Informed Consent: The How, the Why Now and the Opportunity

Recently, the topic of informed consent has taken front stage in our offices and hospital settings and across Pennsylvania. Informed consent refers to a process by which a treating provider discloses appropriate information to a patient so that he or she may make a voluntary choice to accept or refuse treatment. As this definition implies, informed consent is more than signing a consent form. It is a process. This is a process most of us learned, and were asked to perform, early in our medical training. It is one we have likely performed thousands of times during our careers. So why has informed consent become a renewed topic of discussion in health care and our clinical setting?

The reason relates to a recent ruling by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in a malpractice case, Shinal v. Toms. The patient (Shinal) in this case underwent a surgical procedure that involved a complication. Her lawsuit was predicated less on the complication than the fact that she never received appropriate informed consent from her surgeon prior to going to the operating room.

The rules and expectations for informed consent in Pennsylvania are based on the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (MCARE) Act. This law makes it clear that the physician who is doing a procedure/surgery, and only that physician, is able to perform the informed consent. In this case, it was clear consent was performed not by the surgeon (Toms), but by his physician assistant. Although the patient lost the malpractice suit originally – after several appeals grounded on the inadequate consent process – the patient was granted a retrial in June of this year. This ruling and retrial alerted the medical community to the risk involved with not performing informed consent by the book.

At Lehigh Valley Health Network, we perform well over 50,000 surgical procedures annually and do tens of thousands of other procedures in both the inpatient and outpatient settings, each requiring informed consent. In reviewing the expectations for consent, it is clear that we are by and large compliant in this process. Quality assurance tools such as check-off lists assure that appropriate steps, including a properly signed consent, are
completed before any patient enters an operating room.

Still, I believe, certain system stressors have threatened the consent process and the one-on-one interaction that is imperative during this process. Demand for the services and the expertise of our outstanding physicians have made access a challenge, driving us to see more patients while inevitably having less time with them. The push toward standardization and system-based care, which includes bundles structured around clinical teams as opposed to the individual physician, have also affected the more traditional interactions between patients and their doctors. Finally, financial stressors and expectations – both at the level of the network and also us as individuals – have influenced patient volume, prioritized efficiency over connection and also undoubtedly altered the nature of patient-physician communication.

Regardless of the reasons not to do so, not properly consenting a patient prior to a surgery or procedure carries with it significant medical-legal risk for the physician and really the physician alone. Importantly, as we counsel a patient before a procedure, we must remember that we are the only ones who have the knowledge, expertise, experience and most importantly the wisdom to provide informed consent. Although other members of our teams can provide information and education, we as the physicians actually performing and overseeing the case must be willing to explore the patient’s understanding of the operating room plan. It involves more than simply reviewing the steps of the procedure, risks, benefits and alternatives, but also examining the patient’s expectations, beliefs and fears regarding the procedure. These less tangible but important elements of care can only be dealt with through a direct dialogue and two-way exchange between the physician and the patient.

Perhaps there are some positives, however, as this situation may be a wakeup call of sorts. With the aforementioned stressors, really owning informed consent may force us to slow down and show more patience with patients. This patience and a mindful, personal interaction may also improve the patient experience. It may also increase our inpatient HCAHPs survey scores in the area of “communication with physicians,” where we continue to have an opportunity to improve.

The reality is the rules and the expectations for providing informed consent in Pennsylvania, even with the Shinal v. Toms case, have not changed. These were always the rules and they have merely been re-emphasized. Based on this ruling, we are now in the process of reviewing our current systems to assure we are compliant in the processes of obtaining consent with the goal of protecting patients but also our doctors. This may be a stressor on our systems and even result in delays. Yet, the process of providing proper consent is a reminder that the foundation for medicine is based on an interaction and connection; a connection between a single doctor and a single patient. Embracing this connection through properly providing informed consent is the way we will ensure we are providing the best care, supporting the patient experience and maintaining humanity in the practice of medicine.
Joseph E. Patruno, MD
Medical Staff President
Cancer Institute Symposium: Partnership with Primary Care

The First Annual Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) Cancer Institute Symposium, Partnership with Primary Care, will take place on Friday, Oct. 13, 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at Camelback Lodge in Tannersville.

The program is designed for interprofessional staff. Session topics and presenters include:

- Memorial Sloan Kettering Alliance with LVHN: Excellence in Cancer Care for the Local Community – David Pfister, MD
- Molecular Testing and Precision Medicine – Paul Sabbatini, MD
- Immunotherapy Revolution: Promise, Limitations, Frontiers – Suresh Nair, MD
- Immunotherapy Toxicities: Awareness, Recognition and Management – Mandy Hendricks, MSN, RN, AOCNS
- Lung Cancer Screening and Innovations in Diagnosis and Treatment – Eliot Friedman, MD
- Precision Radiation Therapy: Utilizing Edge Radiosurgery – Sean Quinlan-Davidson, MD
- Robotic Surgery – Martin Martino, MD
- Colon and Rectal Cancers: Screening and Treatment Management – Robert Sinnott, DO
- Updates in Breast Cancer – Krista Bott, MD
- Innovative Surgical Options for Pancreatic Cancer – Aaron Blackham, MD
- Head and Neck Cancer Treatment at LVHN: Excellence in Care for the Patient and Community – Chetan Nayak, MD
- Management of Benign Hematologic Conditions in Coordination With Primary Care – Adam Kotkiewicz, MD
- Diagnosis and Management of Thromboembolism and Thrombosis – William Scialla, DO

LVHN designates this live educational activity for a maximum 7.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits. Registered nurses attending the entire program and completing the evaluation tool will receive 7.0 contact hours.

To register, go to go.activecalendar.com/lvhn-doe and search for the event by title or date. On-site registrations may be available if space permits.
Influenza Vaccination Update

No matter your role in our health network, we all share the same mission – to heal, comfort and care. To do your job to the best of your ability, you first have to take care of yourself. As flu season approaches, one of the best ways you can help our patients avoid influenza infection is to get a flu shot.

The Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) Medical Executive Committee requires all Medical and Allied Health Professionals who have routine or intermittent patient contact get a flu shot. All Medical and Allied Health Professional Staff are considered to have patient contact. Those who cannot be vaccinated because of a valid medical or religious reason must submit an exemption request, obtainable from any Employee Health Services office, by Nov 1. These individuals must be granted an exemption or be vaccinated by Nov. 23. Those approved for a permanent exemption in prior years do NOT need to request an exemption again this year. Failure to comply with the immunization policy will result in a written warning. All Medical and Allied Health Professional Staff and other staff with patient contact who are not vaccinated or granted an exemption within two weeks of the warning, will be subject to termination.

Submission of documentation of influenza vaccine received outside the auspices of LVHN employee health is required. Proof of vaccination can be submitted by accessing the electronic form at LVHN Intranet, Colleague Resources, Influenza Information or using this link: http://webappprd001.lvh.com/webpublic2/swipesignf/fluProof1.aspx.

For Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)–Cedar Crest, fax to 610-402-1203.

For LVH–Hazleton, fax to 570-501-4721.

For LVH–Schuylkill, fax to 570-621-4257.

If you fax your proof of vaccination, the document must include printed name, date of vaccination, and either your computer user ID (used to sign into LVHN computers) or your social security number. This is to assure your vaccine is properly documented in the tracking system.

There are several places you can get a free flu shot:

- Employee Health Services locations during walk-in hours
- Vaccination clinics
- On units and in practices that participate in our peer vaccination program (LVH–Cedar Crest, LVH–17th Street and LVH–Muhlenberg only)
- LVPG membership meetings
Do your part – get a flu shot and help create a safer health network, a more confident workforce and a healthier community. Thank you for your commitment to our colleagues, patients and community, and for helping to make our mission possible. For more information regarding the flu vaccine requirement, please contact Carol Guanowsky, Director, Employee Health Services, at 610-402-8869.

Employee Health Services Walk-in Hours

LVH–Cedar Crest

Monday – 7 to 8 a.m.; 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday – 1 to 3 p.m.

Wednesday – 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

Thursday – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Friday – 7 to 8 a.m.

LVH–Hazleton

By appointment; call 570-501-4788

LVH–Schuylkill

By appointment; call 570-621-4351

LVH–Muhlenberg

Monday – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday – 7:30 to 10 a.m.

Wednesday – 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Thursday – 7 to 10 a.m.

Friday – 8 to 10 a.m.
Flu Vaccination Clinics

LVH–Cedar Crest – Kasych Corridor

Monday, Oct. 2 – 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 6 – 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 17 – noon to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 28 – 6:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Friday, Nov. 10 – 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 20 – noon to 7:30 p.m.

LVH–Muhlenberg – ECC Corridor

Wednesday, Oct. 4 – 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 14 – 6:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 7 – 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 17 – noon to 7:30 p.m.

Health Network Labs – Roble Road

Monday, Oct. 23 – noon to 4 p.m.

LVH–17th Street – Center for Healthy Aging

Friday, Oct. 13 – 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 26 – 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 15 – 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
LVHN–Mack Boulevard – Cafeteria

Thursday, Oct. 12 – 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 13 – 8 a.m. to 2:00 pm

LVHN–One City Center – 8th Floor Work Café

Tuesday, Oct. 31 – 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

LVH–Schuylkill – Employee Health – East and South Campus

Monday, Oct. 2 – 6 to 9 a.m., East Campus

Tuesday, Oct. 3 – 1 to 4 p.m., South Campus

Wednesday, Oct. 4 – 1 to 4 p.m., East Campus

Thursday, Oct. 5 – 6 to 9 a.m., South Campus

Friday, Oct. 6 – 6 to 9 a.m., East Campus

Monday, Oct. 9 – 6 to 9 a.m., South Campus

Tuesday, Oct. 10 – 1 to 4 p.m., East Campus

Wednesday, Oct. 11 – 1 to 4 p.m., South Campus

Thursday, Oct. 12 – 6 to 9 a.m., East Campus

Monday, Oct. 16 – 6 to 9 a.m., East Campus

Tuesday, Oct. 17, 1 to 4 p.m., South Campus

Wednesday, Oct. 18 – 1 to 4 p.m., East Campus

Thursday, Oct. 19 – 6 to 9 a.m., South Campus

Monday, Oct. 23 – 6 to 9 a.m., South Campus

Tuesday, Oct. 24 – 1 to 4 p.m., East Campus
Wednesday, Oct. 25 – 1 to 4 p.m., South Campus

Thursday, Oct. 26 – 6 to 9 a.m., East Campus

**LVH–Hazleton – Employee Health**

Thursday, Oct. 5 – 1:30 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Friday, Oct. 6 – 1:30 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Monday, Oct. 9 – 7 to 8 a.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Monday, Oct. 9 – 2 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2:45 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Thursday, Oct. 12 – 7:15 to 8:15 a.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Thursday, Oct. 12 – 1:45 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Friday, Oct. 13 – 9 to 10 a.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Friday, Oct. 13 – 2:45 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Monday, Oct. 16 – 7:15 to 8:15 a.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Monday, Oct. 16 – 2 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Tuesday, Oct. 17 – 2 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Wednesday, Oct. 18 – 9 to 10 a.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Wednesday, Oct. 18 – 3 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Thursday, Oct. 19 – 7:15 to 8:15 a.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Thursday, Oct. 19 – 3 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Monday, Oct. 23 – 8 to 10 a.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Monday, Oct. 23 – 3 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Tuesday, Oct. 24 – 2 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room
Wednesday, Oct. 25 – 9 to 10 a.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Friday, Oct. 27 – 3 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Monday, Oct. 30 – 7:15 to 8:15 a.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Monday, Oct. 30 – 3 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Tuesday, Oct. 31 – 1:45 to 4 p.m., 6th floor Conference Room

Wednesday, Nov. 1 – 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., Employee Health Office

Friday, Nov. 3 – 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., Employee Health Office

Friday, Nov. 3 – 3 to 4 p.m., Employee Health Office

Monday, Nov. 6 – 2 to 4 p.m., Employee Health Office

Thursday, Nov. 9 – 2 to 4 p.m., Employee Health Office

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2 to 4 p.m., Employee Health Office

Friday, Nov. 17 – 2 to 4 p.m., Employee Health Office

Monday, Nov. 20, 2 to 4 p.m., Employee Health Office
LVHN Lung Cancer Community Forum Set

The public can learn about the latest advances in the care, screening, treatment and management of lung cancer from Lehigh Valley Health Network health care providers and researchers during a free community forum, A Breath of Fresh Air, on Wednesday, Nov. 15, at 4 p.m. It will be held at Kasych Family Pavilion ECC Rooms 6, 7 and 8 at Lehigh Valley Hospital–Cedar Crest.

