

Medical Staff Progress Notes

Volume 4, Number 9
September, 1992



From the President

The American College of Physician Executives sponsors a National Awards Program for innovations in health care which is open to physicians as well as other health care professionals. The annual awards are given for improvements in the quality of health care or for contributions to controlling health care costs. For more information about this program, contact Medical Staff Services at 402-8968.

The Partnership for Community Health in the Lehigh Valley continues to meet regularly. Sponsored by the Pool Trust, this is an effort to address broad public health concerns in the Lehigh Valley, including care for the un- and under-insured. Efforts have been made to include both senior management and medical staff leadership of the various regional hospitals in a collaborative relationship to solve these problems. Initial meetings have been very encouraging.

A "winner" in the consultant evaluation process was recently selected for the Medical Staff PPO/IPA feasibility study, from an impressive group of interested organizations which had responded with proposals. A presentation was made to the Strategic Development Committee of the Medical Staff which was impressed

with the capabilities this organization, the Raleigh Group, a national health care consulting firm with regional offices (Philadelphia).

This group is going to begin work promptly here, including initial evaluation of the existing status of managed care activity in the Lehigh Valley. In addition, individual Medical Staff members may receive requests for interviews in an attempt by the consultant to obtain more information about our Medical Staff and its current practice patterns.

The Mini-Internship Program, being run in conjunction with Lehigh County Medical Society, is scheduled for October 19 and 20. Those invited as interns include various community leaders such as CEOs and health care officials from local corporations, representatives from the media, labor, health care coalitions, etc. Those of you who volunteered for service as physician "faculty members" have had their names submitted to Lehigh County Medical Society for further consideration. We are optimistic that this program will provide a "hands on" look at the typical day in the life of a practicing physician for key members of the community.

John Jaffe, M.D.
President, Medical Staff

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Parking News - Cedar Crest & I-78

Due to the parking changes currently in effect at Cedar Crest & I-78, all physicians who spend a major portion of the day at the hospital, namely, anesthesiologists, emergency medicine physicians, pathologists, radiologists, and second and third year residents,

are requested to park in the third section (most distant from the building) of the Physicians' Parking Lot. The first and second sections of the parking lot should be used by those physicians who come and go throughout the day.

Your cooperation and patience are appreciated during this most hectic time.

Photo I.D. Badge News

Pick-up Schedule Revised

New hospital identification badges for members of the Medical Staff who have had their photos taken will be available for pick-up from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. as follows:

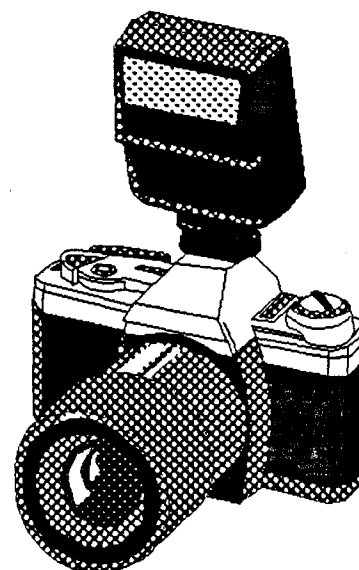
Week of September 21 - Medical Staff Services, Second Floor, Cedar Crest & I-78

Week of September 28 - POPS Office, First Floor, 17th & Chew

Week of October 5 - Medical Staff Services, Cedar Crest & I-78

Week of October 12 - POPS Office, 17th & Chew

Please Note: Your old identification badge is required in exchange for your new one.



Make-up Photo Sessions Scheduled

Beginning September 22, make-up sessions for photo I.D.'s will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 9 a.m. and from 2 to 5 p.m., in Room 4901 on the Fourth Floor of the School of Nursing, 17th & Chew. No appointment is necessary.



New Test: Beta-2-Microglobulin

Health Network Laboratories now offers Beta-2-microglobulin as an in-house test through the Immunology Department.

In normal individuals, B2-microglobulin is found in both serum and urine.

