



Progress Notes

MEDICAL STAFF

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AT-LARGE MEMBERS NEEDED FOR MEDICAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Nominations are now being taken for three at-large members for the Medical Executive Committee to serve three-year terms. If you have any suggestions or if you are interested in serving in this position, please send your name to Charles J. Scagliotti, M.D., in care of the Medical Affairs Office, LVHC site, Attention: John W. Hart. If you have any questions regarding these positions, please contact either Dr. Scagliotti or Mr. Hart at 778-2244.

PHYSICIAN OFFICE PRACTICE REPRESENTATIVE HIRED

Patricia A. Skrovanek was recently hired as the first of three Physician Office Practice Representatives who will be responsible for day-to-day liaison with doctors and office personnel in private practices.

Pat has been with the HealthEast system for over 14 years and has held positions in the Business Office, eight years in the LVHC Computer Services Department as Assistant Director, and most recently as an outside Account Representative in the Information Systems Division at HealthEast. In addition to her Information Systems background, Pat brings extensive experience in hospital departmental operations.

Pat reports to and will work closely with John W. Hart, Vice President, on numerous Physician Office Practice Support (POPS) activities. Pat is located in the POPS Office in Medical Affairs at TAH site and may be contacted by telephone at 778-2781.

FAX MACHINES AVAILABLE FOR USE IN MEDICAL AFFAIRS

With the installation of a new fax machine at TAH site, the Medical Affairs Office is now offering the use of its fax machines to physicians' offices. Physicians and their office staff will now be able to send and receive information via fax machine in either of the Medical Affairs Offices.

Use of the fax machines will be available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. It will be the responsibility of the physician's office to make arrangements for pick up of any information transmitted to either of these locations as the Medical Affairs Office staff will not contact a physician's office when information is received via fax machine. The number for the fax machine at the LVHC site is 776-8938; at TAH site, the number for the fax machine is 778-2867.

If you have any questions regarding the use of the fax machines, please call the Medical Affairs Office at 778-2244.



The Allentown
Hospital—
Lehigh Valley
Hospital Center

A HealthEast Hospital

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 5
MAY, 1990

GENERAL MEDICAL STAFF MEETING REMINDER

The next General Medical Staff Meeting will be held on Monday, June 11, at 6 p.m., in the Auditorium of the LVHC site. All members of the Medical Staff are urged to attend.

PHYSICIAN PARKING UPDATE - LVHC SITE

If you have parked in the main physicians' parking lot at the LVHC site lately, you may have noticed the new access road to the overflow physicians' lot on the left. Currently, access to this overflow lot was available from the main driveway. However, before the end of May, this lot will be blocked off at the main driveway and access will be available only from the main physicians' parking lot with the use of the photo I.D. cards.

If you have any questions regarding physician parking, please contact Gerald Kresge, Director of Security/Parking Management, at 778-2987.

REWRITING ORDERS

In order to promote clarity and reduce confusion in the transfer of care of critically ill patients, the Special Care Committee and the Medical Executive Committee established the policy that any

patient transferred into a critical care unit must have his or her orders rewritten by the physician. This includes transferring a patient from one critical care unit to another and also from a medical/surgical unit to a critical care unit. This policy also provides an opportunity for us to review the orders that the patient has had.

Please make every effort to comply with this policy and rewrite the orders when the patient is being transferred from one critical care unit to another or from a medical/surgical unit to critical care. Please note that it is also a policy that orders need to be rewritten when the patient is transferred from a critical care unit back to a medical/surgical unit.

If you have any questions regarding these policies, please call Joseph E. Vincent, M.D., Medical Director of Critical Care, at 776-8450.

NURSING FACILITIES EXPRESS CONCERN

A number of local nursing facilities have expressed concern with the quality of information being provided to them regarding patients applying for admission from acute care facilities. The problem is compounded by the fact that government regulations now require up to four separate forms prior to

approval and transfer for placement. These forms include the SNF Form, PA 376, MA 51, and MA 79.

