

Medical Staff Progress Notes

Volume 4, Number 8
August, 1992



From the President

Work continues on the feasibility of a Medical Staff-wide PPO or IPA. We are in the process of interviewing the "finalists" for our consultant, having narrowed the list down to three at this point. In addition, arrangements have been made for a physician from Reading Hospital to address a special meeting of our Medical Staff on Wednesday, August 19. This will be for the sole purpose of discussing the managed care issue and how it has been dealt with at a comparable neighboring institution, using a Physician Hospital Organization (PHO) model.

The Ad Hoc HIV Committee has resurfaced with a somewhat different spin on its recommendations. This, in turn, is largely because of rapidly changing HIV policies from the Communicable Diseases Center. At present, we have elected to focus on developing a program which insures prompt, accessible, and confidential testing for physicians, on a voluntary basis. This is particularly important for physicians because of many potential exposures occurring in the hospital setting.

The "Partnership for Community Health" project has continued to be active, with a number of recent meetings oriented toward various local constituencies. One such meeting involved only the Medical Staff Presidents of local hospitals. A very interesting and potentially fruitful discussion took place regarding the direction of the proposed Community Health Partnership.

Interestingly, this was the first time in recent memory that Medical Staff leaders from the region's hospitals have sat down together, pointing to the possibility of increased collaboration among the Medical Staffs in the interest of improved regional health care in the future.

We have decided to pursue the idea of "mini internships" for hospital Board members and other interested community participants as a joint venture with the Lehigh County Medical Society. Current plans are to have interested parties spend one to two days with a physician, following him/her in daily activities including the operating room and even night call.

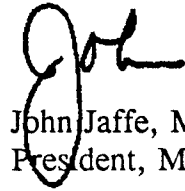
Continued on Page 2

In This Issue...

- Fair Parking
Changes*
- Page 3
- New I.D. Badges
Available*
- Page 3
- "Our First"*
- Page 4
- Drug Information
Bulletin*
- Pages 15 & 16

Continued from Page 1.

This has been done successfully in several other parts of the country and has served to increase channels of communication between the Medical Staff and non-physician key members of the health care community. Medical Staff members interested in serving as mentors for this program should contact Medical Staff Services at 402-8968.



John Jaffe, M.D.
President, Medical Staff

A Special Meeting of the General Medical Staff will be held on Wednesday, August 19, beginning at 6 p.m., in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78.

A. George Gillsillan, M.D., President of the Medical Staff at Reading Hospital, will speak on Managed Care.

* * * * *

A General Medical Staff Meeting will be held on Monday, September 14, at 6 p.m., in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78. All members of the Medical Staff are urged to attend.

News from Consultation Liaison Psychiatry

The Consultation Liaison Service is responsible for meeting the needs for psychiatric and counseling services throughout the hospital system. Contained within this division is Clinical Social Work whose responsibilities include counseling patients and families dealing with the psychosocial consequences of medical problems. Also included are the Substance Abuse Counselors who work throughout the hospital with patients having difficulties with drugs and alcohol.

It is a pleasure to announce the addition of a new Consultation Liaison Psychiatrist -- Dr. Peggy Showalter -- who joined the staff in July, 1992.

The service now consists of Drs. Joseph Antonowicz, Kenneth Zemanek, and Peggy Showalter. This has greatly expanded the ability to respond to your needs for psychiatric consultation in the hospital system.

Please note that the offices of the Division of Consultation Liaison Psychiatry recently relocated to 1243 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 2800, Allentown, PA 18103.

Requests for psychiatric consultation, unless directed to a specific physician, may be phoned into the Consultation Liaison Psychiatry office at 402-9800.

Allentown Fair Parking Changes

In preparation for the Great Allentown Fair, all Fairgrounds parking facilities will be surrendered beginning Tuesday, August 18 through Monday, September 14. During this period, patients and visitors will utilize the doctors' lot located on the corner of 17th & Chew Streets.

Parking for physicians and housestaff will be available in the following areas:

* Lot #4 (North West Street) - accessible from North West Street

* Lot #5 (Gordon Street) - accessible from Gordon Street

Photo I.D. cards will be required to access these lots.

