Invitations have been mailed for this year’s Physician Recognition Dinner which will be held on Saturday, March 31, at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Fogelsville.

Plan to attend the event to celebrate with your colleagues and recognize those who will be celebrating 25 and 50 years of service on the hospital’s Medical Staff.

The event will begin with a cocktail hour at 6 p.m., followed by a lovely dinner and program. The evening will conclude with dancing to the music of Common Bond featuring Alan Berger, MD, Division of Vascular Surgery, on vocals and bass guitar.

The deadline for reservations is Thursday, March 15. For more information, dietary restrictions, or seating requests, please contact Janet M. Seifert at 610-402-8590.

Hope to see you on March 31!

As the Physician Recognition Dinner is Black Tie Optional, C.E. Roth Formal Wear, 208 N. 10th Street, Allentown, will provide a special rate for the event. Just be sure to mention that the rental is for the Physician Recognition Dinner on March 31 to obtain the special rate. For their business hours, please contact C.E. Roth at 610-432-9452.
Last month, I wrote about the ongoing bed crunch and the impact it has on doctors, patients and the hospital. The hospital continues to be extremely full, but it’s not because there are more admissions. In fact, admissions right now are lower than expected. Rather, the capacity problem appears related to increasing length of stay – despite the fact that the severity of illness of our patients remains about the same.

In last month’s column, I asked for your suggestions, and I heard lots of them in several forums. These included a roundtable discussion with your elected physician representatives at the Medical Executive Committee meeting, and lots of informal talks with doctors in the halls and in the physician lounges.

Thanks for your good ideas. Here are some of the suggestions I received:

... **Avoid “bedrest” orders** unless medically necessary. Bedrest can lead to complications and deconditioning, and these can lead to a longer stay. Better to order “activity as tolerated.”

... **Outpatient tests.** Order only essential tests while the patient is in the hospital, and defer nonessential tests to after discharge. The hospital can help by making it easier to schedule these outpatient tests prior to discharge.

... **Palliative care.** Consult the Palliative Care Program or OACIS early, so they can help make arrangements for patients with complicated chronic problems.

... **Weekend transfers.** Rehab and nursing facilities should be urged to receive patients ready for discharge on weekends, a time when some don’t accept new patients.

... **Morning ambulance availability** needs to improve because transfers often aren’t available until later in the day.

... **Consultations.** Consultants and attendings should work together to ensure that a patient is ready for timely discharge.

... **Set expectations.** Nurses, discharge planners and doctors should talk with patients and family members to set expectations for when they will be discharged. As one doctor put it, “discharge planning should begin at admission.”

... **ICU patients.** Where appropriate, consider tracheostomy or PEG tube earlier, followed by earlier transfer to the LTACH.

... **Afternoon rounds.** Some patients may be ready to go this afternoon instead of tomorrow. Others can leave more promptly tomorrow if paperwork is completed today. The hospital is helping by assigning medicine residents to make discharge arrangements in the evenings so patients are ready to go the next morning.

... **A “discharge lounge”** could be developed for patients discharged but awaiting transportation or instructions.

I’ve passed your ideas along to the Admissions Capacity Throughput (ACT) team, which has been formed to evaluate and implement ideas to help reduce length of stay. But I really think most of the solution comes down to communication and teamwork – among doctors, patients, nurses and hospital administrators. I’ll keep you posted on any key developments on this issue. And thanks again for your ideas.

Linda L. Lapos, MD
Medical Staff President
Ready to ROC and Roll — Again!

Construction at Lehigh Valley Hospital – Cedar Crest & I-78 continues on schedule for moving into the Kasych Tower starting at the end of calendar year 2007. And now it’s time for physicians and staff to get organized, share ideas and create plans in order to meet the challenges of the changes facing the Cedar Crest campus. CC-Readiness, or Cedar Crest Readiness, is a newly launched project with physicians and hospital operations staff leading the way. The members of this group are entirely focused on preparing a smooth and efficient transition into the new Kasych Tower.

Tri-Leaders of CC-Readiness are Edward M. Mullin, Jr., MD, Division of Urology, former Acting Chair of the Department of Surgery, and past Medical Staff President; Marty Everhart, Vice President for Human Resources; and Molly Sebastian, Vice President for Clinical Services. Terry A. Capuano, Senior Vice President of Patient Care Services, is the executive sponsor of the project.