Proximal tubular dysfunction results in elevated urinary concentrations (either random or 24-hour specimen is acceptable). Serum levels are a function of its rate of synthesis and are elevated in inflammatory disorders, lymphoproliferative diseases, and as a predictive test measuring the progression to AIDS in HIV infections.

If you have any questions, please contact Gerald E. Clement, Ph.D., Director, Toxicology/Immunology/Chemistry, at 402-2534, or Gale Fritch, Supervisor, at 402-2845.

Leukemia/Lymphoma Immunophenotyping by Flow Cytometry

The Flow Cytometry Division has recently added a Leukemia-Lymphoma Phenotyping Panel to its test services. This panel assesses the presence or absence of various lineage specific cell surface antigens and is designed to be utilized in conjunction with the standard morphological and cytochemical test data to characterize and classify the disease.

In-house testing will provide improved turn-around time of results to physicians which will expedite treatment decisions.

Effective September 1, this test will be offered Monday through Friday. Please contact the laboratory at 402-9751 for more information.

Hepatitis C Testing

Testing for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) antibody using a second generation enzyme immunoassay (EIA) is now performed by the staff of the Immunology Division, either as an individual test order or as part of the hepatitis profile. The laboratory will automatically reference repeatably reactive EIA specimens for supplemental RIBA testing.

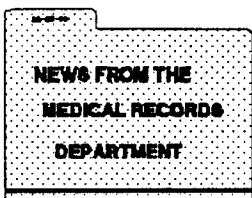
To date approximately 22% of specimens submitted to our laboratory for EIA testing have been positive; 98% of these specimens have also been reactive in the supplemental RIBA test.

Heptavax Follow-up

Many physicians have ordered tests for the presence of Hepatitis B antibody on specimens collected from their office staff as a follow-up to the OSHA guidelines that state Heptavax must be offered to all health care workers. The appropriate way to order post-Heptavax testing is to request "Hepatitis B Surface Antibody" or "HBsAb."

Requests using other terminology have lead to confusion and misinterpretation of the order and should, therefore, be avoided. Your cooperation in using the recommended terminology as outlined above will ensure the correct test is performed and ultimately an efficient service is provided.

If you have any questions, please contact Gale Fritch at 402-2845 or Diane C. Halstead, Ph.D. at 402-2834 or beeper 1193.



At the August Medical Record Committee meeting, the following results of concurrent monitoring of operative reports were revealed.

In June, 74% were dictated within 24 hours post-op, and 87% were dictated within 48 hours post-op. In July, 87% were dictated within 24 hours post-op, with 92% dictated within 48 hours post-op.

These percentages have improved since the inception of concurrent monitoring of operative reports by the Medical Record Department.

However, the Medical Record Committee would like to remind the Medical Staff, in accordance with Medical Staff Bylaws and JCAHO regulations, operative reports are to be dictated **immediately** following surgery. If dictating stations are unavailable, telephones can be used.

Nuclear Medicine News

Effective Monday, August 24, the Medical Record Department will now type all reports from Nuclear Medicine, 17th & Chew. The reports may be reviewed by any physician by dialing the access number for 17th & Chew (Ext. 2515) and then following the instructions.

As a reminder, reports for Nuclear Medicine, Cedar Crest & I-78, are also typed by Medical Records. These reports may be reviewed by dialing the access number (Ext. 8365).

Research Advisory Committee - Request for Proposals

The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) meets quarterly to review clinical/epidemiological research proposals (requests for funding) submitted by the Medical and Professional staff of Lehigh Valley Hospital. The next meeting of the RAC is October 28.

All proposals submitted by October 9 will be reviewed at the October 28 RAC meeting. Further information and proposal guidelines may be obtained by contacting James F. Reed III, Ph.D., Director of Research, or by calling the Research Department at 402-8889.