The event will be moderated by hematologist oncologist Eliot Friedman, MD, of LVPG Hematology Oncology. Featured speakers and topics are:

- Suzanne Smith, MBA, RRT, patient services – Smoking cessation
- Ken Cavorsi, MD, diagnostic radiologist – Lung cancer screening (CT)
- Brian Patson, MD, hematologist oncologist – Advances in immunotherapy treatment for lung cancer and clinical trials
- Richard Chang, MD, thoracic surgeon – Robotic and minimally invasive surgery
- Dennis Sopka, MD, radiation oncologist, and Maritza Chicas, RN, BSN, OCN, oncology nurse navigator – The role of the multidisciplinary clinic

The event is sponsored by Highmark Foundation and a light dinner will be provided. Seating is limited, RSVP is encouraged. Register at 888-402-LVHN or visit LVHN.org/lunginfo.
LVHN Announces Formation of Cancer, Heart, Surgery Institutes

In September, Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) announced a significant endeavor in terms of regional care and innovation, one designed to increase its commitment to combating cancer, heart disease and conditions that require surgery – the LVHN Cancer Institute, the LVHN Heart Institute and the LVHN Institute for Special Surgery.

The formation of these institutes enables LVHN to focus on conditions and services that impact many members of the community, as well as create better patient experiences and outcomes.

“We are focusing on cancer and heart disease because they are the top two causes of death in the U.S. as well as our region,” says Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, LVHN's President and Chief Executive Officer. “LVHN leads the fight against these diseases as well as other serious conditions that require surgery. Patients can remain close to home for high-quality care for these specialized services.”

LVHN Cancer Institute

People with cancer can have confidence knowing they have access to hundreds of lifesaving and breakthrough clinical trials through LVHN’s partnership with Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Institute and other clinical relationships. Patients can receive surgical precision and comprehensive expertise through our multidisciplinary clinics for skin and soft tissue, upper gastrointestinal, breast, prostate, lung and esophageal, and soon head and neck cancers.

LVHN Heart Institute

People with heart conditions can take comfort knowing LVHN has the most experienced cardiologists and cardiac surgeons in the region, and consistently ranks in the nation’s top 1 percent for heart attack survival. Consider LVHN was the first in the region to perform transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) and is recognized as a center for performing complex mitral valve surgery repair. LVHN provides specialized programs for women's heart health, sports cardiology, advanced heart failure, mechanical heart assist, lead extraction, peripheral vascular and venous care, and rhythm disturbance care.

LVHN Institute for Special Surgery

People who have serious illnesses that require surgery can be assured that our surgeons have the most experience in the region, specializing in robotic and minimally invasive surgery for chest, cancer, obesity, esophageal reflux, colon and rectal conditions, hernia surgery, and more. LVHN’s emphasis on minimally invasive, leading-edge technologies, such as robotic surgery, allows patients to return to their work and lives more quickly.
Institute structure

Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)–Cedar Crest will host the three institutes and serve as the hub where innovation, research and education originate. LVH–Muhlenberg, LVH–Hazleton, LVH–Schuylkill and LVH–Pocono will be members of each institute and provide patients with more convenient access to the institute's distinct services and expertise in their respective communities.

To learn more about the three new LVHN clinical institutes and other services, visit LVHN.org/institutes.
LVH–Cedar Crest Earns Baby-Friendly Designation

Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)–Cedar Crest has met the criteria to be designated a “baby-friendly” hospital and birthing center by Baby-Friendly USA and the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, a program that’s been supported internationally by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) since 1991.

LVH–Cedar Crest is one of 447 hospitals and birthing centers across the country and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to hold a baby-friendly designation. The designation is awarded to health facilities that are dedicated to improving the care of pregnant women, mothers and newborns by promoting and supporting the breastfeeding of babies as the best start in life. Clinical evidence has indicated both long- and short-term health benefits for lactating women and their newborns.

“Being named a WHO Baby-Friendly Hospital continues our legacy as a provider of quality health care,” says Mary Bianchi, LVHN Vice President, Women and Children’s Service Line. “We provide support and education for all women so they understand the unique benefits of breast milk and breastfeeding. No matter what feeding method a woman chooses, we will respect her choice.”

The goal of WHO and UNICEF is to increase the proportion of live births that occur in health facilities worldwide that provide care for lactating mothers and their babies. Almost 870,000 births occur annually at baby-friendly facilities in the U.S. There were 4,500 births at LVH–Cedar Crest during the 2017 fiscal year. On a typical day, you would find an average of 50 mothers and babies on the mother-baby unit.

For questions or feedback on this article, contact Mary Bianchi, LVHN Vice President, Women and Children’s Service Line, at 610-969-4246.
Have a Clinical Question? DynaMed Plus Is Now Available

LVHN Library Services now has made available DynaMed Plus® through the Digital Library Services website and EPIC. DynaMed Plus presents critically appraised evidence from more than 500 medical journals in a quick, easy-to-read format designed for use at the point of care.

With DynaMed Plus, you will get:

- Evidence-based recommendations with supporting references updated 24/7/365 using GRADE (Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation)
- Internal medicine topics developed and maintained jointly by DynaMed Plus and American College of Physicians clinical leadership
- Ability to sign up for alerts when a topic or specialty area is updated with new evidence and guidelines
- Free CME: AMA Category 1; click for more information

Where can I find DynaMed Plus?
▪ Remote access. Create a personal account to access DynaMed Plus anywhere on any device.