There are two councils – the Readiness Operations Council (ROC) is an operations staff council that will prepare colleagues for the transition to the new building, and a parallel council of physicians (ROC DOCs) has been formed to address the clinical and process concerns of the CC expansion from the physician’s perspective. ROC DOCs will convene monthly. ROC DOC meetings will serve as a communications hub for all information related to the Cedar Crest expansion project.

The ROC DOC council is scheduled to meet monthly during 2007. Updates on the ROC DOC meetings will appear in future issues of Medical Staff Progress Notes. If you have suggestions or input concerning clinical work flow in the new tower, please contact your representative and your suggestions will be reviewed by the entire ROC DOC group. This is an exciting opportunity to mold the future.

If you have any questions about the CC-ROC team or the transition, please call the ROC hotline at 610-402-7700.

Members of the ROC DOC team and the areas they represent include:

... Michael M. Badellino, MD (Surgical Residency Program)
... Scott W. Beman, MD (Surgery)
... Daniel F. Brown, MD (Pathology/Laboratory Services)
... Anthony P. Buonanno, MD (Medicine)
... David M. Caccese, MD (Medicine)
... Stefano Camici, MD (Neurosurgery)
... John E. Castaldo, MD (Neurology)
... John F. Cox, MD (Radiology)
... John M. Davidyock, MD (Hospitalist Medicine)
... Julie A. Dostal, MD (Pediatrics)
... Daniel D. Lozano, MD (Trauma)
... Jennifer L. Mariotti, DO (Chief Medical Resident)
... James L. McCullough, MD (Vascular)
... Larry N. Merkle, MD (Endocrinology)
... David Milia, MD (Surgical Resident)
... Suressh G. Nair, MD (Hematology)
... Jaan P. Naktin, MD (Infectious Disease)
... Joseph E. Patruno, MD (GYN)
... Angela R. Pistoria, PA-C (Surgical Specialists/Burn)
... Michael J. Pistoria, DO (Hospitalist Medicine)
... Ralph A. Primelo, MD (Psychiatry)
... Daniel E. Ray, MD (Pulmonary)
... David M. Richardson, MD (Emergency Medicine)
... Lester Rosen, MD (Colon and Rectal Surgery)
... Randy A. Rosen, MD (Nephrology)
... Alexander M. Rosenau, DO (Emergency Medicine)
... Christopher L. Sarnoski, DO (Cardiology)
... David W. Scaff, DO (Trauma)
... Marc Shalaby, MD (LVPG Medicine)
... Glenn M. Short, MD (Gastroenterology)
... Bruce J. Silverberg, MD (Cardiology)
... Barry H. Slaven, MD (General Surgery)
... Gary W. Szydlowski, MD (Cardio-Thoracic Surgery)
Two New Operating Rooms Open at 17th & Chew

On Monday, February 5, two new operating rooms (ORs) opened in the Ambulatory Surgery Unit at 17th & Chew. The new ORs are located on the third floor in the Schaeffer Wing.

The new ORs incorporate the latest technologies in operating room design, particularly video integration and equipment management. Integration allows routing of video signals from any source (endoscope, room camera, etc.) to any location within and outside the operating room (monitors at the surgical field, video capture device, or even conference room). Room control for video, lights, and some surgical equipment is controlled either at the field or remotely by the circulating nurse. Equipment is centrally mounted on booms to minimize clutter and to facilitate room setup and clean up. The rooms are designed primarily for arthroscopy but can be adapted for general surgery as well. They will be primarily utilized for sports injury procedures such as ACL repairs, shoulders, elbows, hands, etc.

The new OR’s increase the number available in the Ambulatory Surgery Unit to 10 and bring the total across all three campuses to 36.

If you have any questions regarding the new operating rooms, please contact Brian Leader, Administrator of Perioperative Services, at 610-402-8030, or Glenda Garza, Director, ASU Perioperative Services, at 610-969-3582.

Changes to the Death Notification Policy

On March 20, 2007, a revised Death Notification policy will go into effect. Provisions within this policy, which was reviewed and approved by the Medical Executive Committee on January 2, 2007, will allow for select nursing staff to pronounce patients dead. Nursing pronouncement of patients will be limited to non-teaching service patients who are DNR and whose death is expected, when the attending physician cannot be physically available within one hour of the patient expiring. The nursing directors, their patient care coordinators and their patient care specialists will now be able to pronounce patients. During off hours, the nursing supervisors, the patient flow coordinators and the clinical resource specialists will also be able to pronounce patients.

