



Progress Notes

MEDICAL STAFF

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HOSPITAL COST AND QUALITY DATA RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC

The Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council issued its first cost and quality data report on June 28. Although the report covers only Region 5 (Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntington, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, and York counties), it is important to all hospitals because the council is ready to move forward to implement cost and quality reporting for all other regions. It is anticipated that data for Region 7 (TAH--LVHC region) will be released late in September, 1989.

The report, titled "Hospital Effectiveness Report," contains information on 55 DRGs. These DRGs represent the most frequent illnesses or illnesses that had some of the highest charges. The reports will be region-specific to provide the most useful information to each region.

The "Hospital Effectiveness Report" is presented in chart form, a separate chart for each DRG. The report shows the patient volume, average length of stay, and average patient severity (MedisGroups Admission Severity).

A Medical Outcome Effectiveness column purports to indicate how successful the treatment is for a particular DRG.

The number of observed major morbidities (MedisGroups finding) and mortalities is reported. The number of expected major morbidities and mortalities given the severity of patients treated at the hospital is reported as well as a significance rating. The final element reported is average total charges.

TAH--LVHC is comparing its data with Region 5's data and will target several DRGs for more intensive review. This review will be carried out at the divisional level to try to identify reasons for variation.



The Allentown Hospital— Lehigh Valley Hospital Center

A HealthEast Hospital

VOLUME 7 JULY, 1989

KEPRO CONTRACT

KePRO's current contract has been extended by HCFA until September 30, 1989. Negotiations will now begin for the three-year contract with incorporation of the third scope of work to begin October 1, 1989. There is still no word as to whether the contract will go out for competitive bidding.

**THIRD SCOPE OF WORK -
PRE-PROCEDURE REVIEW**

Under the third scope of work, KePRO will be required to review 10 procedures on a pre-procedure basis. When these procedures are performed on an urgent or emergency basis, or when pre-procedure review is not obtained, a retrospective, prepayment review will be conducted.

The following list includes the 10 procedures currently proposed to HCFA by KePRO.

- 1) Permanent pacemaker insertion - currently on per procedure review list;
- 2) cataract extraction;
- 3) carotid endarterectomy;
- 4) laminectomy;
- 5) total knee or hip replacement;
- 6) abdominal or vaginal hysterectomy;
- 7) transurethral prostatectomy;
- 8) coronary artery bypass graft;
- 9) percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty; and
- 10) complex peripheral vascularization.

**OPERATIVE/PROCEDURE PERMIT
PROBLEMS**

Patients continue to arrive in the operating room or clinical laboratory without properly executed permits for procedures. Patients are also arriving without a documented history and physical. This problem continues to hinder the efficiency of the operating room and the clinical laboratory at both campuses.

Medical Staff members are requested to complete necessary permits and history and physicals in a timely fashion in order to reduce delays in caring for patients.

**HAHNEMANN UNIVERSITY FACULTY
APPOINTMENTS**

Several members of the medical staff were recently appointed to the faculty of Hahnemann University.

In Medicine, Albert D. Abrams, M.D., Jay H. Kaufman, M.D., Kerry D. Miller, M.D., and Robert J. Oriel, M.D., were appointed Clinical Assistant Professors; Frank G. Finch, M.D., Paul Guillard, M.D., and Jacob H. Pickle, M.D., were appointed Clinical Instructors; James E. Kintzel, M.D., was appointed Clinical Associate Professor; and Lawrence P. Levitt, M.D., was promoted from Clinical Associate Professor to Clinical Professor.

In Obstetrics and Gynecology, Gregory M. Lang, M.D., was appointed Clinical Assistant Professor.

In Surgery, Kevin E. Glancy, M.D., and Kenneth M. McDonald, M.D., were appointed Clinical Assistant Professors.