▪ Free mobile app available on Android and iOS platforms. After you download the app, use your personal account to login or get an authorization email from DynaMed. Click here for instructions.

▪ On site at LVH–H: From the LVH–H intranet homepage, click on Library Services then click on DynaMed Plus or use the DynaMed Plus search box

▪ On site at LVH–S: From the LVH–S intranet homepage, click on Library Services & Patient Ed then click on DynaMed Plus or use the DynaMed Plus search box

▪ On site at LVH–P: Please note not all eBooks are currently available at your site. From the LVH–P intranet homepage, click on LVHN Links and then click on Library Services\Patient Ed then click on DynaMed Plus or use the DynaMed Plus search box

▪ On site at LVH–Cedar Crest/17th Street and LVH–Muhlenberg:
  ▪ From the LVHN intranet homepage, click on Find Fast/Library Services then click on DynaMed Plus or use the DynaMed Plus search box
  ▪ In EPIC choose DynaMed Plus under WebLinks
  ▪ Also in EPIC in the following Health Maintenance, Diagnoses/Chief Complaint, Allergies, Procedures Entry, Flowsheets, Results, and Vitals screens:
For questions or feedback on this article, contact Linda Matula Schwartz, Director, Department of Education, Educational Infrastructure, at 610-402-5290.
October 2017 Papers, Publications and Presentations

- Kareem Elsayed, BS, a USF SELECT student, and Raymond Melder, DO, and Michael Nguyen, MD, of the Department of Emergency Medicine, co-authored an article, “An unusual case of flank pain: more than just an inguinal hernia.” It was published in the Journal of Emergency Medicine, Volume 53, Number 1, July 2017.
October 2017 Upcoming Seminars, Conferences and Meetings

Department of Education Conferences

- 13 – First Annual LVHN Cancer Institute Symposium: Partnership with Primary Care
- 20-21 – Third Annual Regional Urology Symposium
- 27-28 – 2017 ECMO Symposium

For more information, call 610 402 2277, option 1, or visit LVHN.org/ce-calendar.

Pediatric Grand Rounds

- 3 – Pediatric Brain Tumors, with P. Mark Li, MD, Chief, Division of Neurological Surgery; LVH–Cedar Crest Kasych Family Pavilion ECC Room 6, 8-9 a.m.
- 10 – Medical Marijuana, with Kristin Held Wheatley, PharmD, BCOP, clinical pharmacy specialist, pediatric oncology and infectious diseases; LVH–Cedar Crest Kasych Family Pavilion ECC Room 6, 8-9 a.m.
- 17 – Empathy/Caring, with Anthony Ardire, MD, MPH, CPE, Senior Vice President, Customer Experience; LVH–Cedar Crest Kasych Family Pavilion ECC Room 6, 8-9 a.m.
- 24 – Obesity, with Kimberly Brown, MD, Assistant Clerkship Director, Pediatrics; LVH–Cedar Crest Kasych Family Pavilion ECC Room 6, 8-9 a.m.
- 31 – Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse, with Tara Harris, MD, MS, FAAP, of Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health; LVH–Cedar Crest Kasych Family Pavilion ECC Room 6, 8-9 a.m.

For more information, contact Cari Cleffi in the Department of Pediatrics at 484-862-3131.
Who’s New—October 2017

MEDICAL STAFF

New Appointments
Effective Oct. 3, 2017

Atena Asiaii, MD
(LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–Pond Road – Emily B. Brophy, MD)
Obstetrics and Gynecology
LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–Pond Road
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
Paragon Building
1611 Pond Road, Suite 300
Allentown, PA 18104-2258
Phone: 610-398-7700 Fax: 610-398-6917
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/18/2017
LVH LVH–M

Fatimah Aslam, DDS
(Lehigh Valley Dental Solutions)
Dental Medicine
General Dentistry
Lehigh Valley Dental Solutions
3258 Cherryville Road
Northampton, PA 18067-1017
Phone: 610-262-1556 Fax: 610-262-2245
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/14/2017
LVH LVH–M

Daniel E. Benyo, MD
(LVPG Geriatric and Internal Medicine–Drums – Philip J. Benyo, MD)
Grace E. Berlin, DO  
(Afterhours Physician Coverage Group – Justin L. Guthier, DO)  
Medicine  
General Internal Medicine  
Afterhours Physician Coverage Group  
Lehigh Valley Health Network  
1255 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 3200  
Allentown, PA 18103-6232  
Phone: 610-402-5200 Fax: 610-402-1675  
Provisional Limited Duty  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/14/2017  
LVH–M

Giovanni Bonomo, MD  
(Colon-Rectal Surgery Associates, PC – Linda L. Lapos, MD)  
Surgery  
Colon and Rectal Surgery  
Colon-Rectal Surgery Associates, PC  
1255 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 3900  
Allentown, PA 18103-6250  
Phone: 610-402-1095 Fax: 610-435-5003  
Provisional Active  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/14/2017  
LVH–M

Matthew A. Byers, MD  
(LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology S Cedar Crest Blvd Alliance Drive – Scott D. Muir, DO)  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Obstetrics/Gynecology.  
Lehigh Valley Hospital S Cedar Crest Blvd Hazleton  
1000 Alliance Drive, Suite 10  
Hazle Township, PA 18202-3234  
Phone: 570-501-6450 Fax: 570-501-6436  
Provisional Active  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 10/02/2017
Leif E. Christiansen, DO
(Integrated Medical Group – Nimish Vesuwala, MD)
Emergency and Hospital Medicine
Hospital Medicine
Integrated Medical Group, PC.
Integrated Medical Group
82 Tunnel Road
Pottsville, PA 17901-2710
Phone: 570-622-5455 Fax: 570-622-5493
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/14/2017

Roger G. Fennell, MD
(Allentown Anesthesia Associates, Inc. – Jodie L. Buxbaum MD)
Anesthesiology
Obstetric Anesthesiology
Allentown Anesthesia Associates, Inc.
Lehigh Valley Hospital–Schuylkill
420 S. Jackson St.
Pottsville, PA 17901-3625
Phone: 570-621-5240 Fax: 570-621-9213
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/01/2017