Next Cycle for Physician Well-Being Group to Begin in October

Due to the enthusiasm and positive response from its current members, the Physician Well-Being group will continue to meet regularly on an alternate week basis with the assistance of a professional facilitator, John C. Turoczi, Ed.D.

The first meeting of the next cycle will be held on Monday, October 5, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in the Shock/Trauma

Conference Room (located in the trailer behind the Shock/Trauma Unit at Cedar Crest & I-78).

Any physicians who are interested in participating in this worthwhile program should contact Janet M. Laudenslager, Coordinator, Physician Office Practice Services (POPS), at 402-2780.

News from Enterostomal Therapy: Perineal Care

Triple Care Perineal Wash and Unisalve Ointment have been replaced with products that will improve patient care and be cost effective.

Peri-Wash and **Baza Cream** (available together in a hospital pack) are indicated for prevention for any bedbound patient and any patient who is incontinent. It is effective when erythema is present with intact skin.

Peri-Wash and **Critic-Aid Paste** (also available together in a hospital pack) are indicated for skin that is inflamed and denuded as a result of urinary or fecal incontinence or enzymatic drainage that cannot be protected by a skin barrier or collection device. In hospital trials, Critic-Aid was found to be more effective than Lasser's Paste.

Both product packages are stocked in SPD and do not require a physician's order.

Revised Vascular Lab Hours

Effective September 14, the hours of the Vascular Lab at 17th & Chew will be from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you have any questions, please call the Vascular Lab at 402-4837.

Broselow Pediatric Emergency Tape

Effective September 14, all Pediatric Code Carts will have a Broselow Pediatric Emergency Tape in the medication drawer of the Pediatric Code Cart. This will help to determine approximate weights of children in order to assist with medication dosages, equipment sizes, and oxygen supplies.

The tape is simple to use. Simply lay the child on the tape (head should be on the top red arrow) and measure to the heel of the child. The tape is designed to include children from 3KG to 34KG. Each block on the tape is for a separate KG weight and includes dosages and equipment for that weight. Wherever the heel of the child's foot ends is the location where medication

dosages should be calculated. In addition, the colored portion of the tape includes equipment sizes. The bottom portion of the tape includes information on the compression rate and depth.

The Code Blue Committee feels this tape will be instrumental in assisting all staff with pediatric dosages, equipment sizes, as well as vital signs and CPR instructions. After the code is completed, please clean the tape and return it to the Code Cart to be used for subsequent pediatric codes.

If you have any questions regarding the use of the tape, please contact Mary Alexander, R.N., M.S.N., Head Nurse, Emergency Department, at 402-2246.

Student Internship Opportunities for Physicians' Offices

The Allentown Business School plans to offer three programs which may be of interest to physicians' offices. These programs include a nine-month Medical Office Management program, an 18-month Medical Assisting/Secretarial program, and a 12-month Medical Business and Clinical Specialist program. Prior to completion of each program, students are required to complete an internship in a health facility. As an internship is

part of each course and is a learning experience for the student, no remuneration is expected.

Any physicians interested in providing an internship opportunity to a student enrolled in one of these programs should contact Mary Wagner, Supervisor, Medical Internship/Externship Program, Allentown Business School, at 791-5100.

Sources for Free Medications

The Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (PMA) has published a directory of prescription drug companies that provide free medicines to physicians whose patients might not otherwise have access to necessary medications.

Physicians may obtain a copy by writing to: 1992 Director of Prescription Drug Indigent Programs, Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, 1100 15th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

As part of a pilot program to assist physicians in obtaining free medications for their patients, PMA also has established a toll-free number for physicians. In Pennsylvania, the number is 1-800-762-4636 or 1-800-PMA-INFO.

Congratulations!

Nancy A. Mao, M.D., general internist, and her husband, Jeffrey L. Gevirtz, M.D., urologist, welcomed their first child, Samuel Joseph, on August 3.

Zirka M. Halibey, M.D., obstetrician/gynecologist, and her husband, Gary Madine, welcomed their second child, Peter, on August 17. Peter has a brother, Daniel.