The SNF Form, "Hospital to Skilled Nursing Facility Transfer Information," includes diagnosis and medical orders and is used by the nursing homes to provide continuity of treatment from acute care to nursing home. It is required for all nursing home transfers.

PA 376, "Pre-Admission Questionnaire for Nursing Home Facility Care," has been required as a result of the Omnibus Reconciliation Act regulations and determines the appropriateness of nursing home versus mental health placement. It is required for all new nursing home transfers.

MA 51, "Medical Assistance Attending Physician Medical Evaluation," is required to authorize Medical Assistance payment and provides a medical history. It is required for nursing home transfers where Medical Assistance coverage is needed.

MA 79, "Skilled Nursing Care Assessment Form," is required for the application process for nursing homes and is used to determine the patient's level of care. It is required for nursing home transfer where Medical Assistance coverage is needed.

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The cooperation of the Medical Staff is extremely important in facilitating these transfers and thus adding to a reduction in length of stay where it makes a difference (with Medicare and Medicaid payors). Timely and accurate completion of these forms is crucial. The Social Service staff is responsible for generating and directing these forms and will be happy to assist and advise you in their use.

Please feel free to contact the Social Worker assigned to your patient if you have questions, or call the Social Service Department at 778-2247 (TAH) or 776-8610 (LVHC).

LABORATORY UPDATE

Change in Bacterial Stool Culture Processing

Effective June 1, the Microbiology Division of HealthEast Laboratories will test specimens for the carrier state of stool pathogens on request only, i.e., enrichment broth to detect small numbers of organisms will be eliminated from the routine setup procedure. Please notify the laboratory at the time a stool culture is ordered if the patient is suspected of being a "carrier" or if this is a "test of cure."

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please

contact Georgia Colasante, M.S., Supervisor, Microbiology/Virology, at 776-8190, or Diane Halstead, Ph.D., Director, Microbiology/Virology/Immunology, at beeper 1193.

Hepatitis "C" Testing on Donor Blood

A licensed test for Hepatitis "C" was released on May 4, 1990. On that day, Miller Memorial Blood Center began testing donor blood for Hepatitis "C".

If you have any questions regarding this Hepatitis "C" testing, please contact Bala Carver, M.D., Director, Transfusion Medicine, at 776-8142 or beeper 3433.

RADIOLOGY NEWS

Update on Appropriate History for Radiology Requests

Since October 1, 1989, the Healthcare Finance Administration (HCFA) has mandated via Medicare that all diagnostic imaging examinations must have appropriate history. Since that time, quality assurance review has shown that many of you have complied with the Radiology Department's request to provide pertinent clinical information with your chart orders for radiology procedures. The level of compliance has risen from under 50% to 76%.

Not only does this information help in providing your patient with better care and focus on your requirements for diagnosis, but it is also needed to support billing requirements for services provided by Radiology.

In review, the attending physician or housestaff officer will write a request for an examination on the order sheet. This request must include appropriate clinical information. The nursing staff has agreed to be responsible for transcribing this information onto the Hospital Information System. Verbal and telephone requests for examinations must also contain appropriate histories.

Medicare (for reimbursement purposes) will no longer accept history as "Rule out fracture" or "Routine." They now require that a symptom or symptom complex relative to the patient's condition be used. For example, in chest radiography, appropriate history would be "fever, cough, dyspnea." Appropriate information for an abdomen series might be "crampy pain, high pitched bowel sounds, constipation." For CT of the brain, an example could be "recent left hemiparesis and slurred speech." It may be necessary in some patients to request an examination based on introduction of a tube or

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line and this should be specified. Please be aware that this brief clinical information is the minimum that is required by HCFA and Medicare. The more information received about a patient, the better, and all physicians who interpret diagnostic examinations of any kind are most grateful for as much information as can be supplied.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact a radiologist at either site, 776-8088 (LVHC) or 778-2214 (TAH).