This change is consistent with Pennsylvania law and the Pennsylvania Nurse Practice Act, which allows for nurses to pronounce death and document the fact that a patient has died. Nurses will also have responsibility for signing the death certificate on the pronouncing line to certify the pronouncement.

Other aspects of the policy are unchanged regarding the responsibility of the attending physician to notify the patient’s family of the death and to complete the death certificate including the certification of the cause of death.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Nancy Davies-Hathen, Administrator, Patient Care Services, at 610-402-8262.

Admission Case Manager – Bed Management

To assist physicians with determining appropriate level of care (Observation, Inpatient or Ambulatory), an Admission Case Manager is now working in Bed Management. Currently available during the day shift, Monday through Friday, this resource will be expanded to 24/7 coverage in March. The Admission Case Manager is an excellent resource and will be communicating final determinations regarding level of care to physicians’ offices to assure accurate billing.

If you have any questions, please call Susan Lawrence, Administrator, Case Management, at 610-402-1765.
Admission Order Changes

In order to decrease the confusion regarding placing patients in the appropriate status (Inpatient, Observation or Ambulatory), changes are being instituted to all admission order sets as follows:

The Admitting Button will have the three status choices:

... OBV Status
... Inpatient Status
... Ambulatory Status

All admission order sets will include all of the options for the various statuses:

... Observation Status (which will include the following options)
  - Obv Med Surg
  - Obv Low Level Monitoring
  - Obv High Level Monitoring
  - Obv Telemetry

... Inpatient Status
  - Inpatient Med Surg
  - Inpatient Low Level Monitoring
  - Inpatient High Level Monitoring
  - Inpatient Telemetry

... Ambulatory Status
  - Ambulatory Med Surg
  - Ambulatory Low Level Monitoring
  - Ambulatory High Level Monitoring
  - Ambulatory Telemetry

A LastWord pop-up will notify you of the "go-live" date for these changes. If you have any questions regarding the appropriate status to choose, please ask the Case Manager on the unit. For any other questions, comments or concerns, please call Susan Lawrence, Administrator, Care Continuum, at 610-402-1765.

Medical Staff Scholarships Available

A few years ago, a Troika Education Fund was created for the development of educational initiatives felt to be important by the members of Troika for the benefit of the Medical Staff and its members.

Examples of these educational initiatives include:

... Funding speakers for educational sessions or lectureships for Active members of the Medical Staff

... To provide funding for members of the Medical Staff to attend conferences, courses, or symposia which would allow them to be better able to function in leadership roles in the Medical Staff

... To provide funding for members of the Medical Staff which, in the opinion of Troika, would help to foster a more collaborative and understanding relationship between members of the Medical Staff, the Hospital Administration, and the organization.

Any active member of the Medical Staff may apply for a maximum of $2,000 per grant annually. The request will be reviewed and approved by Troika based on the importance of issues facing the Medical Staff. If the request is approved, the grantee must submit a written report to Troika upon his/her return from the conference or course, and be prepared to give an oral presentation at a forum of Troika’s choosing.

Requests for funding must be submitted in writing and addressed to Troika c/o Medical Staff Services, Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78, P.O. Box 689, Allentown, PA 18105-1556. The written request should include the proposed use of the grant, the reasons supplemental funds are needed, and the anticipated benefit to Troika, the Medical Staff, and/or Lehigh Valley Hospital.

For more information, please contact John W. Hart, Vice President, Medical Staff Services, at 610-402-8980.
**News from CAPOE Central**

**It’s Here – Elimination of the Lab Cum Reports**
As of March 2007, the nightly Lab Cum reports will no longer be printed. Cumulative lab reports will still be available in the EHMR system after D/C to facilitate dictations. You can view specific portions of the findings in the Viewer by selecting the various ‘views’ that are listed. These include: “Vital Signs and I/O,” “Labs/Micro,” and others. Remember you can view results older than seven days by changing the “Display Options” in the “Viewer Definitions” area. You can change the interval (i.e. from Q4hrs to Daily) by selecting the interval from the “Column” menu in the Viewer.