Jamie D. Paranicas, M.D., cardiologist, was recently notified that she was elected to Fellowship in the American College of Cardiology.

Catharine L. Shaner, M.D., pediatrician, was recently selected as the recipient of a Governor's Highway Safety Award in the Safety Education category.

Michael L. Stevens, D.P.M., podiatrist, was notified that he successfully passed both parts of the 1992 Foot Surgery certification examination and is now a Diplomate of the American Board of Podiatric Surgery with Certification in Foot Surgery.

General Medical Staff Meetings 1992-1993

Listed below are dates for General Medical Staff meetings for the remainder of this year and for 1993.

Monday, December 14, 1992

Monday, March 8, 1993

Monday, June 14, 1993

Monday, September 13, 1993

Monday, December 13, 1993

All meetings will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held in the Auditorium at Cedar Crest & I-78.

Publications, Papers and Presentations

George F. Carr, D.M.D., vice chairman, Department of Dentistry, presented **Creating a Third Dentition** for the Annual Pennsylvania Prosthodontic Association Meeting which was held recently in State College.

In addition, Dr. Carr presented a table clinic at the Annual Meeting of the American College of Implantology on **Two Phase Oral Impression Technique for Implant Dentistry**. The meeting was held in Chicago, Ill., last month.

Glen L. Oliver, M.D., ophthalmologist, presented a paper, **The Oliver-McFarlene Syndrome**, at the recent Annual Wills Fluorescein Conference which was held in Philadelphia. This syndrome presents as a congenital trichomegaly with associated hypertrichosis, pigmentary retinal degeneration, dwarfism and mental retardation. A 27-year update on the original case was presented along with a review of the literature.

Peggy E. Showalter, M.D., psychiatrist, co-authored an article, **Learning Priorities of Staff, Residents, and Students for a Third Year Psychiatric Clerkship**, which has been accepted for publication in *Academic Psychiatry*.

Health Promotion Program News

The Health Promotion Program of Lehigh Valley Hospital will present a program for healthier food shopping practices.

It's in the Bag: Heart Healthy Shopping will feature a dietitian who will lead group tours highlighting "heart healthy" food choices. This will include the "new" food groups, convenience food items, label reading, and special occasion food selections.

Shopping location for October will be the Giant Food Store at Cedar Crest Boulevard and Tilghman Street, Allentown. Dates and times include

Wednesday, October 7, 7 to 8:30 p.m.; Tuesday, October 13, 9:30 to 11 a.m.; Wednesday, October 14, 7 to 8:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, October 20, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Group size is limited. For more information, please call the Health Promotion Program at 821-2150.

In addition to the above program, numerous other classes and programs for weight control, stress management, and smoking cessation are available which may benefit your patients.

For more information regarding these and other programs, please call 821-2150.

Upcoming Seminars, Conferences, and Meetings

Regional Symposium Series IV

Fifth Annual Coagulation

Symposium will be held on Friday, October 2, from 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78.

At the completion of this program, the participant should be able to identify ways to evaluate abnormal prothrombin times and actuated partial thromboplastin times; understand the theory behind INR reporting; differentiate between unfractionated and low molecular weight heparin; and describe theory behind and techniques used in identifying heparin associated thrombocytopenia and thrombosis.

Physicians, medical technologists, and laboratory administrators will benefit from the program.

Fourth Annual Neuroscience

Symposium: Neuroscience Intensive Care will be held on Friday, October 16, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78.

At the completion of this program, participants should be able to present current research findings with clinical application for Guillian-Barre' Syndrome and coma; discuss the use and efficacy of thrombolytic therapy in acute stroke; and discuss neurosurgical approaches to the injured brain,

subarachnoid hemorrhage, and spinal cord trauma.

Physicians, nurses, and other health care workers concerned with management of patients requiring neuroscience intensive care will benefit from the program.

For more information about these programs, please contact Human Resource Development at 402-8322.