Danielle A. Ferraguti, DO
(LVPG Pediatric Gastroenterology–1210 Cedar Crest)
Pediatrics
Pediatric Subspecialties
Gastroenterology
LVPG Pediatric Gastroenterology–1210 Cedar Crest
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
1210 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 2400
Allentown, PA 18103-6229
Phone: 610-402-3888 Fax: 610-402-3892
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/09/2017

Patrick Fiero, MD
(LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–Alliance Drive – Sheila F. Hockman, DO)
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Obstetrics/Gynecology
LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–Alliance Drive
Lehigh Valley Physician Group–Hazleton
1000 Alliance Drive, Suite 10
Hazle Township, PA 18202-3234
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Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/18/2017
LVH–H

Victoria K. Gonsorcik, MD
(Monroe Pathologists)
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Anatomic Pathology
Monroe Pathologists
206 E. Brown St., Third Floor
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301-3006
Phone: 570-476-3543 Fax: 570-476-3319
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017
LVH LVH–M LVH–H LVH–S

Steven G. Hardy, MD
(LVPG–Emergency Medicine – David B. Burmeister, DO)
Emergency and Hospital Medicine
Emergency Medicine
LVPG–Emergency Medicine
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Lehigh Valley Hospital
Cedar Crest and I-78, PO Box 689
Allentown, PA 18105-1556
Phone: 484-862-3232 Fax: 484-862-3250
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/23/2017
LVH LVH–M LVH–H

Steven L. Lewis, MD
(LVPG Neurology–1250 Cedar Crest – Gary W. Clauser, MD)
Medicine
Neurology
LVPG Neurology–1250 Cedar Crest
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
1250 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 405
Allentown, PA 18103-6224
Phone: 610-402-8420 Fax: 610-402-1689
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/14/2017
Maximo Llaudes, MD  
(Monroe Pathologists)  
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine  
Anatomic Pathology  
Monroe Pathologists  
206 E. Brown St., Third Floor  
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301-3006  
Phone: 570-476-3543 Fax: 570-476-3319  
Provisional Active  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017  
LVH LVH–M LVH–H LVH–S

Raymond J. Melder, DO  
(LVH–M Emergency Medicine – David B. Burmeister, DO)  
Emergency and Hospital Medicine  
Emergency Medicine  
LVH–M Emergency Medicine  
Lehigh Valley Physician Group  
Lehigh Valley Hospital–Muhlenberg  
2545 Schoenersville Road, Fifth Floor  
Bethlehem, PA 18017-7300  
Phone: 484-884-2888 Fax: 484-884-2885  
Provisional Limited Duty  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/15/2017  
LVH LVH–M

Deepti S. Moon, MD  
(Valley Kidney Specialists, PC – Nelson P. Kopyt, DO)  
Medicine  
Nephrology  
Valley Kidney Specialists, PC  
1230 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 301  
Allentown, PA 18103-6231  
Phone: 610-432-4529 Fax: 610-432-2206  
Fellowship  
Provisional Active  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/14/2017  
LVH LVH–M

Joshua A. Nochumson, MD  
(LVPG Surgery–Health & Wellness Center)  
Surgery  
General Surgery/Colon and Rectal Surgery  
LVPG Surgery–Health & Wellness Center
Lehigh Valley Physician Group–Hazleton
Health & Wellness Center
50 Moisey Drive, Suite 214
Hazle Township, PA 18202-9297
Phone: 570-501-6900 Fax: 570-501-6945
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 10/02/2017
LVH LVH–M LVH–H LVH–S

**Don J. Park, MD, PhD**
(LVPG Hematology Oncology–1240 Cedar Crest – Suressh G. Nair, MD)
Cancer Institute
Hematology-Medical Oncology
LVPG Hematology Oncology–1240 Cedar Crest
Lehigh Valley Physician Group 1240 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 305
Allentown, PA 18103-6218
Phone: 610-402-9050 Fax 610-402-9082
Education: Chonnam National University – BS-Biology
Chonnam National University College of Medicine – MD
University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine – Internal Medicine Internship
University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine – Internal Medicine Residency
Vanderbilt University Medical Center – Hematology/Medical Oncology Fellowship
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/09/2017

**Leslie M. Partem, MD**
(LVPG Family Medicine–Southside – Frank A. Sperrazza, DO)
Family Medicine
LVPG Family Medicine–Southside
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
141 E. Emaus Ave.
Allentown, PA 18103-5824
Phone: 610-791-5930 Fax: 610-791-2157
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/09/2017
LVH LVH–M

**Robin M. Pattin, MD**
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg – John-Paul Gomez, MD)
Psychiatry
Child-Adolescent Psychiatry
LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
2710 Schoenersville Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017-7384
Phone: 610-297-7500 Fax: 610-297-7533
Joseph L. Russino, MD
(Comprehensive Women's Health Services – Robert M. Zimmerman Jr., DO)
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Obstetrics/Gynecology
Comprehensive Women's Health Services
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
171 Red Horse Road
Pottsville, PA 17901
Phone: 570-628-2229 Fax: 570-628-5185

Zohra G. Salahuddin, MD
(Hazleton Anesthesia Services/Somnia, Inc. – Randy S. Cohen, MD)
Anesthesiology
Lehigh Valley Hospital–Hazleton
700 E. Broad St.
Hazleton, PA 18201-6835
Phone: 570-501-4218 Fax: 570-501-4089

Erin M. Scholten, MD
(LVPG Endocrinology–1243 Cedar Crest – Marc A. Vengrove, DO)
Medicine
Endocrinology
LVPG Endocrinology–1243 Cedar Crest
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
1243 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 2800
Allentown, PA 18103-6230
Phone: 610-402-6790 Fax: 610-402-6979

Carolina Sforza, MD
(Monroe Pathologists)
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Anatomic Pathology
Cytopathology
Monroe Pathologists
206 E. Brown St., Third Floor
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301-3006
Phone: 570-476-3543 Fax: 570-476-3319
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017
LVH LVH–M LVH–H LVH–S