VASCULAR LABORATORY NEWS

Effective June 1, outpatient referrals for OPG's, Arterial Doppler and Venous Doppler studies to be performed at TAH site will be scheduled by the secretary in the Vascular Lab at the LVHC site, 776-8825.

The above tests are available at TAH site on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to noon, and on Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:30 to 4 p.m.

If you have any questions regarding this new procedure, please contact Alice Madden, R.N., Manager, Vascular Laboratory, at 776-8825.

STROKE TEAM UPDATE

The Stroke Team at the LVHC site has changed their weekly meeting time to every Wednesday at 8 a.m. in the Physiotherapy Department. William R. Pistone, D.O., continues to serve as physician advisor, and Carol Steager, Neuro Social Worker, coordinates the care review and family attendance. Attending physicians are encouraged to attend weekly meetings.

For further information, contact Dr. Pistone at 821-9111 or Carol Steager at 776-8610.

NEXT PHYSICIAN OFFICE PRACTICE FORUM SCHEDULED

Recruitment techniques for hiring the right physician for your practice, hiring and interviewing techniques, and personnel legal issues will be discussed at the next Physician Office Practice Forum scheduled for Friday, June 15, from noon to 2 p.m., in the Auditorium of the LVHC site. Physicians and physician office managers will benefit from this program.

For more information or to register, contact Janet M. Laudenslager, Coordinator, Physician Office Practice Support (POPS), at 778-2780.

"HEALTH MATTERS" MAY/JUNE SCHEDULE

"Health Matters," a nationally-syndicated television series featuring timely health care topics and underwritten in this area by TAH--LVHC, will present the following programs during May and June:

May 23 and 26 - "When Nature Needs Help" (Caesarean Birth) with Oscar A. Morffi, M.D., pediatrician, and Gregory J. Radio, M.D., obstetrician/gynecologist.

May 30 and June 2 - "Thinner and Staying There" with Donna Dispas, R.D., Program Director, Weight Management Center of Lehigh Valley, and Peter Rovito, M.D., general surgeon.

June 6 and 9 - "A Good Night's Sleep" (Insomnia) with John P. Galgon, M.D., pulmonologist, and William R. Pistone, D.O., neurologist.

June 13 and 16 - "The Family First Aid Test" with James G. McHugh, M.D., Emergency Medicine physician, and Mary S. Shields, M.D., pediatrician.

June 20 and 23 - "Women's Problems: PMS and Endometriosis" with Beth A. Folio, M.D., and Thomas A. Hutchinson, M.D., obstetricians/gynecologists.

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June 27 and 30 - "Head Injuries" with Mark C. Lester, M.D., neurosurgeon, and Robert A. Morrow, M.D., Chief of the Division of Neurosurgery.

"Health Matters" is televised on WLVT-TV, Channel 39, on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., and again on Saturdays at 4 p.m.

HEALTHCOUNTS NEWS

Free Public Lectures

HealthCounts, the employee and community wellness program of The Allentown Hospital--Lehigh Valley Hospital Center, will continue its series of lectures concerning health promotion and disease prevention.

The free public lectures, sponsored by the Chronic Disease Education Committee of TAH--LVHC, include:

"Responsible Assertiveness" will be presented on Tuesday, May 22, from 7 to 9 p.m., in the Auditorium at TAH site. Donna Wilson, OTR/L, Assertiveness Training Specialist, will present techniques on how to develop better communication in your job, inter-personal relationships, parenting, consumer and social situations.

"How to Avoid Allergies" will be

presented on Wednesday, May 23, from 7 to 9 p.m., in Classroom 1 at the LVHC site. William Tuffiash, M.D., Allergist, will discuss how to reduce your exposure to allergens with basic treatment for allergies and asthma.

In addition to these free lectures, programs to help your patients look and feel their best are also available through the HealthCounts program. Some of these programs include Weight Control, Smoke Stoppers, and Smoking Cessation through Hypnosis.

For more information or to register your patients, please call HealthCounts at 821-2150.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Jose R. Garcia, M.D., general internist, was recently elected a Fellow in the American College of Physicians. In addition, he has also become board certified as a Diplomate in geriatric medicine.

