

Colleague Forum Postponed

Forums will not be held on March 7 and April 6.

Win Phantoms Tickets

Enter to win two tickets to the game on April 9.

Watch February's Leader-to-Leader Meeting

Get updates on goals, finances, compliance and more.

Books Sales Scheduled

Shop Feb. 29 at Mack; March 1 and 2 at Cedar Crest.

Be Responsible on Social Media

The latest HIPAA Tip tells you how.

Try the Indoor Golf Swing Simulator

It's free in March at LVHN Fitness—One City Center.

March Culture of Wellness Opportunities

Get the help you need to raise a family.

PEWS, MEWS Provide Faster Interventions

Learn how these tools work.



Read Lehigh Valley Health News

a blog on LVHN.org containing timely health information and health network news.



Colleague Forum Postponed

BY [ADMIN](#) · FEBRUARY 26, 2016

The Colleague Forum scheduled for March 7 and April 6 is postponed due to scheduling conflicts.

We need your help to spread the word because LVHN Quarterly – which promotes the event – was printed and mailed to colleagues' homes before the Colleague Forum was postponed.

Please [print this flyer](#), post it in your department and tell colleagues the forum is postponed.

The Colleague Forum will be rescheduled. The new date will be announced on LVHN Daily.



Enter Our Drawing for Free LV Phantoms Tickets

BY [KYLE HARDNER](#) · FEBRUARY 25, 2016

There's nothing quite like the sounds, sights and experience of professional hockey. If you've wanted to see our hometown team – the Lehigh Valley Phantoms – in action, and if you've always wanted to check out the sparkling PPL Center arena in downtown Allentown, here's your chance.

All LVHN colleagues are eligible to enter a drawing for 150 pairs of tickets to see the Phantoms play the Bridgeport Sound Tigers in an American Hockey League game on Saturday, April 9 at 7:05 p.m. One lucky winner will get a special treat – the opportunity to drop the ceremonial first puck prior to the start of the game. All winners will be selected at random.

Here's how to enter: Complete the form before March 11. Then be sure to visit LVHN Daily on March 16, when we'll post a list of all winners. Good luck!



Phantoms Ticket Giveaway

Fields marked with an * are required

First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

Department Name *

Phone *

Watch February's Leader-to-Leader Video

BY [ANNA PARKS](#) · FEBRUARY 22, 2016

Do you want to know what's going on in our health network? Watch the Leader-to-Leader meeting. Leader-to-Leader meetings are held the third Thursday each month in the Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest auditorium and simulcast to participants at Lehigh Valley Hospital-17th Street, Lehigh Valley Hospital-Muhlenberg, Lehigh Valley Hospital-Hazleton and Mack Boulevard. Using a PowerPoint presentation as a guide, guest speakers share updates on key issues and initiatives.

[Welcome and Service Star](#)

[Network Metrics](#)

[Total Joint Replacement – Project Deep Dive](#)

[FY 2017 Budget Process](#)

[Compliance Training](#)

[Strategic Conversation](#)

(Please note you must be logged on to our intranet with Internet Explorer in order to access the videos above. You also need to have Microsoft Silverlight installed on your computer. If the links do not open properly, try refreshing

Books Are Fun Sales at LVHN-Mack Boulevard and LVH-Cedar Crest

BY [NICHOLAS FRITZ](#) · FEBRUARY 22, 2016

Over the years, the Auxiliary of Lehigh Valley Hospital has supported the hospital by operating gift shops and conducting a variety of fund-raising events and activities. This month they will be hosting book sales at the LVHN–Mack Boulevard and LVH–Cedar Crest, featuring various categories such as cooking, gardening and children’s coloring books. Don’t miss out on this opportunity.

Books Are Fun Sale

LVHN–Mack Boulevard café

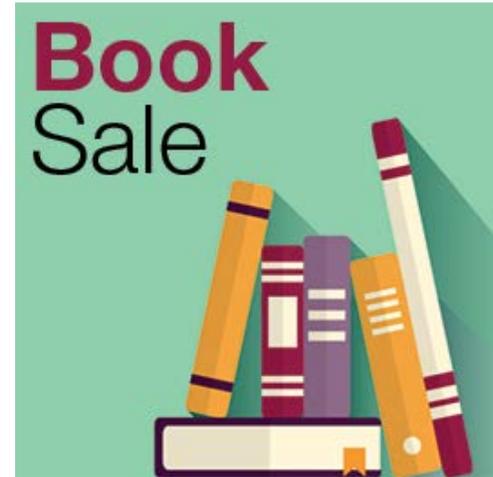
Feb. 29, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

LVH–Cedar Crest

Jaindl Family Pavilion, lower level

March 1, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

March 2, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.