**Medication Stop Times**
A common reason for a call back from our colleagues in Pharmacy is the need to clarify when a medication order should stop. The following is a quick review of how to discontinue a medication order at a specific date or time in the future.

... Under the orders tab in LastWord, highlight the medication that is to be discontinued

... Click the discontinue tab at the bottom of the screen

... A screen will appear titled “Discontinue an Order”

... Under the “Discontinue Information” section, fill out the date and time you would like the medication to stop

  ✓ The time should be entered military style

  ✓ The date can be entered in either the dd/mm/yyyy format or using the “N”d feature, where “N” is the number of the day. The current day is always considered “0”. For each subsequent day, add one

... Once the date and time are filled in, click the “Discontinue as of>>” button.

**Another Viewer Tip**
Remember to minimize (and not close) the Viewer when not using it. This will improve the screen re-draw time for the LifeBook and decrease screen freeze-ups. Just click on the Viewer tab at the top of the screen to re-expand the Viewer. The Viewer will display data for the current active patient when it re-expands.

**Keeping your LifeBook Secure**
Here is a tip on keeping the information on your LifeBook secure. Do not leave the LifeBook open and lying around while you are in a patient’s room. Better options include: closing the cover (you will remain logged in); lock the screen by using Control-Alt-Delete (you will need to re-enter your password to get back into the system). Another option is to take the LifeBook into the patient’s room. This will facilitate reviewing information with the patient or family, and you can enter orders while finishing your discussions.

**EKG in AM – What does that really mean?**
To reduce confusion, we have changed the wording of the order for an EKG in the AM. It now reads “EKG in AM @ 0600.” Regardless of whether the order is entered before or after midnight, the EKG will be scheduled for the next 6 AM. This should clear up any confusion surrounding this order.

If you have any questions regarding these issues, please contact Don Levick, MD, MBA, Physician Liaison, Information Services, at 610-402-1426, or pager 610-402-5100 7481.

**News from the Libraries**
To connect to the new alphabetical listing of library journals on the hospital’s intranet page, click on “Departments” – “Non-Clinical” – “Library Services” – “Electronic Journal List.” Here you can find a listing of journals, electronic and print, and convenient links to the fulltext of our electronic journal subscriptions. These electronic journals are provided by a variety of vendors so you may notice some differences between titles. If you have any questions, please call Library Services at 610-402-8410 or 610-969-2263.
Bacteremia refers to the presence of bacteria in the bloodstream after a trauma or mild infection. This condition is usually transient and ordinarily clears promptly through the action of the body’s own immune system. Only when there is a more severe infectious process or an impaired immune system does bacteremia progress to septicemia. The diagnosis of bacteremia or septicemia needs to be clearly differentiated in the medical record or a physician query will be submitted.
Drug Eluting Stent Update
by J. Patrick Kleaveland, MD, Medical Director, Invasive Cardiology, and David A. Cox, MD, Division of Cardiology

Drug eluting coronary stents (DES) were developed to further reduce the risk of restenosis compared to bare metal stenting (BMS). The initial clinical trials with Cypher and Taxus DES showed significant reduction in clinical restenosis compared to BMS, leading to FDA approval and widespread clinical use.

An FDA Advisory Panel was convened in December, 2006 to review risks of DES stenting:

... Both Cypher and Taxus DES were found to have a small increase in stent thrombosis at one year compared to BMS.
... This small increase in stent thrombosis did not result in an increase in myocardial infarction, cardiac death, or overall mortality out to four year follow-up for DES.
... No differences in clinical outcome exist between different DES stents.
... When used for approved indications, the benefits of DES compared to BMS support their use even with this small increase in stent thrombosis.

The Panel did comment on the 60% of patients who receive DES for ‘off-label’ use:

... More complex patients (diabetics, renal disease, AMI, multiple stents) treated with DES have higher adverse event rates than the simpler patients enrolled in clinical trials with DES.
... No data at present suggests increased risk exists in complex patients treated with DES compared to BMS.
... The safety profile of DES in complex patients needs further study.