Blake A. Stewart, DO
(LVPG General Surgery–Schuylkill)
Surgery
General Surgery
LVPG General Surgery–Schuylkill
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
100 Schuylkill Medical Plaza, Suite 206
Pottsville, PA 17901-2710
Phone: 570-621-5630 Fax: 570-621-5699
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/18/2017
LVH–S

John P. Tinsley, MD
(Monroe Pathologists)
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Anatomic Pathology
Monroe Pathologists
206 E. Brown St., Third Floor
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301-3006
Phone: 570-476-3543 Fax: 570-476-3319
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017
LVH LVH–M LVH–H LVH–S

Daniel Torres, MD
(LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine – Prodromos A. Ververeli, MD)
Surgery
Hand Surgery/Orthopedic Surgery
LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
Center for Advanced Health Care
1250 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 110
Allentown, PA 18103-6224
Phone: 610-402-8900 Fax: 610-402-5656
Provisional Active
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 10/02/2017
**Gregory R. Varghese, DO**  
(Valley Kidney Specialists, PC – Nelson P. Kopyt, DO)  
Medicine  
Nephrology  
Valley Kidney Specialists, PC  
1230 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 301  
Allentown, PA 18103-6231  
Phone: 610-432-4529 Fax: 610-432-2206  
Provisional Active  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/15/2017  
LVH LVH–M

**Resignations**

Robert A. Barnes, DO  
Family Medicine  
(East Penn Medical Practice, Inc)  
Affiliate  
07/07/2017

Christopher R. Becker, DO  
Medicine  
Neurology  
Neurocritical Care  
(LVPG Neurocritical Care)  
Provisional Active  
LVH LVH–M  
09/01/2017

Luis M. Espaillat Rijo, MD  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Urogynecology/Gynecology  
(LVPG Urogynecology–Muhlenberg)  
Active  
LVH LVH–M  
08/16/2017

Dale J. Federico, MD  
Surgery  
Orthopedic Surgery  
(LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine)  
Active
Yessar Hussain, MD  
Medicine  
Neurology  
(Specialists On Call, Inc.)  
Telemedicine  
LVH–S  
07/04/2017  

Jason Kiner, MD  
Medicine  
Neurology  
(Specialists On Call, Inc.)  
Telemedicine  
LVH–S  
05/02/2017  

Cynthia P. Liskov, MD  
Emergency and Hospital Medicine  
Emergency Medicine  
(LVPG Emergency Medicine)  
Active  
LVH LVH–M LVH–H  
08/18/2017  

Julie N. Phillips, MD  
Emergency and Hospital Medicine  
Pediatric Emergency Medicine/Emergency Medicine  
(LVPG–Emergency Medicine)  
Active  
LVH LVH–M  
07/31/201

**Status Change**  

Matthew J. Sullivan, DO  
Medicine  
General Internal Medicine  
From: Lehigh Valley Physicians Practice  
To: Afterhours Physician Coverage Group  
From: Active  
To: Limited Duty
**Status Change and Voluntary Relinquishment of Privileges**

Joseph Pascal, MD  
Surgery  
Urology  
(LVPG Urology Urogynecology 1250 Cedar Crest)  
All major surgical procedures  
Active  
LVH LVH–M  
10/03/2017

**Voluntary Relinquishment of Privileges**

Alva D. Smith, MD  
Medicine  
Cardiology  
(Alva D. Smith, MD)  
Assist with Convergent Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation  
Permanent Pacemaker Insertion  
Peripheral Angiography  
Peripheral Angiography and Angioplasty  
Heart Catheterization-Right  
Pericardiocentesis-ElectiveActive  
LVH–H  
10/03/2017

**Name Change**

Charlene E. Christman, CRNP, changed to Charlene E. Mackaness, CRNP  
LVPG–Emergency Medicine  
Emergency and Hospital Medicine  
Emergency Medicine

**ALLIED HEALTH STAFF**
New Appointments
Effective Oct. 3, 2017

Elizabeth R. Bateman, RRT
Registered Respiratory Therapist
American Home Medical Equipment & Services Inc
754 Roble Road, Suite 180
Allentown, PA 18103-9135
Phone: 610-841-4986 Fax: 610-841-4987
Supervising Physician: Richard J. Strobel, MD
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/14/2017
LVH LVH–M

Justin B. Bednar, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
LVPG–Emergency Medicine
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
Lehigh Valley Hospital
Cedar Crest and I-78, PO Box 689
Allentown, PA 18105-1556
Phone: 484-862-3232 Fax: 484-862-3250
Supervising Physician: Gary Bonfante, DO
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/25/2017
LVH LVH–M LVH–H

Jamilah Davis Tindell, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
LVPG–MHC IP Psychiatry
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
2545 Schoenersville Road, Fifth Floor LVH–M South
Bethlehem, PA 18017-7300
Phone: 484-884-6503 Fax: 484-884-6504
Supervising Physician: Laurence P. Karper, MD
Appointment Date: 10/09/2017
LVH LVH–M

Lora E. Doebler, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–West Broad
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
325 W. Broad St., Third Floor
Bethlehem, PA 18018-5526
Phone: 484-626-9250 Fax: 484-626-9255
Supervising Physician: Reena V. Kanabar, MD
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/25/2017
LVH LVH–M
Tao-Nan C. Jacobson, PA-C  
Physician Assistant-Certified  
LVHN ExpressCare at Bangor  
Lehigh Valley Physician Group  
Bangor Plaza Shopping Center  
1337 Blue Valley Drive  
Pen Argyl, PA 18072-1815  
Phone: 610-654-1237 Fax: 610-654-1232  
Supervising Physician: John F. Wheary, DO  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/25/2017  
LVH LVH–M LVH–H

Samantha A. Kirk  
Mapping Support Specialist/Pacemaker/ICD Technician  
Medtronic USA Inc.  
Morris Corporate Center  
300 Interpace Parkway, Building A  
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1100  
Phone: 215-968-1684 Fax: 215-860-9265  
Supervising Physician: Babak Bozorgnia, MD  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/14/2017  
LVH LVH–M