Michael Rhodes, M.D., Chief of the Division of Trauma, was recently presented with the Trauma Achievement Award by the Committee on Trauma of the American College of Surgeons for exceptional meritorious service as a member of a regional committee on trauma. The award was presented to him at the American College of Surgeons National Committee

on Trauma meeting held in Washington, D.C.

PUBLICATIONS, PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

David J. Barillo, M.D., plastic surgeon, presented a paper titled "Cyanide Poisoning in Smoke Inhalation" at the American Burn Association meeting held earlier this year in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Thomas D. Meade, M.D., orthopedic surgeon, recently co-authored "Metal Toxicity," a chapter in a book titled Complications of Total Hip Arthroplasty.

Bruce I. Rose, M.D., Reproductive Endocrinologist, recently attended the 15th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Andrology held in Columbia, South Carolina, where he presented a poster titled "Evaluation of common separation methods for human sperm using the sperm chromatin structure assay."

Members of the new Geriatric Evaluation Service attended a Delaware Valley Education Center's six-day course for multi-disciplinary training in geriatrics. Those attending included Francis A. Salerno, M.D., Director of the Geriatrics Program, Yehia Y. Mishriki, M.D., Vice Chairman,

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Department of Medicine and Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program, **Lisa Lacko, R.N., M.S.N.**, Nurse Coordinator of the Geriatric Evaluation Service, **Patricia Root, M.S.W.**, Social Worker for the Geriatric Evaluation Service, **June Bast**, Secretary, Geriatrics Program, **Marilyn Steinleitner**, Medical Assistant, Geriatric Evaluation Service, **Rita Bendekovits, M.S.N.**, Clinical Instructor, Nursing/Patient Education & Research, **Sharon Goldner, R.D.**, Clinical Dietitian, and **Lawrence Kovalick, B.S.**, Staff Pharmacist.

The course titled "Principles of Geriatrics for Educators" was held earlier this year in Philadelphia. The core team members, Dr. Salerno, Lisa Lacko, and Patricia Root, will be returning to Philadelphia to complete a 50-hour preceptorship. All the team members will apply the knowledge gained from the program directly when seeing patients and indirectly by providing educational programs in geriatrics.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

TAH--LVHC Regional Symposium Series

"Topics in Clinical Pharmacology" will be held on

Saturday, May 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the Auditorium at the LVHC site. This program will benefit physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and other health care workers concerned with topics in clinical pharmacology.

"Selected Thyroid Disease Topics" will be held on Saturday, June 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:25 p.m., in the Auditorium at the LVHC site. The program will benefit physicians, nurses, and other health care professionals interested in an update on selected thyroid topics.

"Perinatal Loss: Achieving Dynamic Awareness" will be held on Wednesday, June 6, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Classrooms 1, 2, and 3 at the LVHC site. Nurses, social workers, counselors, pastoral counselors, physicians, and any professionals involved with caring for persons experiencing a perinatal loss will benefit from this program.

For more information and fees for any of the above programs, contact Human Resource Development at 776-8322.

Primary Care Seminar

"Failure to Diagnose Breast Cancer - Medicolegal Issues" will be held on Wednesday, June 13, from 10 a.m. to noon, in Classroom 1 at the LVHC site. Max Borten, M.D., J.D., Director of Medical Gynecology,

Beth Israel Hospital, Boston, Ma., will be the guest speaker. Dr. Borten's presentation will explore the currently acceptable standard of care for the early diagnosis of breast cancer. Liabilities attached to the failure to identify a breast malignancy at its earliest manifestations will be discussed in detail.

For more information, please contact the Comprehensive Community Cancer Center at 778-2582.

Neurosciences Conference - Visiting Speaker

"Cancer and the Nervous System: New Concepts" will be presented by Jerome Posner M.D., Chair, Department of Medicine, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, on Friday, June 15, beginning a 11 a.m. in the Auditorium at the LVHC site. Dr. Posner will talk on the aspects of cancer and the nervous system.