Medical Grand Rounds

Neurological Problems Seen in Cardiology & Cardiac Surgery will be presented by Robert Brennan, M.D., Associate Professor of Neurology, Hershey Medical Center, on Tuesday, September 15.

Radiocontrast Induced Acute Renal Failure will be presented by Michael Rudnick, M.D., FACP, member, Division of Nephrology and Hypertension, Graduate Hospital, on Tuesday, September 22.

Anxiety Disorders will be presented by Peggy Showalter, M.D., consultation-liaison psychiatrist, Lehigh Valley Hospital, on Tuesday, September 29.

Medical Grand Rounds are held each Tuesday beginning at noon in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78.

For more information, contact the Department of Medicine at 402-8200.

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Department of Pediatrics

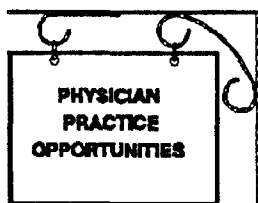
Expanded Newborn Screening will be presented by Edwin Naylor, M.D., Department of Reproductive Genetics, Magee-Woman's Hospital, on Tuesday, September 15, at 8 a.m.

Update on Managed Care Activities will be presented by Greg Kile, Corporate Health Management, Lehigh Valley Hospital, on Friday, September 25, at noon.

Recent Advances and Future Directions for Cystic Fibrosis will be presented by Jullian Allen, M.D., Director, Cystic Fibrosis Center, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, on Friday, October 9, at noon.

The above Pediatric conferences will all be held in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, 17th & Chew.

For more information, contact Beverly Humphrey in the Department of Pediatrics at 402-2410.



* **Physician Needed** - Family practitioner or general internist needed for hospital coverage. Duties to include rounds of two to three hours per day plus very low demand call. Compensation very good. Excellent opportunity for someone who wants to supplement income. Weekdays and weekends. If interested, please write to P.O. Box 398, Whitehall, PA 18052-9998.

* **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. Approximately 2,500 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

James Balducci, MD

Director, Maternal-Fetal
Allentown Medical Center
401 N. 17th Street
Suite 208
Allentown, PA 18104
(215) 402-9595
Department of Obstetrics and
Gynecology
Division of Obstetrics
Section of Maternal-Fetal
Provisional Active

Alan B. Leahey, MD

(Robert Kiesel, MD, PC)
Fairgrounds Medical Center
400 N. 17th Street, #102
Allentown, PA 18104
(215) 439-8910
Department of Surgery
Division of Ophthalmology
Provisional Courtesy

Jenni Levy, MD

Lehigh Valley Hospital
17th & Chew
Allentown, PA 18105-7017
(215) 402-9524
Department of Medicine
Division of General Internal Medicine
Provisional Active

Mark E. Moran, DO

1251 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Suite 301C
Allentown, PA 18103
(215) 435-8088
Department of Surgery
Division of Ophthalmology
Provisional Courtesy

Michele A. Pisano, DMD

17th & Chew
P.O. Box 7017
Allentown, PA 18105-7017
(215) 402-9636
Department of Dentistry
Division of General Dentistry
Provisional Active

Edward A. Tomkin, DO

2895 Hamilton Blvd.
Suite 102
Allentown, PA 18104
(215) 432-8551
Department of Surgery
Division of Otolaryngology
Provisional Courtesy

Marijo A. Zelinka, MD

Lehigh Valley Hospital - Neonatology
17th & Chew
Allentown, PA 18105-7017
(215) 402-2410
Department of Pediatrics
Division of Neonatology
Provisional Active

Leave of Absence

Nancy Urankar, MD

Department of Medicine
Division of General Internal Medicine

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Change of Status

Victor Ehrens, DMD
Department of Surgery
Division of Oral Surgery
From Active to Courtesy

Gregory Dimmich, DMD
Department of Surgery
Division of Oral Surgery
From Active to Courtesy

Paul S. Raphael, MD
Department of Medicine
Division of Physical
Medicine/Rehabilitation
From Courtesy to Consulting