Nicole C. Kozma, PA-C  
Physician Assistant-Certified  
LVPG–Neonatology  
Lehigh Valley Physician Group  
Lehigh Valley Hospital  
Cedar Crest and I-78, PO Box 689  
Allentown, PA 18105-1556  
Phone: 610-402-7632 Fax: 610-402-7600  
Supervising Physician: Wendy J. Kowalski, MD  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/25/2017  
LVH LVH–M

Spencer P. Lambert, PA-C  
Physician Assistant-Certified  
LVPG Hospital Medicine at Cedar Crest  
Lehigh Valley Physician Group  
Lehigh Valley Hospital  
Cedar Crest and I-78, PO Box 689  
Third Floor Anderson Wing  
Allentown, PA 18105-1556  
Phone: 610-402-5369 Fax: 610-402-5959  
Supervising Physician: George Abraham, MD
Christian J. Laputka, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
LVPG—Emergency Medicine
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
Lehigh Valley Hospital
Cedar Crest and I-78, PO Box 689
Allentown, PA 18105-1556
Phone: 484-862-3232 Fax: 484-862-3250
Supervising Physician: Gary Bonfante, DO
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/25/2017
LVH LVH–M LVH–H

Anne A. Matrone, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
LVPG—Emergency Medicine
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
Lehigh Valley Hospital
Cedar Crest and I-78, PO Box 689
Allentown, PA 18105-1556
Phone: 484-862-3232 Fax: 484-862-3250
Supervising Physician: Marianne L. Smalley, MD
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/25/2017
LVH LVH–M LVH–H

Teri Lynn Scatena, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
LVPG Family Medicine—Easton
Lehigh Valley Physician Group
Health Center at Easton
2401 Northampton St., Suite 130
Easton, PA 18045-2764
Phone: 484-591-7420 Fax: 484-591-7421
Supervising Physician: Grant M. Greenberg, MD, MHSA
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/25/2017
LVH LVH–M

Meredith L. Sellix, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
Allen Ear Nose & Throat Association
1575 Pond Road, Suite 203
Allentown, PA 18104-2254
Phone: 610-366-1366 Fax: 610-366-7412
Supervising Physician: Paul S. Lemberg, MD
Nicole L. Stephens  
Emergency Department Scribe  
ScribeAmerica  
One City Center  
PO Box 1806  
Department of Emergency Medicine – Ninth Floor  
Allentown, PA 18105-1806  
Phone: 484-862-3232 Fax: 484-862-3250  
Supervising Physician: Gary Bonfante, DO  
Appointment Date: 10/03/2017 Temporary Privileges: 09/14/2017  
LVH LVH–M LVH–H

Resignations

Ruth A. Johnson, CRNP  
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner  
(Allentown Anesthesia Associates, Inc.)  
Allied Health  
LVH LVH–M  
08/16/2017

Christine D. Johnston, CRNP  
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner  
(LVPG Geriatric Medicine–17th Street)  
Allied Health  
LVH LVH–M  
09/03/2017

John D. Lasko, PA-C  
Physician Assistant-Certified  
(LVPG Hospital Medicine at Cedar Crest)  
Allied Health  
LVH LVH–M  
09/14/2017

Raquel Nunez, CRNP  
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner  
(LVPG Family Medicine–Hellertown)  
Allied Health  
LVH LVH–M  
09/01/2017

Cynthia A. Payonk, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
(LVPG Endocrinology–1243 Cedar Crest)
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
07/28/2017

Sejal V. Patel, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
(LVPG Hospital Medicine at Cedar Crest)
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
08/20/2017

Karen M. Schaller, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
(Children’s Clinic)
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
08/24/2017

Emily A. Welty
Dental Assistant
(Greater Lehigh Valley Oral Health Partnership)
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
08/07/2017

Jennifer L. Yourey, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
(LVPG Family Medicine–Hometown)
Allied Health
LVH–H
08/14/2017

**Change of Supervising Physician**

Diane Davison, LCSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)
From: Christi A. Weston, MD
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017
Jenna M. Galligani, LPC
Licensed Professional Counselor
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)
From: Christi A. Weston, MD
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017

Jessica E. Hopton, LCSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)
From: Christi A. Weston, MD
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017

Katelyn M. Llewellyn, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
(LVPG Neuropsychiatry–1250 Cedar Crest)
From: Zeeshan Javid, MD
To: Ralph A. Primelo, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017

Jennifer D. Maust, LCSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)
From: Christi A. Weston, MD
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017

Tasha L. Medina, LCSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)
From: Christi A. Weston, MD
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017
Nancy T. Maulick, PA-C  
Physician Assistant-Certified  
(LVPG Family Medicine–Blandon)  
From: Christine K. Block, MD  
To: Tory J. Miksiewicz Clugston, MD  
Allied Health  
LVH LVH–M  
10/03/2017

Jason R. Potts, CRNP  
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner  
(LVPG–Emergency Medicine)  
From: Amit Sareen, MD  
To: Eric W. Bean, DO  
Allied Health  
LVH LVH–M  
10/03/2017

Elizabeth B. Rohn, LCSW  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)  
From: Christi A. Weston, MD  
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD  
Allied Health  
LVH LVH–M  
10/03/2017

Sally T. Ross, LCSW  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)  
From: Christi A. Weston, MD  
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD  
Allied Health  
LVH LVH–M  
10/03/2017

Anne L. Schaller, LCSW  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)  
From: Christi A. Weston, MD  
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD  
Allied Health  
LVH LVH–M  
10/03/2017

Susan E. Smith, LCSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)
From: Christi A. Weston, MD
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017

Kelly A. Stec, LPC
Licensed Professional Counselor
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)
From: Christi A. Weston, MD
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017

Talia E. Steffensen, LPC
Licensed Professional Counselor
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)
From: Christi A. Weston, MD
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017

Brett Williamson, LSW, MBA
Licensed Social Worker
(LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–Muhlenberg)
From: Christi A. Weston, MD
To: John-Paul Gomez, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017