The history of the Auxiliary of Lehigh Valley Hospital

The Auxiliary of Lehigh Valley Hospital has roots that date back more than a century. Thirteen women formed the Auxiliary of Allentown hospital to raise money for the city's first hospital. Then they bought a plot of land at 17th and Chew streets in Allentown, and in 1899, they opened The Allentown Hospital. Today, the Auxiliary of Lehigh Valley Hospital supports two hospitals and is the only one in the nation to support three endowed chairs.

HIPAA Tip #10: Be Responsible on Social Media

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · FEBRUARY 24, 2016

HIPAA, or the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, is a federal law that protects the confidentiality and security of health care information. As health care professionals, it's our responsibility to follow HIPAA guidelines to ensure our patients' medical information is protected. To help you, a new HIPAA Tip is posted on LVHN Daily each month.

All colleagues are responsible for any information they post on social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and Pinterest). To ensure you're protecting our patients' privacy, follow these tips when using social media:

- Be aware of what is in the foreground and background of any photos you post.
- Never reveal any patient information.
- Do not disclose confidential or proprietary information.
- Follow our PRIDE behaviors, even if you are not identifying yourself as an LVHN colleague.



Read our [Social Media Participation policy](#).

To discuss a privacy concern or report a privacy issue, contact LVHN privacy officer Melissa Blihar at melissa.blihar@lvhn.org or 484-884-1410.

To discuss a compliance concern or report a compliance issue, call compliance services at 610-402-9100.

To report a concern anonymously, call 1-877-895-2905 or visit LVHN.ethicspoint.com.

[Read previous HIPAA Tips.](#)

To be eligible to win a prize, [email Melissa Blihar](#) your answer to the following question. A winner will be selected randomly.

Which of the following is acceptable to post on social media?

1. Verbal “gossip” about a patient or a patient’s scenario without including the patient’s name
2. A photo of a catered lunch taken in the break room with patient information visible in the background
3. A photo taken in a patient care area with unidentified people visible in the background
4. A post stating, “I’m an OB nurse, and on behalf of Lehigh Valley Health Network, I want to warn expectant mothers that they should not drink while pregnant.”
5. None of the above

Prior HIPAA Tips Questions and Answers

HIPAA Tip #9 – A call is received regarding a patient’s status. The patient is not designated as a “Do Not Announce” (DNA). Therefore, the patient is listed in the facility directory. The caller is told the patient is in room AB123 and has delivered a healthy baby. Did the caller receive appropriate information?

Answer: No. the caller received too much information. Only the room number, room phone number and general status can be relayed.

HIPAA Tip #8 – Mary is a registered nurse who learned her niece, Jessica, has been admitted to LVHN. Mary wants to access Jessica’s records. What should Mary do?

1. Ask Jessica to complete LVHN’s consent form to access family member’s protected health information.
2. No authorization is needed because Mary is a registered nurse and she has access to medical record information as part of her job duties.
3. Jessica does not qualify as an immediate family member. Therefore, Mary cannot access the information for personal reasons.

Answer: C

HIPAA Tip #7 – “My colleague was in the emergency room last week, and I wanted to send him a Get Well card. I used my computer to obtain my colleague’s home address.”

Was this an appropriate access?

Answer: No

[HIPAA Tip #6](#) – Which of the following should be placed in the locked blue recycling containers? (Select all that apply.)

1. Operative report
2. Insurance information
3. Supply order receipt
4. Patient demographics/facesheet
5. LVHN policy or procedure document

Answer: All of these documents must be placed in a blue recycling container; not just PHI.

[HIPAA Tip #5](#) – If you see someone accessing your computer using your user name and password, who should you call?

1. Human resources
2. The Office for Civil Rights
3. Your supervisor
4. No one

Answer: Your supervisor

[HIPAA Tip #4](#) – Is it OK to provide your user name as password to your supervisor, if requested?

Answer: No. You should not provide your password to anyone, even if requested.

[HIPAA Tip #3](#) – What are three different ways a colleague can view his or her personal health information?