On Tuesday, September 15, the doctors' lot will once again be available for physician parking.

Thank you for your cooperation during this difficult period.

New Hospital I.D. Badges Available for Pick-Up

New hospital identification badges will be available for pick-up beginning August 17 for members of the Medical Staff, residents, medical students, employees, and volunteers who have had their photos taken for the new badges.

The process for badge distribution includes the exchange of new badges for old ones. Badges may be picked up on an individual basis or by a representative from a unit or department who should bring his/her entire group's badges for exchange.

Individuals who have lost their badges will be required to provide specific information at the time of pick-up to make encoding on the lost badge inoperative.

New badges will be operative when you receive them; old badges will then no longer operate any gates or locks.

Badge exchange will be held from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the following days:

August 17, 18 and 19 - Cedar Crest & I-78, Quality Classroom, Third Floor, Anderson Wing

August 20, 21 and 24 - 17th & Chew, Cafeteria Conference Room

For those who have not yet had photos taken for the new I.D., stay tuned for information regarding future photo I.D. sessions.

"Our First"

In an effort to assist first-time parents prepare for the physical, emotional, and lifestyle changes that come with having a baby, and to provide the kind of information and reassurance that is especially helpful for a first pregnancy and birth, Lehigh Valley Hospital recently initiated the "Our First" program.

"Our First," which was planned and coordinated by WomanCare and the departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Pediatrics, is free to first-time parents who plan to deliver at Lehigh Valley Hospital.

Members in the program receive informative newsletters monthly during pregnancy and then quarterly through

the baby's first birthday. Members receive a card which allows them to receive discounts at over 55 local participating merchants. Additionally, parents have access to STORKLINE, a telephone information line staffed 24 hours daily by nurses in Labor and Delivery.

All active obstetricians on the hospital's staff have incorporated "Our First" into their office practices. Several pediatricians also mention this program to their patients during prenatal interviews. To date, 210 members have been registered.

For more information about "Our First," call WomanCare at 402-3800.

Documentation Requirements of Transfer Cases

With the implementation of a single provider number for the hospital on July 1, 1992, the following documentation is now required on all patients who are transferred from 17th & Chew to Cedar Crest & I-78 or from Cedar Crest & I-78 to 17th & Chew:

All current orders must be documented on the order sheets of the receiving location's records (until the PHAMIS system is live)

However, there is no need to document the H & P on the receiving location's records or the Discharge Summary on the sending location's records.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Martie Breshock, Manager, Record Storage and Retrieval, at 402-2304, or Inge Meyers, Manager, Data Quality, at 402-8344.

Health Plan Changes

New Name

Effective immediately, the hospital's health plan will now be referred to as the **Lehigh Valley Health Network Health Plan**, formerly known as the HealthEast Health Plan. Also, the dental plan will now be referred to as **Lehigh Valley Health Network Dental Plan**.

New Medical Director Named for Health Plan

Effective July 1, Alan H. Schragger, M.D., has replaced David Prager, M.D., as Medical Director of the Lehigh Valley Health Network Health Plan.

Pool Trust Approves Funding

At the July meeting, the Dorothy Rider Pool Health Care Trustees approved funding in the amount of \$69,266 to support the establishment of a restraint-free environment at Lehigh Valley Hospital, an 18-month innovative patient care program. This project, under the direction of Carole Moretz, R.N., M.S.N., is designed to compare the outcomes for patients at high risk of being restrained, treated conventionally, with those treated in a specifically designed restraint-free environment. The outcome of this study may impact the design of all hospital rooms in the future.

The Pool Trustees also approved funding of \$199,771 to support the continuation of the Lehigh Valley Hospital Geriatrics Center. Trust funds will be used to underwrite the salaries of one clinical nurse specialist, one masters-prepared social worker, and one-half of a secretary for a two-year period.

The Trustees approved release of \$47,325 from the Department of Pediatrics Discretionary Funds to John D. VanBrakle, M.D., to provide administrative support as well as the recruitment of two general pediatricians and a pediatric pulmonologist.