**LONG-TERM ASSESSMENT AND
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED**

Effective July 1, 1989, the Long-term Assessment and Management Program (LAMP) was implemented in the Lehigh County area. LAMP, a mechanism for pre-screening clients referred for nursing home placement, has existed in other counties in Pennsylvania for several years and is now being implemented state-wide.

The purpose of the program is to ensure cost containment of tax dollars spent on patient care, and to provide better care management by determining the appropriate level of care required.

With the implementation of LAMP, the state now requires an in-depth evaluation to be conducted by the LAMP assessor from the Lehigh County Area Agency on Aging Office.

Based on the numerous requests from area nursing facilities who require assessments on the majority of their applicants, hospitals may experience costly delays in transfers. It is, therefore, of paramount importance that the need for nursing home placement for your patients be identified early and that the necessary forms be completed accurately, completely, and in a timely fashion.

The Social Service staff is available to assist and advise you as needed. If you have any questions regarding LAMP, please call Maureen Sawyer, Director of Social Services, at 776-8610.

ADMITTING NEWS

Effective September 11, 1989, the medical/surgical and critical care bed control at The Allentown Hospital campus will move to the central Admitting Office located at the Lehigh Valley Hospital Center campus. This merger will complete the second phase of centralizing the inpatient admitting area and will allow the admitting process a much clearer overview of bed availability during "tight" bed situations.

Beginning September 11, bed control information for TAH campus may be obtained by calling 776-8062.

LABORATORY NEWS

Change in Clostridium Difficile Testing

Effective immediately, the Microbiology section of HealthEast Laboratories will routinely test stool specimens submitted for clostridium difficile using a latex agglutination method. Results of this test on specimens received in the lab by 1 p.m., Monday through Friday, will be available the same day.

If the latex agglutination test results are negative and symptoms persist, a second stool specimen should be submitted with the request form clearly labeled "follow-up specimen; perform cell culture assay." These specimens will be evaluated by the cell culture assay for clostridium difficile toxin.

The latex agglutination test is reported to detect antigens associated with the organism unlike the cell culture method which detects toxin. Since a high percentage of infants have been reported to be "colonized" with this organism and may give false positive results by latex agglutination, the cell culture method will be used to test stools from this population of patients.

If you have any questions regarding the test or procedural change, please call Georgia Colasante, Microbiology Supervisor, or Diane C. Halstead, Ph.D., Director, Microbiology/Virology/Immunology, at 776-8190.

MI Profile Update

HealthEast Laboratories "new" electrophoresis scan reports have been in the patients charts for approximately two months. To date, a limited amount of feedback has been received from physicians with most comments focused on the CK part of the MI profile. Although most of these comments have been unfavorable, a software update is expected by September which will allow customized electrophoretic reports.

Please contact Gerald E. Clement, Ph.D., Director, Toxicology/Immunology/Chemistry, at 776-8150, with your comments. When the software update is received, suggestions will be incorporated into the revised scan reports.

FYI

A number of reports are sent to physicians' offices by HealthEast Laboratories. To help you better understand these reports, following are brief explanations of the reports for your information.

Cumulative Summary, produced on green and white bar paper, is a report of patient's results including those with "pending" status. A new report will print each time there is activity on the patient order, i.e., a new/modified result is entered. This report may be discarded when a Final is received.

Final/Outpatient Medical Record Copy, printed on white paper, is a report of patient's results after everything ordered is complete.

Discharge Summary, printed on lavender and white bar paper, is a report of patient's results entered after the patient has been discharged from the hospital.

NURSING NEWS

Effective July 25, 1989, the Nursing Care Flow Sheet and the Nursing Assessment Flow Sheet will be implemented on all medical/surgical units, the Progressive Coronary Care Unit, and the Short Stay Unit at the LVHC campus.

The forms will capture routine elements of nursing care and assessment information. The chart keys on each form will maintain consistency in documentation, interpret the check mark system, and guide the reader of the forms.