Answer: You can view your personal health information via your computer, by making an appointment with medical records or by using MyLVHN, our new patient portal.

A question was not asked in [HIPAA Tip #1](#) and [HIPAA Tip #2](#).

Attention Golfers: LVHN Fitness–One City Center Sports Simulator is Free in March

BY [NICHOLAS FRITZ](#) · FEBRUARY 26, 2016

Do your golf buddies harass you about that swing? Then it's time to swing into action.

An indoor golf swing simulator is just one of the many fun – and healthy – activities available on the Sports Simulator inside [LVHN Fitness–One City Center](#) in downtown Allentown. And if you're a fitness center member, you can use the simulator for free (regularly priced at \$60 per hour) throughout the month of March.

With the Sports Simulator, you also can:

- Throw a fastball
- Aim for a regulation-size hockey net
- Score a soccer goal
- Throw for a touchdown

If you're not yet a member at LVHN Fitness–One City Center, [become one today and enjoy the many benefits](#) of our 17,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility. LVHN employees are eligible to receive Culture of Wellness



reimbursement for fitness membership.

To become a member, call 484-862-3001.

Culture of Wellness Opportunities in March for Raising a Family

BY [NICHOLAS FRITZ](#) · FEBRUARY 24, 2016

Here are this month's Culture of Wellness events for raising a family:

March 1 – Grandparenting Workshop

March 3 and 15 – Breastfeeding

March 6, 14, 16, 20 and 28 – Maternity Tours

March 6 and 20 – Sibling Tours

Starting March 10 – Preparing for Labor and Childbirth (three-week series)

March 12 and 26 – Preparing for Childbirth (one-day class)

March 14 – CPR for Family and Friends

March 15 – Parenting Workshops: Top 10 Way to Get Kids to Listen

March 19 – Baby Care



March 21 – Car Seat Check

For more information or to register, call 610-402-CARE.

[Learn about all of our Culture of Wellness programs.](#)

PEWS, MEWS Provide Faster Interventions

BY SHEILA CABALLERO · FEBRUARY 23, 2016

Since April 2015, nurses in the inpatient pediatrics unit inside Children’s Hospital at LVH have been using a new scoring system to help identify patients at risk for clinical deterioration, including respiratory distress. The pediatric early warning score (PEWS) is an evidence-based tool used for early identification, so medical intervention can be started to stabilize patients. A second tool called modified early warning score (MEWS) was introduced in adult units at LVH–Cedar Crest and LVH–Muhlenberg this January. (See sidebar.)

“PEWS is an objective tool that can help us intervene earlier to prevent transfer to the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU), or get patients who are in decline to the PICU faster,” says Marcia Summers, MSN, RN, director of patient care services.

In 2014, Jennifer Senske, RN, and another nurse resident conducted a six-month evidence-based research project on PEWS, studying the literature and conducting a retrospective chart review. Their results were presented to LVHN’s Children’s Practice Council and Children’s Performance Council.



Michele Bronic, RN, and Gretchen Weaknecht, RN, use pediatric early warning scores.

Before PEWS, staff nurses relied on clinical observation to determine a patient's status. Now they use both clinical observation and the PEWS score to determine if a patient is declining. They also follow a "best practice advisory" in Epic when a patient's score is high.

Here's how it works:

A patient's behavior, cardiovascular rate and respiratory rate are assigned a score from 0 to 3 based on the PEWS algorithm.

For combined scores of 4 to 6, the core charge nurse or clinical resource specialist (CRS) is called to the bedside to conduct a second assessment. They're also called if a single parameter scores 3 or higher. The provider is called once a high score is validated.

The pediatric rapid response team (RRT) is called immediately if a patient scores 7 or higher. The team includes a pediatric intensivist, pediatric intensive care charge nurse and respiratory therapist.

All patients are measured at minimum every four hours, and scores are tracked in Epic. If a score is high, staff nurses assess and score patients every hour until they return to baseline, or are transferred to the PICU.

Staff nurses are the front line for PEWS, and they rely on reference tools for their assessments. A laminated card on the back of nurse badges is a written reminder of scoring parameters. And a PEWS policy guide and algorithm will be available soon in the Policy Tech system on the intranet (LVH.com).

"Previously, nurses may have been hesitant to call the provider or pediatric RRT," says patient care specialist Michele Dunstan, MSN, RN, CCRN. "Now they have an objective tool to help validate their clinical assessment, and patients can get the intervention they need faster."