Stuart Schwartz, DDS
Department of Surgery
Division of Oral Surgery
From Active to Courtesy

Additional Privileges

John E. Castaldo, MD
Department of Medicine
Division of Neurology
Active
Ocular Pneumoplethysmography-G
(OPG) Privileges

Robert V. Cummings, MD
Department of Obstetrics and
Gynecology
Provisional Active
Obstetrical Privileges

William Gee, MD
Department of Surgery
Division of Vascular Surgery
Active
Transcranial Doppler Evaluation
(TCD) Privileges

Allen J. Weinstein, DO
Department of Radiology/Diagnostic
Medical Imaging
Division of Diagnostic Radiology
Active
Diagnostic Ultrasound Privileges

Christopher J. Wohlberg, MD
Department of Medicine
Division of Neurology
Active
Transcranial Doppler Evaluation
(TCD) Privileges
Ocular Pneumoplethysmography-G
(OPG) Privileges
Carotid Ultrasound Interpretation
Privileges

New Division/Section Chiefs

Chief, Division of Obstetrics
James Balducci, MD

*Chief, Section of Maternal-Fetal
Medicine*
James Balducci, MD

Chief, Division of Gynecology
Ernest Y. Normington II, MD

*Chief, Section of Gynecologic
Oncology*
Gazi Abdulhay, MD

*Chief, Section of Reproductive
Endocrinology*
Bruce I. Rose, MD

Chief, Section of Benign Gynecology
M. Bruce Viechnicki, MD

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Change of Address

Laura S. Kramer, DO
VA Outpatient Clinic
2937 Hamilton Blvd.
Allentown, PA 18103
(215) 776-4367

Paul L. Orr, MD
2844 Pennsylvania Street
Allentown, PA 18104

Joseph T. Sembrot, MD
VA Outpatient Clinic
2937 Hamilton Blvd.
Allentown, PA 18103
(215) 776-4344

Farhad Sholevar, MD
Allentown Medical Center
401 N. 17th Street
Suite 214
Allentown, PA 18104-5014
Effective 10/1/92

Charles W. Umlauf, MD
Allentown Medical Center
401 N. 17th Street
Suite 214
Allentown, PA 18104-5014
Effective 10/1/92

Allied Health Professionals

Appointments

Jean Rohal, CRNP
Physician Extender
Professional - CRNP
(Trauma - M. Rhodes)

Arthur A. Zellner, PA-C
Physician Extender
Physician Assistant
(Lehigh Valley Orthopedics - Anson)

Additional Privileges

Leslye Kappauf, RN
Physician Extender
Professional - RN
(Tamar D. Earnest, MD)
- Use of Needles
- Manipulation of Vital Organs

Change of Supervising Physician, Alternating & Substitute

Jean E. Hudson-Fischer, PA-C
Physician Extender
Physician Assistant
(From Khindri Cardiovascular Specialists to F.
Geoffrey Toonder, MD;
Alternating Physician - Mark N. Martz, MD;
Substitute Physician - Chetan Khindri, MD)

Ruben P. Romero, PA-C
Physician Extender
Physician Assistant
(Alternating Physician - Mark N. Martz, MD;
Substitute Physician - Chetan Khindri, MD)

P&T Highlights

September, 1992

The following actions were taken at the August 10, 1992 P & T Committee meeting. James Giardina, RPh, Director, Pharmacy