In addition, the Trustees approved release of \$32,640 from the Institutional Research grant for the following RAC protocols: "Management of Central Venous Catheters" - \$9,840, John H. Samies, M.D., P.I.; and "Evaluation of New Risk Factors in Cardiovascular Disease" - \$22,800, Nelson P. Kopyt, D.O., P.I.

New Toll-Free Number for Spectrum Administrators

Effective August 3, Spectrum Administrators has expanded its telephone service for participants calling from outside the 215 area code. The new toll-free number, **1-800-925-8459**, will provide coverage for all 48 states in the Continental United States. The new number may be used for Pre-Certification, Customer Services, and other inquiries. Calls on this line will be accepted during normal business days from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EST).

Callers within the 215 area code or those callers who wish to leave a message after business hours may continue to contact Spectrum Administrators at the following numbers:

**Customer Service - 402-7410
Pre-Certification - 402-7417
Administrative Office - 402-7420
Telefax Number - 402-7411**

New/Revised Administrative Directives Approved

Several Administrative Directives were recently approved and are now included in the Administrative Policy Manual. The new/revised policies include:

AD 1100.07 - Advance Directive for Health Care

The Lehigh Valley Hospital, as mandated by the Advance Directive for Health Care Act, Patient Self Determination Act (PSDA), will inquire of all admitted adult patients whether they have an Advance Directive - such as a Living Will (e.g. Pennsylvania Senate Bill #3) or a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care. Additionally, the hospital will advise each patient of his or her right,

under the law, to make decisions concerning medical care including the right to accept or refuse medical treatment or surgical treatment and the right to formulate Advance Directives. The patient will be advised of the policies and procedures for implementing his/her right under the law.

A copy of a signed organ/tissue donor card will be handled in the same manner as copies of Advance Directives.

The hospital will not condition the provision of care or otherwise discriminate against an individual based on whether the individual has executed an advance directive.

The hospital will follow written advance directives except in those situations where doing so will violate professional standards or the law.

Continued on Page 7

Continued from Page 6

The competent patient speaks for him or herself; Advance Directives do not govern patient care while the patient is competent. An Advance Directive will be implemented only upon physician order(s).

AD 1500.10 - Signature Stamps

The use of rubber stamp signatures on the medical record is acceptable according to JCAHO standards. The individual whose signature the rubber stamp represents is the only one who has sole possession of the stamp and is the only one to exclusively use it.

AD 2100.00 - Consent

It is essential that a general consent be obtained from all patients who are medically competent, or from a person authorized to consent on the patient's behalf, at the time of admission to the hospital or upon arrival for outpatient testing/treatment. This policy and attached form is intended to cover consent for routine hospital services, diagnostic procedures and medical treatment. In addition to the general consent, there are specific consent forms used by the Hospital for certain treatments and/or invasive procedures which should be obtained prior to the initiation of any such procedures.

If an emergency exists, consent is not required to admit and/or perform any procedures on the patient. However, a reasonable effort should be made to obtain consent in all cases. If consent is unable to be obtained for any reason, the patient's medical record should state in detail the efforts pursued, the

nature of the threat to life or health including its immediacy and magnitude.

In the absence of a designated consent form, or in addition to, the physician may wish to document any discussion in the progress notes. All original consent forms will become part of the patient's medical record.

AD 5100.10 - Transfer of Patients to Another Facility

Inpatients or Emergency Department patients may be transferred to another facility for various reasons:

- Requests by patient, or next of kin, for any reasons which may or may not be medical.
- The benefit of more appropriate facilities and/or services at another hospital.
- Hospital beds are full or in short supply or limited resources at Lehigh Valley Hospital.

Patients should not be transferred to another facility before completion of emergency treatment if emergency patient care can be provided at the original hospital. Stabilization includes adequate evaluation and initiation of treatment. The sending physician and hospital are responsible for the patient until care is assumed by the receiving physician and hospital. Essential medication, equipment, and appropriate personnel must be available during transport of the patient as per physician's order.

Continued on Page 8

Continued from Page 7

AD 6100.10 - Observation Beds

To provide for evaluation and treatment of patients until acuity of their condition can be established. Outpatients may be assigned to Observation Status when they are in need of additional recovery time and/or treatment time. Observation status should not exceed 24 hours.