For more information or to register, contact the Neurosciences Regional Resource Center at 776-8270.

Department of Pediatrics Conference Schedule

"Unusual Presentations of Cystic Fibrosis" will be presented by Douglas S. Holsclaw, Jr., M.D., Director, Cystic Fibrosis and Pediatric

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Pulmonary Center, Hahnemann University Hospital, on Friday, May 18, beginning at noon in the Auditorium at TAH site.

"Inflammatory Bowel Disease" will be presented by David A. Piccoli, M.D., Gastroenterology and Nutrition Division, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, on Friday, June 1, beginning at noon in the Auditorium at TAH site.

"Presentation in Pediatric Neurology" will be presented by Martha Lusser, M.D., Pediatric Neurologist, TAH-LVHC, on Tuesday, June 5, at 8 a.m., in the Auditorium at TAH site.

"Home Ventilation" will be presented by Howard Panitch, M.D., Director, Home Ventilation Program, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, on Friday, June 15, beginning at noon in the Auditorium at TAH site.

For more information, contact Beverly Humphrey in the Department of Pediatrics at 778-2540.

OFFICE PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES

High quality family practice in West Allentown available with or without building and equipment. Will consider space sharing, office rental, or other association. Very flexible.

Office space available for lease in Allentown Medical Center. Lease would be on a year-to-year basis and involves approximately 1,200 square feet. Office space includes consultation room, three examining rooms, business office, and waiting room.

For more information on either opportunity, contact John W. Hart, Vice President, at 778-2244.

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.

Please remember that each department or unit is responsible for updating its directory, rolodexes, and approved privilege rosters.

Medical Staff

Appointment

Timothy J. Kutz, M.D.
Joining Mary G. Pixler, M.D.
333 Normal Avenue
Kutztown, PA 19530
(215) 683-8363
Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice
Provisional Referring

Change of Status

Stephen L. Goldman, M.D.
Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice
(Disassociation from Group -
Goldman, Ellsweig & Wolf)
Active to Referring

Vera J. Krisukas, M.D.
Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice
Emeritus Active to Emeritus
Courtesy

Daniel J. Stauffer, M.D.
Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice
Provisional Courtesy to
Provisional Referring

Additional Privileges

David M. Caccese, M.D.
Department of Medicine
Division of Internal Medicine
Section of General Internal
Medicine
Exercise Treadmill Testing

Peter F. Rovito, M.D.
Department of Surgery
Division of General Surgery
Flexible Sigmoidoscopy

Appointment of Vice Chairman,
Department of Emergency
Medicine

James G. McHugh, M.D.

Changes of Address

Steven Farbowitz, M.D.
540 N. 16th Street
Allentown, PA 18104
(215) 433-5228

Leo J. Hastings, Jr., M.D.
Robert H. Schmidt, D.O.
D. Erik F. Von Kiel, D.O.
1227 Liberty Street
Suite 303
Allentown, PA 18102
(215) 432-6932

Daniel J. Stauffer, M.D.
32 S. 10th Street
Quakertown, PA 18951
(215) 536-7998

Allied Health Professionals

Appointments

Melissa J. Hayduscko, R.N.
Physician Extender
Professional Category - R.N.
Charles S. McConnel, Jr., M.D.

Leslye R. Kappauf, R.N.
Physician Extender
Professional Category - R.N.
David J. Barillo, M.D.

Additional Privileges

Bette L. Foulke, R.N.
Physician Extender
Professional Category - R.N.
Peripheral Vascular Surgeons
Application of Unna Boots

Joanne Rodgers, R.N.
Physician Extender
Professional Category - R.N.
Peripheral Vascular Surgeons
Application of Unna Boots

To Be Added To Rolodex

George M. Perovich, Ed.D.
1251 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
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(215) 437-1431
Associate Scientific
Psychologist

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, Coordinator, Physician Office Practice Support, Medical Affairs Office, TAH site, by the first of each month.