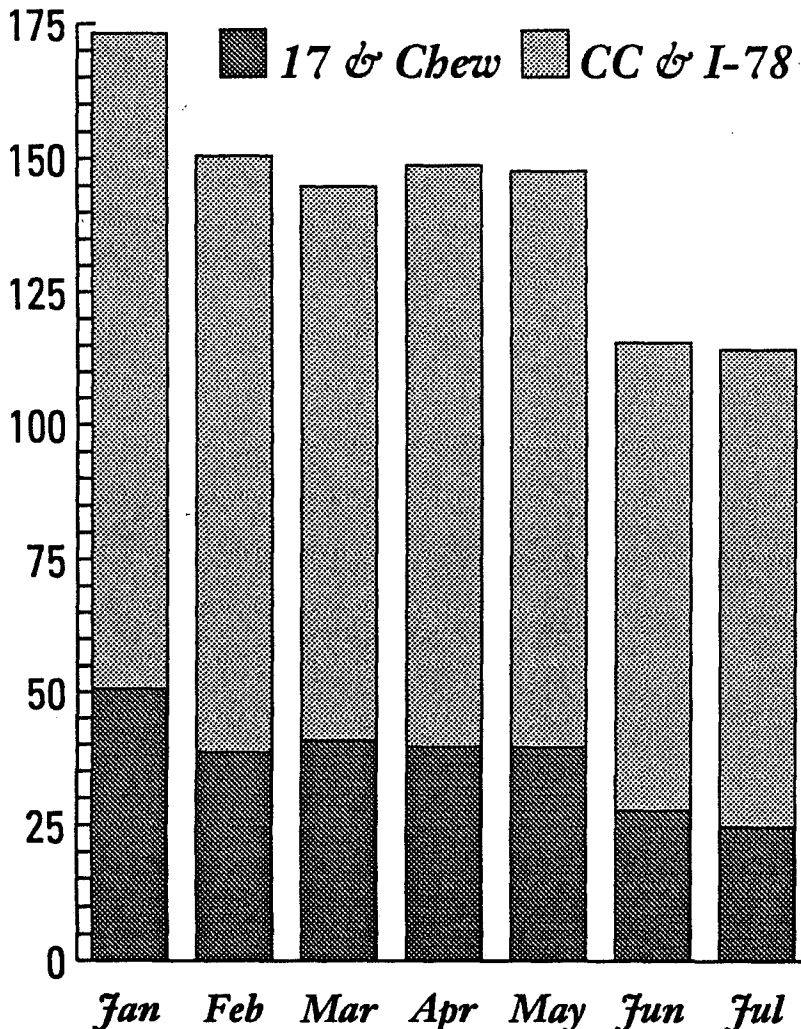
WHAT GOES UP, CAN COME DOWN -

Parenteral Antibiotic Order Program Update

The committee was informed that compliance has been 76%. Complaints of missed orders were studied by a prospective review of 443 charts - no missed orders were found. The Committee also reviewed antibiotic expense since the program was implemented in March, 1992. (See Table 1 - Antibiotic Cost Report). June showed a significant drop due primarily to the implementation of a syringe based IV Admixture Program at Cedar Crest & I-78

(This lowered the cost per dose for the majority of intermittently infused IV products). The Committee also approved the Clinical Pharmacy/Infectious Disease Service proposal to closely monitor usage of Aztreonam, Ampicillin/Sulbactam (Unasyn), Cefazidime, Ciprofloxacin and Ceftriaxone. Usage guidelines on the back of the order sheet will be used for comparison. Ceftriaxone will be reviewed against dosing criteria.

Antibiotic Cost Report (1992, Thousands of Dollars)



Formulary Addition Requests

The following drugs were added to the formulary.

Fludarabine (Fludara, Berlex) - an antimetabolite, similar to Cytarabine, is currently indicated for the treatment of chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL) in patients who have not responded to or have progressed during treatment with at least one standard alkylating agent containing regimen. Fludarabine may also be useful in non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and is being studied in other leukemias. Fludarabine acts primarily by inhibiting DNA synthesis in the S-Phase. The recommended adult dosing schedule in CLL is 25mg/m² over 30 minutes for 5 days - repeated every 28 days. The major adverse reactions include myelosuppression, primarily leukopenia. Nausea and vomiting occur only rarely. Dose related neurotoxicity has been seen in high dose studies.