AD 6300.21 - HIV Infection: Prevention & Management

The Hospital will not deny care to patients known or suspected to have HIV infection.

In keeping with the Hospital's goals of providing optimal patient care while providing a safe environment for patients, health care workers, volunteers, and medical staff, the following measures are used to prevent and manage HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) infection.

Major emphasis is placed on alerting health care workers of their **potential** risk of acquiring HIV infection by injury from sharps, splash to mucous

membranes and blood contact with non-intact skin since available evidence documents this risk to be **extremely low** and injuries from sharps are very often **preventable**.

AD 7650.05 - Protocol for Overload of Psychiatric Patients in the Emergency Department

Psychiatric patients (referred or transported) will not be accepted at the Emergency Department, 17th & Chew, when, in the opinion of the charge nurse and the Emergency Department physician on duty, no additional patients can be safely accommodated. The safety and welfare of the patients and the Emergency Department staff will be considered in the decision-making process.

The above policies are available in their entirety in the Administrative Policy Manual which you may review in Medical Staff Services.

Congratulations!

David C. Baker, M.D., orthopedic surgeon, was recently informed that he successfully passed the 1992 Part II examination and is now a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery.

Thomas B. Dickson, M.D., orthopedic surgeon, recently passed the Recertification for his Boards of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

Continued on Page 9

Continued from Page 8

Houshang G. Hamadani, M.D., psychiatrist, was recently notified that he successfully completed the certification examination of the American Board of Adolescent Psychiatry.

Scott J. Lipkin, D.P.M., podiatrist, successfully passed both parts of the 1992 Foot Surgery certification examination and will become a Diplomate of the American Board of Podiatric Surgery with Certification in Foot Surgery at the Board's Annual Meeting later this month.

Lester Rosen, M.D., colon-rectal surgeon, recently assumed the position of Program Director for the Colon and

Rectal Surgery Residency Program at Lehigh Valley Hospital. As program director, Dr. Rosen will be responsible for the coordination of the Colon and Rectal Surgery Residency training program including educational meetings, conferences, and research.

Dr. Rosen is an associate clinical professor of surgery at Hahnemann University as well as an adjunct professor at Lehigh University. He has authored over 80 publications, including five book chapters on colorectal topics. He currently chairs the Standards Task Force of the American Society of Colorectal Surgeons which sets clinical guidelines for that specialty.

Publications, Papers and Presentations

George A. Arangio, M.D., orthopedic surgeon, recently published an article titled **The Jones Fracture - Transverse Proximal Diaphyseal Fractures of the Fifth Metatarsal: Frequency by Radiology** which was published in the British journal *Foot*.

Herbert L. Hyman, M.D., gastroenterologist, will present **Female Abdominal Affairs** on July 22 as part of the Multidisciplinary Conference schedule at St. Luke's Hospital.

Brian W. Little, M.D., neuropathologist, **Larry N. Merkle, M.D.**, endocrinologist, **Robert A. Morrow, M.D.**, neurosurgeon, and **Gerald Pytlewski, D.O.**, former medical resident, co-authored **Trigeminal Neuralgia as a Manifestation of Acromegaly: A Case Report**, which was published in *Pennsylvania Medicine*.

Upcoming Seminars, Conferences, and Meetings

Department of Psychiatry

Treating the Chronically Mentally Ill will be presented by Richard Donn, M.D., associate chief of staff/education at Franklin Delano Roosevelt VA Medical Center, Montrose, N.Y., on Thursday, September 17, in the School of Nursing Auditorium, 17th & Chew.

The presentation, which will be held from noon to 1 p.m., will address a historical overview of the treatment of the chronically mentally ill, including the cycle of institutionalization and deinstitutionalization in the United States and Europe; a description of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt VA Medical Center's approach to treating the chronically mentally ill, strategies for improving outcome and the evaluation of this process; and a discussion of the bio-psycho-social model and its use in customizing treatment planning.