For any patient treated with DES, the FDA recommended lifelong ASA and clopidogrel (Plavix) for a full year in patients with a low risk of bleeding or no bleeding events. While encouraging the use of ASA and clopidogrel beyond the previous recommendation of three or six months out to a full year, the panel recognized treatment beyond one year with clopidogrel was of unknown benefit. Most of the studies published in the recent issue of the New England Journal of Medicine solely dedicated to DES safety were reviewed at this FDA panel.

What is increasingly recognized is that stopping ASA and/or clopidogrel before 12 months puts DES patients at increased risk for stent thrombosis, MI, and death.

A consortium of cardiologists, surgeons, and dentists have recently published a scientific advisory:

... Patients with DES undergoing routine dental procedures, colonoscopy, or minor surgical procedures should NOT have their ASA and clopidogrel stopped.
... Elective surgical procedures should be deferred for 12 months after DES.
... For urgent surgical procedures, every effort should be made to NOT stop ASA and clopidogrel. While a small increased risk of bleeding occurs with operating while on ASA and clopidogrel, patients are at less risk of life-threatening stent thrombosis, MI and death if ASA and clopidogrel are maintained. If clopidogrel is held, ASA should be continued and clopidogrel should be restarted ASAP after the procedure.
... No benefit exists for heparin, lovenox, or 2b3a drugs as a bridge to prevent SAT related to surgical events.
... Ongoing discussion should be held with the cardiologist or interventional cardiologist of any DES patient before ASA or clopidogrel are held.

For many of our patients, DES offer significant advantages over BMS. However, we as cardiologists will strive to better define those patients who would best benefit from BMS where only one month of clopidogrel is absolutely required. For patients with DES, we hope that this update will encourage communication between health care professionals so those patients on ASA and clopidogrel can be appropriately managed.

Resources:

... FDA Advisory Panel on DES, December, 2006
... Grines et al J Am Coll Cardiol. Online Jan 17, 2007 Prevention of Premature Discontinuation of Dual Antiplatelet Therapy in Patients with Coronary Stents: A science advisory from the AHA, ACC, SCAI, American College of Surgeons, American Dental Association, with representation from the American College of Physicians.
Construction Update

With the ongoing construction at Lehigh Valley Hospital, the following information may be helpful for you and your patients when visiting the Cedar Crest & I-78 campus:

**Emergency Department Renovations**
In mid-February, work began to expand the Emergency Department. The door into the Jaindl building will be closed for the next four to five months. Physicians and employees should now enter the building at the door between MRI and Jaindl. A portion of the Emergency parking lot has been fenced off and a new walkway into the Emergency Department is being established. Water line installation and relocation has also begun by the Emergency Department.

A visitor assistant will be posted at the Emergency Department entrance from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. (20 hours) daily, seven days a week, to assist people dropping off patients and help with parking. When the Emergency lot is full, Security will issue passes to visitors for a lot close by the Emergency Department.

**Center for Advanced Health Care**
Tenants will begin to move into the building beginning with Lehigh Valley Diagnostic Imaging (LVDI) in April. Other tenants will follow through the end of the year. Valley Sports & Arthritis Surgeons will be on the first floor. Cardiac services will be on level two. Level three will be a multi-level tenant services floor; and level four will be occupied by Neuroscience Services.

**Pedestrian Bridge**
The pedestrian bridge will open in April with the opening of LVDI.

**Cancer Center Entrance**
The new permanent entrance to the Cancer Center has opened. The new entrance is also the vestibule of the pedestrian bridge on the Cancer Center side.

**Highway Improvements**
Trees have been trimmed away from power lines in preparation for utility pole removal along Fish Hatchery Road. Future work will include adding turning lanes, updating signs, enhancing storm drainage and re-paving. The projected completion of the construction is November 2007.

**Kasych Pavilion**
Crews are working to finish exterior windows and glazing. Interior work includes continuation of mechanical/electrical/plumbing rough-ins. Stud work and drywall work have begun on levels one, two and three. Work has begun on elevator cars and platforms.

**Site Renovations on Campus**
(All outside work is weather permitting)
- Parking deck construction in front of the Anderson Wing continues. Blacktop has been removed and light poles have been taken down.
- Additional lights have been added by the main hospital entrance and on the ring road.
- Excavation work continues in the detention basin on the south side of the campus.
- Storm and water installation continues along the Anderson and Kasych buildings.

**Patient and Visitor Parking**
Please encourage all patients and visitors to use the five-level parking deck with free shuttle service to the front entrance and the two-level deck in front of the hospital as well as valet parking.