The forms will be placed in chronological order behind a pink divider marked "Flow Sheet," which will be placed in front of the Progress Note section of the chart.

PHARMACY NEWS

Restriction of Heptavax-B

Recently Merck, Sharp & Dohme announced that it has discontinued the production of Heptavax B (Hepatitis B vaccine) from human donors and will restrict the distribution of the donor derived product to dialysis and immunocompromised patients. Merck, Sharp & Dohme will continue to make available its Recombivax product (Recombivax HB) for all other patients and health care personnel. To obtain the donor derived product, the prescribing physician must complete a medical certificate (available in either Pharmacy) and return the certificate to the Pharmacy.

In response to Merck, Sharp & Dohme's decision, the Pharmacy will fill all orders written generically for Hepatitis B vaccine with the Recombivax vaccine. Physicians who have patients who must receive the donor derived product should order it specifically by brand name and include a comment on the order that the brand is medically necessary. The Pharmacy will then send the prescriber a copy of the medical certificate for completion prior to dispensing the donor derived product.

Nutrition Order Form Revised

A new Parenteral Nutrition Solution Order Form has been approved by the Nutrition, Forms, and Medical Executive Committees for use throughout TAH--LVHC. As of July 11, 1989, the new forms are available from the storeroom (ordered as DO-03) and will replace the site specific forms currently in use.

If you have any questions regarding the new form, please contact Lynn Kuster, Nutrition Support Pharmacist, Page #1164.

RESEARCH NEWS

The Public Health Service, the organization which manages the over \$200 billion American health care system, conducts and supports diverse health activities. Many of these activities involve funding programmatic grants for clinics, training, and underwriting methods of delivering better health care. The Public Health Service consists of six major divisions, listed below, all of which provide funding for health services.

The Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA) deals with the sociomedical problems of alcohol abuse, drug abuse, and mental illness.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) leads the national attack on communicable and vector-borne diseases and works to control many other non-infectious conditions. Several of CDC's grant programs include preventive health services along with demonstration and education programs.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is the National's consumer protection agency and awards grants for research concerned with medical devices and diagnostic products in addition to food and cosmetics.

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) provides programs and activities to improve the health services for all citizens and to develop health care and maintenance systems which are adequately financed, comprehensive, and responsive to the needs of the people. Among HRSA's many programs are grants for residency training in primary care areas, Nurse Training Improvement-Special Projects, and Nursing Research Project Grants.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) conducts and supports basic research, research training, and biomedical communications.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) provides overall program administration for the other PHS agencies and also administers health programs such as the Adolescent Family Life Demonstration and Research Program, and the Health Services Research, Development, and Demonstration Program.

For additional information on grant funding, contact Meredith Pratt in the Research Department at 776-8289.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING FOR OB/GYN, PEDIATRICS, DIGESTIVE SCIENCES, AND PSYCHIATRY PROGRAMS UNDERWAY

As part of the hospital-wide clinical planning process, the HealthEast Planning Department is working on the development of long-range plans for the OB/GYN, pediatrics, digestive sciences, and psychiatry programs. These plans will ultimately be presented to the hospital's Board of Directors. Your input into this planning effort is both welcomed and encouraged.

During the next several weeks, Sandra Flood, Bruce Gresh, and Bob Stover, senior planners with HealthEast, will be meeting with interested clinicians for a period of approximately one-half hour. The purpose of these initial meetings is to gather preliminary information concerning the future direction of these programs. A list of general goals and objectives will be developed from these meetings.

The individuals who participate in the initial interview process will also be invited to assist in prioritizing the general goals and objectives of the long-range plan.

Your participation in this endeavor will help to shape the hospital's future clinical plan. To have your name added to the list of participating physicians, call Sandra Flood for OB/GYN or pediatrics, Bruce Gresh for psychiatry, or Bob Stover for digestive sciences, at 778-7910 before August 1.