As lunch will be provided, pre-registration is requested. For more information or to register, please call Lisa in the Department of Psychiatry at 402-2810 by September 8.

Regional Symposium Series IV

Fifth Annual Cardiovascular Nursing Seminar: New Beats in Cardiology will be presented on Wednesday, September 23, from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78.

This one-day seminar will feature a nationally known speaker on self governance and collaborative practice. Experts will present the most current trends in the care of the cardiovascular patient. This seminar is designed for medical/surgical and critical care nurses and allied health professionals desiring to enhance their cardiovascular knowledge.

For more information, contact Human Resource Development at 402-8322.

Health Promotion Program News

The Health Promotion Program of Lehigh Valley Hospital will present a two-part Smoking Cessation Lecture series in October. The free public lecture series is sponsored by the Chronic Disease Education Committee of Lehigh Valley Hospital.

Tobacco in Society Today - How it Affects Us All

(The legal drug that will kill 430,000 in 1992.) Increasingly, second-hand smoke is being found to create a serious health risk to non-smokers (53,000 deaths in 1988). This phenomena has caused a renewed interest in tobacco use and its

Continued on Page 11

Continued From Page 10

relationship to society today. This two-part series will explore such timely topics as: how tobacco affects our health, the impact of second-hand smoke on the individual and community, public policy and tobacco use, current trends in the treatment of nicotine addiction, and tobacco industry advertising tactics, especially their focus on adolescents.

Part I will be held on Monday, October 19, from 7 to 9 p.m., in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78. Speakers will include Sam Bub, M.D., board certified in Family Practice and Geriatrics, and Medical Director of Cedarbrook County Home; and Myra Wisotzky, M.S.P.H., Executive Director, Coalition for a Smoke-Free Valley.

Part II will be held on Monday, October 26, from 7 to 9 p.m., in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78. Speakers will include the Honorable George E. Saurman, State Representative, 151st District, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Minority Chairman of the Subcommittee on Health; and David Zimmerman, C.A.C., M.P.H., Smoking Cessation Coordinator, Health Promotion Program, Lehigh Valley Hospital.

In addition to these free lectures, the Health Promotion Program is offering a number of classes and programs for smoking cessation and weight control.

Smoke Stoppers[®]

Smoke Stoppers[®] is a comprehensive, multifaceted approach to smoking cessation. Its success rates are impressive -- 45 to 65% abstinence after one year. The program covers a five-week period. In the typical class, approximately 98% of the participants are smoke-free by the end of the second week. Taught by certified instructors, who are ex-smokers themselves, this program has been offered through Lehigh Valley Hospital for five years. It is effective for all types of smokers, regardless of the number of cigarettes smoked or the number of quit attempts made. SMOKE FREE BY '93!

SHAPEDOWN[®] - Child and Adolescent Weight Control

This weight control program is designed especially for children and adolescents. The program focuses on developing healthy eating and exercise habits while building self-esteem and communication skills. Parents are included in the program to strengthen support mechanisms necessary for achieving lifestyle changes. Sessions are led by a behaviorist and a dietitian. Topics addressed include: emotional overeating, peer pressure, exercise, body image, and family communication. (Recommended for age 8 to 14.)

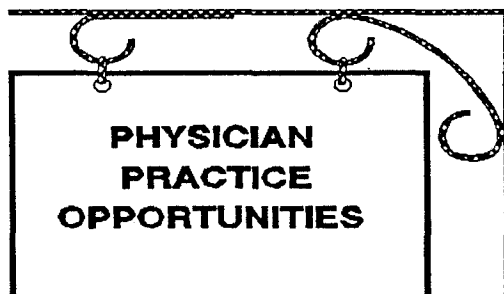
Continued on Page 12

L.E.A.R.N.TM Weight Control

L.E.A.R.N.TM is a 10-week multifaceted approach to successful weight control that is structured around your lifestyle. The program is designed to help participants identify and change daily patterns to lose weight, and most importantly, to keep it off. The sessions take a positive approach in stressing change in five key areas: Lifestyle, Exercise, Attitudes, Relationships, Nutrition.