**Construction Maps**
An updated construction map (pictured below) with parking information has been distributed to physicians’ offices. You can access the map on the internet. Go to [www.lvh.org](http://www.lvh.org) and click on “Parking at CC Just Got Easier” (on the home page). Click on the map to download.

To get the latest construction update or if you have any questions, please call 610-402-CARE.
Bryan W. Kluck, DO, Division of Cardiology, was recently certified by the American Board of Vascular Medicine (ABVM) in both Vascular and Endovascular Medicine. The ABVM is an independent organization dedicated to the certification of qualified vascular medicine physicians from medical, surgical and radiology backgrounds. In addition, Dr. Kluck has been named a Fellow of the American Heart Association (AHA) and the Council on Clinical Cardiology. The purpose of the Council is to achieve the objectives of the AHA in the field of clinical cardiology, to promote excellence in clinical care, and foster professional development and education of clinical cardiologists.

A member of the hospital’s Medical Staff since June of 1987, Dr. Kluck is in practice with The Heart Care Group, PC.

Lou A. Lukas, MD, Department of Family Medicine, was recently notified that she successfully passed the board exam and is now a Diplomate of the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. Dr. Lukas joins more than 2,800 fellow physicians to have achieved this certification.

Hospice and palliative medicine is the medical discipline of the broad therapeutic model known as hospice and palliative care. The discipline and model of care are devoted to achieving the best possible quality of life for the patient and family throughout the course of a life-threatening illness through the relief of suffering and the control of symptoms. Hospice and palliative medicine helps the patient and family face the prospect of death assured that comfort will be a priority, values and decisions will be respected, spiritual and psychosocial needs will be addressed, practical support will be available, and opportunities will exist for growth and development. Hospice in the United States is an organized program that provides palliative care for terminally ill patients and supportive services to patients, their families, and significant others.

Dr. Lukas joined the hospital’s Medical Staff in July of 2003. She is the Medical Director of OACIS Services and is in practice with Palliative Care Associates of the Lehigh Valley.

Glenn A. Mackin, MD, Division of Neurology, was notified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology that he passed the recertification exam in Clinical Neurophysiology.

As Director of the LVH Neuromuscular Diseases Center, his clinical focus in clinical neurophysiology is EMG and nerve conduction studies, which are essential tests for the diagnosis and confirmation of neuromuscular diseases, radiculopathies and peripheral nerve entrapments. Dr. Mackin is also board certified in Electromyography by the American Board of Electrodiagnostic Medicine (ABEM). For the second consecutive year, Dr. Mackin has been invited to serve as an ABEM Part II Oral Board Examiner on April 21, in Chicago, Ill., for the ABEM’s annual oral boards.

A member of the hospital’s Medical Staff since March, 1999, Dr. Mackin is in practice with Lehigh Neurology.

Gerald E. Pytlewski, DO, Division of Cardiology, recently received Transthoracic Plus Transesophageal Certification in Adult Echocardiography. Physicians who are certified in Echocardiography have provided documentation of their education and level of service and have satisfied the other requirements of the National Board of Echocardiography including a special competency examination.

A member of the hospital’s Medical Staff since August of 1993, Dr. Pytlewski is in practice with The Heart Care Group, PC.
Martin A. Martino, MD, Division of Gynecologic Oncology, recently received the 2007 American Medical Association Foundation Leadership Award, presented in association with the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative. Nominated by L. Wayne Hess, MD, Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Dr. Martino joined a group of physicians selected to receive this award in Washington, DC, in February, during the AMA National Advocacy Conference. The award is for exemplary leadership skills demonstrated in organized medicine. Dr. Martino coordinated a community education program, attended by over 400 people, regarding the new cervical cancer vaccine and the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV). Students from Lehigh Valley colleges and universities also attended the program, which was held at Cedar Crest College.

A member of the hospital’s Medical Staff since October, 2005, Dr. Martino is in practice with Gynecologic Oncology Specialists.

Caroline J. Shedlock, MD, Division of Hospital Medicine/General Internal Medicine, was recently notified by the American Board of Internal Medicine that she passed the 2006 Certification Examination and is now certified as a Diplomate in Internal Medicine.