PUBLICATIONS, PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Houshang G. Hamadani, M.D., psychiatrist, was recently informed that his abstract, "Two Years Follow-up of Children on Ritalin in Rural and Urban Practice," has been accepted for oral presentation at the VIII World Congress of Psychiatry to be held October 12-19 in Athens, Greece.

Peter A. Keblish, Jr., M.D., orthopedic surgeon, presented a workshop on cementless total hip surgery at the University of Tampere in Tampere, Finland. Dr. Keblish was the guest of Dr. Lindholm, Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the University, which is the second largest orthopedic training center in Finland. Dr. Keblish performed two surgical procedures with the professor and resident staff at the hospital, which is embarking on cementless hip implant study.

Lawrence P. Levitt, M.D., neurologist, and Tish Isack, Director of the Lehigh Valley Stroke Program and the Helwig Diabetes Center, were two of the co-authors of an article titled "Stroke in the Lehigh Valley: Combined Risk Factors for Recurrent Ischemic Stroke" which was published in the May 1989 issue of Neurology.

WHO'S NEW

The Who's New section of Medical Staff Progress Notes contains an update of new appointments, address changes, newly approved privileges, etc. This has replaced the monthly "All Concerned" bulletins which notified all hospital departments of these changes. Please remember that each department or unit is responsible for updating its directory, rolodexes, and approved privilege rosters.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE STAFF

Jerome C. Deutsch, D.O.
104 S. 7th Street
Coplay, PA 18037
(215) 262-4992

Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice
Provisional Courtesy
Effective 5/25/89

Daniel J. Stauffer, M.D.
Trexlerstown Community Health Center
Trexlerstown Medical Group
Trexlerstown, PA 18087
(215) 395-1924
Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice
Provisional Courtesy
Effective 6/22/89

ADDITIONAL PRIVILEGES

Beth A. Folio, M.D.
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Provisional Active
External Cephalic Version for Breech
Presentation
Laser Privileges

Charles D. Peters, M.D.
Department of Medicine
Division of Internal Medicine
Section of General Internal Medicine
Flexible Sigmoidoscopy

CHANGE OF STATUS

Stephen J. Barrett, M.D.
Department of Psychiatry
Courtesy to Consulting

Howard L. Carbaugh, M.D.
Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice
Courtesy to Emeritus Courtesy

Chong S. Lee, M.D.
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Active to Courtesy

Melvin M. Rappaport, M.D.
Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice
Active to Courtesy

Stephen S. Robb, M.D.
Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice
Active to Courtesy

Marvin M. Sandler, D.P.M.
Department of Surgery
Division of Orthopedic Surgery
Section of Podiatry
Active to Consulting

Stanley E. Zeeman, M.D.
Department of Medicine
Division of Internal Medicine
Section of Cardiology
Active to Emeritus Active

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Samuel W. Criswell, Jr., D.P.M.
Department of Surgery
Division of Orthopedic Surgery
Section of Podiatry
Active
Effective 6/22/89 to 6/21/91

RESIGNATIONS

George C. Lewis, Jr., M.D.
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
 Emeritus Consulting

Gregory J. McGinley, D.O.
 Department of Medicine
 Division of Internal Medicine
 Section of General Internal Medicine
 Provisional Courtesy

Robert J. Snyder, M.D.
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
 Courtesy

ADDRESS CHANGES

John J. Cassel, M.D.
 2830 Diamond Avenue
 Allentown, PA 18103
 (215) 797-8990

Beth A. Folio, M.D.
 Larry R. Glazerman, M.D.
 Stephen K. Klasko, M.D.
 Howard M. Listwa, D.O.
 Valley OB-GYN Associates, Ltd.
 22 S. 17th Street
 Allentown, PA 18104
 (215) 434-4015

Ismail Nabati, M.D.
 2597 Schoenersville Road
 Suite 203
 Bethlehem, PA 18017
 (215) 691-8074