The program is instructed by a registered dietitian. Special sessions will be presented by a behaviorist and an exercise instructor. A healthy cooking demonstration will be provided.

For more information regarding these and other programs, please call the Health Promotion Program at 821-2150.



* For Sale or Lease -- Medical-Professional Office Building on Cedar Crest Boulevard, just minutes from Cedar Crest & I-78 and 17th & Chew. Plenty of parking. Ideal for physician.

* For Sale or Lease -- Springhouse Professional Center, 1575 Pond Road. Ideal for physician's office. Two suites available -- one with 2,540 sq. ft.; one with 2,514 sq. ft. Will finish space to specifications.

* For Sale or Lease -- Medical-professional office building on South Cedar Crest Boulevard, just minutes from Cedar Crest & I-78 and 17th & Chew. 3,560 total sq. ft. Ample parking, security/fire alarms installed. Ideal for physician group.

* For Sale -- Professional Office Building on West Broad Street, near the Allentown/Bethlehem border. 4,500 sq. ft. with plenty of parking on corner lot.

* For Lease -- Slots are currently available for the Brown Bag suite at Kutztown Professional Center.

* For Lease -- Share large medical office near Cedar Crest & I-78. Fully furnished and staffed. Multiple line phone system. Computerized billing available.

* For Lease -- Specialty practice time-share space available in a comprehensive health care facility. Riverside Professional Center, 4019 Wynnewood Drive, Laurys Station. Half- or full-day slots immediately available.

* For Lease -- Share medical office space at Riverside Professional Center in Laurys Station. Ideal for solo or small group practice.

For more information or for assistance in finding appropriate office space to meet your needs, contact Joe Pilla, POPS Representative, at 402-9647.

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

Appointments

Linda M. Famiglio, MD

(Martha A. Lusser, MD)
1251 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Suite 301A
Allentown, PA 18103
(215) 432-4114
Department of Pediatrics
Division of Neurology
Provisional Active

Brian L. Fellechner, DO

(Allentown Rehabilitation Center - Lynch)
1259 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Suite 205
Allentown, PA 18103
(215) 434-1721
Department of Medicine
Division of Physical
Medicine/Rehabilitation
Provisional Active

Robert S. Gayner, MD

(Lehigh Valley Nephrology Associates - Pursell)
701 Ostrum Street
Suite 304
Bethlehem, PA 18015
(215) 865-5888
Department of Medicine
Division of Nephrology
Provisional Active

Jonathan P. Hosey, MD

(Robert M. Roeshman, DO)
1259 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Suite 230
Allentown, PA 18103
(215) 820-9668
Department of Medicine
Division of Neurology
Provisional Active

Mark S. Trachtman, MD

(Lehigh Valley Ophthalmic Assoc, PC - Burkholder)
Fairgrounds Medical Center
400 N. 17th Street, #101
Allentown, PA 18104
(215) 433-0450
Department of Surgery
Division of Ophthalmology
Provisional Active

John F. Welkie, MD

(Peripheral Vascular Surgeons, PC - McDonald)
1275 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Upper Level
Allentown, PA 18103
(215) 439-0372
Department of Surgery
Division of Vascular Surgery
Provisional Active

Additional Privileges

Bruce A. Feldman, DO

Department of Medicine
Division of Cardiology
Active
Transesophageal Echocardiogram
Privileges (TEE)

Christopher J. Wohlberg, MD

Department of Medicine
Division of Neurology
Provisional Active
Swan Ganz Catheter Placement
Privileges

**Chief, Division of
Otolaryngology**
John D. Harwick, MD

**Chief, Division of Physical
Medicine/Rehabilitation**
Jane Dorval, MD

New Practice Association

Kutztown Primary Care Associates
F. Michael Adams, MD
Frank G. Finch, MD
Mary G. Pixler, MD
333 Normal Avenue
Suite 201
Kutztown, PA 19530
(215) 683-8363

Address Change

**Jane Dorval, MD and
Wayne E. Dubov, MD**
501 St. John Street
Allentown, PA 18103
(215) 776-3278

Betty B. Karron, MD
501 N. 17th Street
Suite 114
Allentown, PA 18104

Practice Name Change

From Trexlertown Community Health
Center to **Trexler Medical
Center** (Charles T. Bonos III, MD, John R.
Lapp, MD, Stephen J. Motsay, MD, Brian
Stello, MD, and Brian D. Wilson, MD)