**Change of Supervising Physician and Group**

Lauren R. Peters, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
From: Eastern Pennsylvania Gastroenterology and Liver Specialists, PC – Glenn M. Short, MD
To: LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–Valley Center Parkway – Travis C. Dayon, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/09/2017

Janice A. Stout, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
From: Eastern Pennsylvania Gastroenterology and Liver Specialists, PC – Ronald J. Bross, MD
To: Medical Imaging of Lehigh Valley, PC – Errin J. Hoffman, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M LVH–H LVH–S LVH–P
10/03/2017

Additional Supervising Physician and Group

Jacaline P. Wolf, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
(OACIS Services – Daniel E. Ray, MD)
Addition of: Lehigh Valley Hospice – Sarah Nicklin, MD
Allied Health
LVH LVH–M
10/03/2017
Tips and Tools for Managing the Business Side of Health Care

The Lehigh Valley Physician Hospital Organization (LVPHO) has introduced a new quarterly information session on a broad selection of topics helpful to our LVPHO Member Physicians and Advanced Practice Clinicians (APCs).

The next session topic, to be presented Thursday, Sept. 21, from 6 to 7 p.m., is Choosing Wisely®. The guest speaker is Dominic Lorusso, Director, Health Partnerships, from Consumer Reports. He leads several Health Impact campaigns, including Choosing Wisely, at Consumer Reports. In this role, he works with national and regional partner groups in developing unique methods to reach each of their members or constituents. Through his network, more than 100 million consumers annually have seen the CR Health content.

The session will be presented live at Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)–Cedar Crest Auditorium and video conferenced to LVH–Muhlenberg ECC Room C, LVH–17th Street, Video Teleconference Room (first floor), LVH–Hazleton, Third Floor Educational Conference Room, LVH–Pocono 2D Conference Room and LVH–Schuylkill, East Wall Auditorium, (2700 E. Norwegian St.). Light refreshments will be available.

LVPHO Member Physician and Advanced Practice Clinician (APC) attendance at this Achieving Clinical Excellence® (ACE)-sponsored program at the above six locations will be incentivized. LVPHO physicians receive $100; APCs receive $65.

To register, please contact Lori McFerran at Lori.Mcferran@lvhn.org or 610-969-0019, indicating your name, phone number and which location you will attend.
APC Awards and Election Results

At the quarterly meeting of the advanced practice clinicians (APC) held on Sept. 24, the recipients of the biennial APC Awards for 2015 were announced. Congratulations to the award recipients, who are listed below:

Professional Advancement
Shannon N. Diallo, PA-C
LVPG Hospital Medicine at Cedar Crest

Community Outreach Award
Ramon J. Deeb Jr., CRNA
Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services, PC

Education/Research Award
Ashleigh M. Renitsky, PA-C
LVPG Urology–1250 Cedar Crest

Also at the meeting, elections were held for two at-large members. Current members in addition to department chair appointments and newly elected members of the APC Executive Council include:

President
Wendy J. Prutsman, CRNP
LVPG Maternal Fetal Medicine–3900 Hamilton Blvd.
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

President-elect
Michele C.G. Hartzell, PA-C
LVPG–Emergency Medicine
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Past President
Paul J. Evans, CRNA
Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services, PC
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Secretary/Treasurer
Rachel M. Morcrette, PA-C
LVPG Gynecologic Oncology–1240 Cedar Crest
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)
At-Large Members

Jessica L. Bowell, PA-C
LVPG Hospital Medicine at Cedar Crest
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2017)

Christina A. Felten, CNM
LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–Pond Road
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2017)

Jessica A. Rush, PA-C
LVPG Hospital Medicine at Muhlenberg
(Re-elected – Term ending Sept. 30, 2018)

Melissa N. Shaner, PA-C
LVPG Urogynecology–Pond Road
( Newly elected – Term ending Sept. 30, 2018)

Maria D. Thomas, CRNA
Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services, PC
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Pamela A. Thomas, CRNP
LVPG Family Medicine–Whitehall
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Department Chair Appointments

Department of Anesthesiology (two seats)

Andrew E. Aspen, CRNA
Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services, PC
( Newly appointed – Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

James C. Miller, CRNA
Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services, PC
( Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Department of Medicine (two seats)

Kathy S. Attieh, PA-C
LVPG Cardiology–1250 Cedar Crest
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)
Ryann E. Morrison, PA-C
LVPG Hematology Oncology–1240 Cedar Crest
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Department of Surgery (two seats)

Rachel L. Moyer, PA-C
LVPG Neurosurgery–Muhlenberg
(Newly appointed – Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Jason E. Sommer, PA-C
LVPG Urology–Muhlenberg
(Newly appointed – Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Department of Emergency and Hospital Medicine (one seat)

Christina M. Davies, PA-C
LVPG–Emergency Medicine
(Newly appointed – Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Department of Family Medicine (one seat)

Debra P. Goodwin, PA-C
LVPG Family Medicine–Whitehall
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (one seat)

Maria L. Smalley, PA-C
LVPG Gynecologic Oncology–1240 Cedar Crest
(Newly appointed – Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Department of Pediatrics (one seat)

Pamela K. Prisaznik, CRNP
LVPG Pediatric Pulmonology–1210 Cedar Crest
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

Department of Psychiatry (one seat)

Krista T. Carson, PA-C
LVPG Adult and Pediatric Psychiatry–1259 Cedar Crest
(Term ending Sept. 30, 2016)

The mission of the APC Executive Council is to support, advocate, promote, facilitate and integrate the professional interests of advanced practice clinicians who maintain active clinical privileges within LVHN.
The APC Executive Council meets monthly, and general APC membership meetings are held quarterly. The next APC quarterly membership meeting will be held in conjunction with the general medical staff meeting on Dec. 14, beginning at 6 p.m., in the Kasych Family Pavilion, Medical Imaging of Lehigh Valley Educational Conference Center Rooms 6, 7 and 8. Please note: the meeting will NOT be teleconferenced to LVH–Muhlenberg.

*For questions or feedback on this article, please contact Wendy Prutsman, APC Executive Council president, via pager at 610-402-5100 9769.*