Serum Albumin level monitoring may be warranted as it appears to be strongly predictive of outcome. Patients should also be monitored for signs and symptoms of infection and neurotoxicity. Fludarabine is supplied in 50mg/2ml vials at a cost of \$138.00 each.

Fosinopril (Monopril, Squibb) - is an angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor indi-

cated for the treatment of mild to moderate hypertension. It is the pro-drug which is hydrolyzed to the active agent, fosinoprilat, during or following absorption. Fosinopril's clinical effects do not differ significantly from the other available ACE inhibitors and offers no clear advantages in patients with normal renal function. However, fosinopril may be of some advantage in patients with impaired renal function. In the presence of renal insufficiency, fosinopril undergoes a compensatory shift to non-renal (ie. hepato-biliary) clearance, obviating the need for dosage adjustment in these patients. The usual maintenance dose of fosinopril is 10-40mg once daily with some

patients requiring up to 80mg per day.

Zalcitadine (HIVID, Roche) - an anti-retroviral agent used in combination with Zidovudine (AZT) in advanced HIV infection (CD_4 cell count ≤ 300 cells/mm³) who have demonstrated significant clinical or immunologic deterioration. Zalcitadine received FDA approval based on two ongoing clinical trials which showed an improved CD_4 count response over monotherapy. Peripheral neuropathy is the major adverse effect with a 17% to 31% incidence. Other adverse effects include a 1% incidence of pancreatitis. The usual adult dose is 0.750mg Zalcitadine and 200mg Zidovudine (AZT) Q8H.

How Much Fluid for Dopamine???

The Committee reviewed information provided by the Nursing Peer Review Process which showed that Dopamine orders for renal perfusion patients being transferred to Med/Surg units are not always being changed to the 200mg/250ml concentration specified by the current policy. The Committee asked Pharmacy, Nursing and Nephrology to review the concentration and recommend action to the committee.

One Alone for the Quinolones - Quinolone Study

The Infectious Disease Service together with the Pharmacy and Clinical Laboratory (Microbiology) Departments recommended a three month susceptibility study of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* isolates against both Ciprofloxacin (Cipro, Miles) and Ofloxacin (Floxin, Ortho). Ofloxacin was recently marketed in both oral/intravenous formulations with a similar pharmacokinetic and microbiologic profile at a lower

cost/day of therapy to Ciprofloxacin. Ofloxacin's in vitro MIC 90 data is not as impressive as Ciprofloxacin's; the clinical relevance of which requires further investigation - hence the study. Study results will be presented to the P & T Committee and one of these two agents will be recommended for inclusion in the formulary.

Drug Use Evaluation (DUE) Corner

A two month review of Flumazenil (Mazicon, Roche) usage was conducted and presented to the committee. Eleven patient courses were reviewed. Two patients received benzodiazepine sedation alone, while 9 received a benzodiazepine together with a narcotic analgesic. Five

patients were treated with Flumazenil alone and 6 were treated with Flumazenil and Naloxone concomitantly. The Committee recommended forwarding the results to the Chief of Gastroenterology and Chairman of Medicine for review, and follow-up as necessary.

Table 2 - Available MAO Inhibitors

Pargyline	(Entonyl, Abbott)	- antihypertensive
Isocarboxazid	(Marplan, Roche)	- antidepressant
Phenelzine	(Nardil, Parke-Davis)	- antidepressant
Tranlycypromine	(Parnate, SKB)	- antidepressant
Selegiline	(Eldepryl, Somerset) ¹	- antiparkinson

¹ *Selegiline in high doses (30-40mg/day) may act as a nonselective MAO inhibitor.*

MAO Inhibitor Drug Interaction Information

Whenever an MAO inhibitor is prescribed for an inpatient, information on the more significant drug interactions involving this class of agents will be sent to the Patient Care Unit (See Table 2 for listing of MAOI's). This sheet, which is not intended to be a permanent chart form, should be placed on top of the chronological sheet so all Physicians can review it prior to prescribing additional medications.

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HOSPITAL

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Practice Services
Managing Editor

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