Dr. Shedlock, who completed her three-year residency in Internal Medicine at Lehigh Valley Hospital, joined the active Medical Staff in July of 2006, when she joined LVPG-Hospitalist Services.

William J. Smolinski, DO, Division of Cardiology, recently received Certification in Comprehensive Adult Echocardiography by the National Board of Echocardiography (NBE). The National Board developed a certification process to publicly recognize physicians who have completed training in echocardiography and have additionally passed an examination of special competency in echocardiography administered by the NBE.

A member of the hospital’s Medical Staff since June of 1998, Dr. Smolinski is in practice with The Heart Care Group, PC.

Amy M. Vyas, MD, Division of General Pediatrics, was recently notified by the American Board of Pediatrics that she passed the 2006 General Pediatrics Certifying Examination and is now board certified in Pediatrics.

A member of the hospital’s Medical Staff since September of 2006, Dr. Vyas is in practice with LVPG-Pediatrics.
Papers, Publications and Presentations

Roberto CM Bergamaschi, MD, PhD, Division of General Surgery and Medical Director, Minimally Invasive Surgery Program, co-authored the article, “Laparoscopic Partial Splenectomy,” which was published in the January issue of Surgical Endoscopy. Co-authors of the article were Laura Ludwig, DO, Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellow, and David Grossman, MD, Chief Surgical Resident.

Dale A. Dangleben, MD, Division of General Surgery; Omid Jazaeri, MD, General Surgery Resident; Mark D. Cipolle, MD, PhD, Chief, Section of Trauma Research, and Michael D. Pasquale, MD, Chief, Division of Trauma-Surgical Critical Care, co-authored the article, “Impact of Cirrhosis on Outcomes in Trauma,” which appeared in the Journal of the American College Surgeons (2006;203:908-913).

Indru T. Khubchandani, MD, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, published invited commentary on an article titled “Early Results of the Treatment of Internal Hemorrhoidal Disease by Infrared Coagulation and Elastic Banding: A Perspective Randomized Crossover Trial” which appeared in the December 2006 issue of the Journal in Techniques in Coloproctology.

Jeffrey R. McConnell, MD, Division of Orthopedic Surgery, Section of Ortho Trauma, was a member of “Operation Straight Spine,” a team of six specialists from the United States involved in a charitable mission project to provide spinal disease and deformity treatment for the poor and underserved in India. “Operation Straight Spine” was successfully completed from November 12-24, 2006, and was the first-ever charitable project of its kind in India. The project consisted of outpatient clinics, major spine surgery interventions, ward rounds and teaching seminars for local support staff and physicians. Other team members from Lehigh Valley Hospital included Sharon Monahan, CRNA, Nurse Anesthetist; Andrea McAloose, RN, Operating Room nurse; and Holly Tavianini, RN, Director, Clinical Services, 7A Neuroscience Unit.

At the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST) annual meeting held January 16-20, in Fort Myers, Fl., several members of the Division of Trauma-Surgical Critical Care gave presentations and served as discussants. Michael D. Pasquale, MD, President of EAST, presented his poster, which he co-authored with the Pennsylvania Committee on Trauma Outcomes, titled “Pennsylvania Outcomes Performance Improvement Measurement System (POPIMS): Determination of Interrater Reliability Between Trauma Centers in Pennsylvania.” Other presented papers were discussed by Dr. Pasquale and Michael M. Badellino, MD. Mark D. Cipolle, MD, PhD, presented his paper, “Outcome after Decompressive Craniectomy for the Treatment of Severe Traumatic Brain Injury,” which he co-authored with general surgery resident, Jerry Lee Howard, MD; Victoria Sabella, RN, BSN, CCRC, Trauma Research; Daniele Shollenberger, CRNP; P. Mark Li, MD, PhD, Chief, Division of Neurological Surgery, and Dr. Pasquale.

As the current President of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, Lester Rosen, MD, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, was invited to speak at the New York Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons meeting on January 18, at the Friar’s Club. He spoke on “Navigating Safety in Colon and Rectal Surgery.”

Sultan M. Siddique, MD, Division of Cardiology, and Nghia T. Hoang, DO, Division of General Internal Medicine, co-authored the article – “What is the Rhythm: Ventricular of Supraventricular?” – which was published in the February 2007, Volume 4, Issue 2 of Heart Rhythm.

