors give \$232,635.00 – which includes HNL. Collectively for 2014, HNL and LVHN had 992 donors give \$222,870.92. The average employee donation was \$224, which is \$20 higher than last year. Please let me know if I can help further.

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Let's make our mission possible.



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< LVHN Adding Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility to Lehigh Valley Hospital—Cedar Crest This Summer

Joseph Patruno, MD, Named President-elect of LVHN's Medical Staff >

Wave 2 Super User News

Instead of dreading the chill of winter, Wave 2 super users are thinking, "Summer!" They're looking ahead to August 1 when Wave 2 go-live for the Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) Epic electronic medical record system occurs in all inpatient settings in Lehigh and Northampton Counties.



Join the Super User Crew

To provide around-the-clock, at-the-elbow support, Lehigh Valley Health Network needs to prepare 1,100 inpatient super users for Wave 2 go-live. If you have already joined the Wave 2 super user program, thank you for taking part. For those not already involved, there's still time. You can either self-identify yourself as a potential inpatient super user, or your manager can recommend you to the program. For more information, [review the Sharepoint site for LVHN Epic super user information](#) including the [Super User Program booklet](#). If interested, [complete the online super user application form](#). **Deadline for Wave 2 super user applications is January 16.**

Special Event for Wave 2 Super Users

Wave 2 super users, mark your calendars because you have an important meeting to attend.

What: *Wave 2 Super User Kick-Off*

When: Thursday, January 22

- 7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

or

- 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Where:

- LVH – Cedar Crest
- LVH – 17th Street
- LVH – Muhlenberg
- 2100 Mack Blvd.

RSVP: Registration via TLC is required

Due to the large number of super users for Wave 2, you are asked to register for the Super User Kick-Off via The Learning Curve (TLC); look for the schoolhouse icon on your Single Sign-On toolbar to connect. After you log-in to TLC, search for: *Wave 2 Epic Super User Kickoff Meeting*. When the search result opens, click on "Register". You will see there are many meeting rooms at each hospital site, as well as the Mack auditorium. Register for the time and location you plan on attending. The same information will be provided at both the 7:30 a.m. and the 3:30 p.m. sessions, so you only need to attend one kick-off.

At the meeting you will learn more about the LVHN Epic project and the Wave 2 timeline; get to know who's who among LVHN Epic leadership; and learn what being a super user

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truly means. (Trust us – you are critical to a successful go-live.) This will also be a chance for you to meet other super users who are in the program as well as meet members of the Epic education team.

Super User Questions

Your questions concerning the super user program (for Wave 1 and Wave 2) are important to us. If you have any questions, please submit them using the following LVH Sharepoint link.

<http://lvhsharepoint4/etrp/Lists/Super%20User%20Staff%20Change/AllItems.aspx>

Scroll to the bottom of the question list and click “+ Add New” to add your question. It will be answered by the LVHN Epic team.

Your Epic Calendar

Wave 1 Ambulatory

Now: Register for Wave 1 end user training on TLC **and** [complete your prerequisite courses](#)

Now: Technical Dress Rehearsals (TDR) and Application Dress Rehearsals (ADR) in ambulatory settings

Jan. 5–Feb. 6: Wave 1 end user training

Feb. 4, 2015–March 11, 2015: [PTO restrictions in effect for Wave 1](#) (ambulatory) colleagues

Feb. 7–8: Wave 1 conversion weekend

Feb. 9: Wave 1 [Cadence](#) Go-live

Feb. 18, 2015: [Go-live for Wave 1, ambulatory settings](#)

Mid-2015 and beyond: Optimization

Wave 2 Inpatient

Now: Wave 2 inpatient equipment delivery and set-up

Now through May 1, 2015: Wave 2 testing

Jan. 16: Deadline for Wave 2 inpatient super user applications

Jan. 22: Wave 2 Super User Kick-Off Meeting – **Registration via TLC required**

March 23–27: Wave 2 pilot training

May 11–31: Wave 2 super user training

June 1–July 26: Wave 2 end user training

July 20, 2015–Aug. 14, 2015: [PTO restrictions in effect for Wave 2](#) (inpatient) colleagues

Aug. 1, 2015: [Go-live for Wave 2, inpatient settings](#)

Keep up with news about the LVHN Epic transformation on the [LVHN Epic intranet site](#).

This entry was posted by [Jenn Fisher](#) on January 8, 2015 at 3:00 pm, and is filed under [Get News, Learn](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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