Resignations

David J. Barillo, MD
Department of Surgery
Division of Plastic Surgery

Richard D. Bausch, MD
Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice

Joy M. Brown, MD
Department of Obstetrics and
Gynecology

E. Randy Craven, MD
Department of Surgery
Division of Ophthalmology

Samuel W. Criswell, Jr., DPM
Department of Surgery
Division of Orthopedic Surgery
Section of Podiatry

Edward C. Denny, MD
Department of Pediatrics
Division of Neonatology

Antoine E. Jahshan, MD
Department of Obstetrics and
Gynecology

Jay B. Lipschutz, DO
Department of Medicine
Division of Pulmonary

Thomas A. Lukaszczuk, MD
Department of Pathology

Gerard A. McDonough, MD
Department of Surgery
Division of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery

William Messersmith, DMD
Department of Dentistry
Division of General Dentistry

Melvin M. Rappaport, MD
Department of Medicine
Division of Family Practice

Sylvia Sussman, MD
Department of Anesthesiology

Robert E. Torti, MD
Department of Surgery
Division of Ophthalmology

Joseph M. Zasik, Jr., DO
Department of Medicine
Division of Pulmonary

Drug Information Bulletin

Pharmacy
Department
August, 1992

Editor: Richard
Townsend, RPh,
Clinical
Pharmacy
Services

Unit Based Services Initiated at 17th & Chew

Pharmacy recently decentralized provision of services for all Nursing Units on the 6th floor at the 17th and Chew Street site. This new service is unique in that a pharmacist and a pharmacy technician are available on the nursing unit. Services are provided utilizing a mobile medication cart equipped with a pharmacy computer terminal which is located at the 6-T Nurses Station. The unit-based service is provided from 0730-1600, Monday through Friday.

The pharmacist is available to perform chart reviews, provide drug information, interview patients, and consult with nursing personnel and the medical staff. The pharmacy technician assists the pharmacist with medication order processing, preparation of the initial doses dispensed from the cart, and delivery to the patient care areas. They also are responsible for

helping to maintain an adequate supply of medications. A team of 3 pharmacists and 3 technicians provide this service on a rotating basis. Pharmacy personnel involved are Howard Cook, R.Ph., Albert Weber, R.Ph., Jack Seyfried, R.Ph., Karen Leibenguth, Jodi Nemeth, and Pat Spanitz.

Mary Beth Breymeier, R.Ph. Pharmacy Supervisor, reports the response from nursing regarding the service has been very positive. Bringing pharmaceutical care services to the nursing unit has virtually eliminated delays in initiation of drug therapy and problems regarding missing medications. Furthermore, availability of pharmacy personnel on the unit has improved Pharmacy/Nursing communication and facilitates prompt resolution of any medication-related problems that may occur

Drug Product Availability

What's Hot

Torecan (Thiethylperazine)
Phos Lo (Calcium Acetate)
Infed (Iron Dextran)

What's "Not"

Compazine (Prochlorperazine) Injection
Phos Ex (Calcium Acetate)
Imferon (Iron Dextran)
HA1A (Centoxin)

Compazine (Prochlorperazine)

Pharmacy was recently informed that prochlorperazine injection (Compazine and others) is unavailable due to a raw materials shortage. The recommended formulary alternative is thiethylperazine (Torecan). Thiethylperazine can be administered orally, rectally, intravenously, and by deep intramuscular injection. The usual dose is 10mg Q8H prn via any of the routes mentioned. For intravenous administration, dilute thiethylperazine (Torecan) 10mg in D5W or 0.9% NaCl 20cc syringe for pump use or a 50ml minibag. Infuse

over 20 minutes. The formulary alternatives include prochlorperazine tablets and suppositories, hydroxyzine, promethazine, trimethobenazamide, dimenhydrinate, and metoclopramide.