Syed A. Subzposh, M.D.
 451 Chew Street
 Suite 302
 Allentown, PA 18102
 (215) 821-2810

John S. Ziegler, D.D.S.
 1903 Union Blvd.
 Allentown, PA 18103
 (215) 437-5353

ADDRESS CORRECTION

Glen L. Oliver, M.D.
 Fairgrounds Medical Center
 400 N. 17th Street
 Suite 200
 Allentown, PA 18104
 (215) 433-2021

TELEPHONE NUMBER CHANGE

Bruce A. Feldman, D.O.
 David B. Goldner, M.D.
 D. Lynn Morris, M.D.
 Eugene E. Ordway, M.D.
 James A. Sandberg, M.D.
 Bruce J. Silverberg, M.D.
 Cardiology Associates of the Lehigh
 Valley
 (215) 433-6442

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

APPOINTMENTS

Sharon K. Gable
 Physician Extender
 Technical Category
 Dental Assistant
 David H. Packman, D.D.S.
 Effective 5/25/89

Elizabeth D. Magann
 Physician Extender
 Technical Category
 Dental Assistant
 David H. Packman, D.D.S.
 Effective 5/25/89

Karen B. Palmer
 Physician Extender
 Technical Category
 Dental Assistant
 Charles A. Kosteva, D.D.S.
 Effective 5/25/89

RESIGNATION

Laurel A. Taschler, R.N.
 Physician Extender
 Professional - R.N.
 Geoffrey G. Hallock, M.D.
 David J. Barillo, M.D.

**Medical Staff Progress Notes is published
 monthly to inform TAH--LVHC Medical
 Staff and employees of important issues
 concerning the Medical Staff. Articles
 should be submitted to Janet M.
 Laudenslager, Medical Affairs Office,
 TAH Campus, by the first of each month.**

THE ALLENTOWN HOSPITAL--LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL CENTER
A HealthEast Hospital

UNIT DIRECTORSLVHC Campus

ACU - Norman S. Sarachek, MD
 CNS - Mark C. Lester, MD
 GICU - Jay H. Kaufman, MD
 OHU - Donald J. Belmont, MD
 - Michael C. Sinclair, MD
 PCCU - Norman H. Marcus, MD
 RR - Carmen B. Montaner, MD
 SCU - Paul Guillard, MD
 SSU - Robert D. Riether, MD
 STU - Michael Rhodes, MD
 SPU - Donald H. Gaylor, MD
 - Alphonse A. Maffeo, MD
 4A - Kenneth M. McDonald, MD
 4B - Glenn M. Short, MD
 4C - Michael C. Sinclair, MD
 5A - Clifford G. Vernick, MD
 5B - Joseph J. Prorok, MD
 5C - Clifford G. Vernick, MD
 6A - Robert J. Oriel, MD
 6B - Mark C. Lester, MD
 6C - Lloyd E. Barron, II, MD
 7B - Raj P. Chowdary, MD
 7C - Charles A. Gordon, MD
 -

TAH Campus

ICU - Joseph E. Vincent, MD
 L&D - Sze-Ya Yeh, MD
 NICU - Edward C. Denny, MD
 RR - Ramon Deeb, MD
 TCU - Eugene E. Ordway, MD
 ACCU - Eugene E. Ordway, MD
 3T - Sze-Ya Yeh, MD
 4S - Robert W. Grunberg, MD
 4T - John D. Nuschke, M.D.
 5S - Russell B. Puschak, MD
 5T - Gazi Abdulhay, MD
 6T - Barry A. Ruht, MD
 6WN - Clifford H. Schilke, MD
 6WS - Farhad Sholevar, MD

LABORATORY DIRECTORS

Cardiac Cath Lab - Pieter Knibbe, MD (Director)
 John J. Cassel, MD (Asst. Director)
 GI Labs - Carl F. D'Angelo, MD
 - James A. Sheets, MD
 Vascular Lab - William Gee, MD

7/01/89

/rmm