Phos Lo, Phos Ex (Calcium Acetate)

Phos Ex (Calcium Acetate, Vitaline) is no longer available and has been deleted from the Formulary. As an alternative, Phos Lo (Calcium Acetate, Braintree - No I didn't make that up!) has been added to the Formulary. Phos Lo contains 667mg calcium acetate which is equivalent

Continued

lent to 167mg of elemental calcium. This is the only strength currently available and is equivalent to Phos Ex 167. The recommended initial dosage of Phos Lo for control of hyperphosphatemia of end stage renal disease is two tablets with meals. Dosage should be adjusted according to serum phosphate and calcium levels.

	Calcium Acetate	Calcium Content
Phos Lo ¹	667mg	167mg
Phos Ex ² 62.5	250mg	62.5mg
Phos Ex ² 167	668mg	167mg
Phos Ex ² 125	500mg	125mg
Phos Ex ² 250	1000mg	250mg

1. On Formulary
2. No longer available

Infed (Iron Dextran Injection, Schein)

Iron Dextran Injection is available once again for treatment of patients with documented iron deficiency who do not tolerate or adequately

respond to oral therapy. The total dose of iron (in mg) required to restore hemoglobin to normal levels and replenish iron stores may be approximated using the following formula:

$$\text{Iron (mg)} = (0.3 \times \text{wt. in lbs}) \left(100 - \frac{\text{Hgb in g/dl} \times 100}{14.8} \right)$$

For further information regarding dosage and administration of Iron Dextran Injection contact Clinical Pharmacy Services

(CC - 8884, 17 - 2797).

Centoxin (HA1A, Centocor)

An article published in the April 23, 1992 issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine* (1992; 326: 1153-7) includes information presented to the FDA in September, 1991. An analysis of data on HA1A presented to date resulted in the conclusion that the drug should remain experimental. Further studies are underway to confirm efficacy in patient's with presumed gram-negative bacteremia who are in septic shock.

Drug Information Case Study

The Clinical Pharmacy Service receives numerous requests for Drug Information. Some are more unusual than others. Recently, a physician provided the sample box shown that was obtained by a patient while in Italy. The medication was prescribed for relief of allergic rhinitis. Pharmacy was requested to identify the medication in question, determine availability in the United States, and recommended an alternative if the drug was not available.

Answer: The product was identified as Cetirizine, a

potent H1-receptor selective oral antihistamine. The usual recommended dose is 10mg daily. Doses of 5 to 10mg twice a day have been reported. Cetirizine is currently available for investigational use in the United States (Zyrtec - Pfizer). Cetirizine is useful for treatment of allergic rhinitis, allergen-induced asthma, and urticaria. Cetirizine does not possess significant anticholinergic or central nervous system depressant activity.

Published studies indicate that terfenadine (Seldane, Merrell-Dow) is equal in efficacy to Cetirizine in treatment of allergic rhinitis. Terfenadine 60mg two times a day was recommended as an alternative.

The Clinical Pharmacy Service maintains comprehensive resources in order to meet the drug information needs of the patients and staff of Lehigh Valley Hospital. If you have a drug information question or would like more information about this service contact Clinical Pharmacy Services at (CC - 8884, or 17 - 2797).



LEHIGH VALLEY
HOSPITAL

17th & Chew
Post Office Box 7017
Allentown, PA 18105-7017

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Allentown, PA
Permit No. 1922

*Medical Staff
Progress Notes*

John Jaffe, M.D.
President, Medical Staff
Joseph A. Candio, M.D.
President-elect, Medical Staff
Charles J. Scagliotti, M.D.
Past President, Medical Staff
John W. Hart
Vice President
Rita M. Mest
Medical Staff Coordinator

Janet M. Laude ^{berger}
Coordinator, Physician Office
Practice Services
Managing Editor

Medical Staff Progress Notes is published monthly to inform the Lehigh Valley Hospital Medical Staff and employees of important issues concerning the Medical Staff. Articles should be submitted to Janet M. Laudenslager, Coordinator, Physician Office Practice Services, 17th & Chew, by the first of each month. If you have any questions regarding the newsletter, please call Ms. Laudenslager at 402-2780.