Patrice M. Weiss, MD, Residency Program Director and Vice Chair of Education and Research, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, was invited to serve on the “Presidential Task Force on Patient Safety in Resident Education” by Dr. Douglas Laube, the President of ACOG. This task force is charged with making recommendations to the ACOG Executive Committee.

Thomas V. Whalen, MD, Chair, Department of Surgery, wrote an article – “Duty Hours Restrictions: How Will this Affect the Surgeon of the Future?” - which appeared in the February issue of American Surgeon (2007;73:140-142).
Upcoming Seminars, Conferences and Meetings

General Medical Staff Meeting
The quarterly meeting of the General Medical Staff will be held on **Monday, March 12**, beginning at **6 p.m.**, in the **Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78**, and videoconferenced to the **Educational Conference Center, Rooms C and D**, at **LVH-Muhlenberg**. All members of the Medical Staff are encouraged to attend.

GLVIPA General Membership Meeting
The quarterly informational meeting of the Greater Lehigh Valley Independent Practice Association, Inc., will be held on **Tuesday, March 27**, beginning at **6 p.m.**, in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78, and teleconferenced to the Educational Conference Center, Room B, at LVH-Muhlenberg.

The guest speaker will be Ken Kilpatrick, Education Director of Politically Active Physicians Association (PAPA), which educates physicians about malpractice reform in Pennsylvania. Please plan to attend this educational session.

For more information, please call Eileen Hildenbrandt, Coordinator, GLVIPA, at 610-969-0423.

Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds
Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds are held on Thursdays, beginning at 8 a.m. (unless otherwise noted) at various locations. Topics to be discussed in March will include:

**March 1 – LVH-M Educational Conference Center, Rooms B & C**

... Visiting Speaker
... “Foreign Body” – Jerome Deutsch, DO
... St. Luke’s lecture series

**March 8 – LVH-M 4th Floor Classroom**

... “Sickle Cell” – Terry Goyke, DO
... “The Hand” – Ron Lutz, MD
... Resident lecture series – Tara Montgomery, DO
... Rosen’s Club – Gavin Barr, Jr., MD

**March 15 – SPRING OUTING**

**March 22 – EMI – 2166 S. 12th Street**

... Resident lecture series – Jonathan Aki, DO
... Resident lecture series – Tammy Dietz, DO
... “Carditis” – Gary Bonfante, DO
... Rosen’s Club – Gavin Barr, Jr., MD

**March 29 – EMI – 2166 S. 12th Street**

... Resident lecture series – Mark Crowell, DO
... “Bites” – Steve Frei, MD
... DIO meeting with Residents – Bill Iobst, MD
... M&M – Charles Worrilow, MD

For more information, please contact Dawn Yenser in the Department of Emergency Medicine at 484-884-2888.

Family Medicine Grand Rounds
Family Medicine Grand Rounds are held the first Tuesday of every month from 7 to 8 a.m., in the Educational Conference Center #1 at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78, located in the Anderson Wing across from the Library, and teleconferenced to the Educational Conference Center, Room B, at LVH-Muhlenberg, unless otherwise noted. The topic for this month is as follows:

... **March 6** – “Current Issues in Adolescent Gynecology” – Jonathan R. Pletcher, MD, Division of Pediatric Subspecialties, Section of Adolescent Medicine

For more information, please contact Sue Turi in the Department of Family Medicine at 610-969-4894.

Please Note: Effective March 31, 2007, hardcopy mailings of the Family Medicine Grand Rounds flyers will be eliminated. If you wish to continue to receive information by email, please provide your preferred email address to Sue Turi via interoffice mail, phone, fax or email at Sue_L.Turi@lvh.com. If emailing, please type “Add My Name” in the subject line or, if you prefer not to receive notification, type “Delete My Name” in the subject line.
Continued from Page 13

**Geriatric Trauma Conference**

The next Geriatric Trauma Conference will be held on Wednesday, March 7, beginning at noon, in Classroom 1 in the Anderson Wing at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78. The topic of discussion will be:

... “Syncope” – Bryan Kane, MD, Department of Emergency Medicine

For more information, please contact Marie Locher, Trauma Development, at 610-402-8464.

**Institutional Review Board Lecture Series**

The Research Participant Protection Office is offering instructional sessions. The topic and dates for March are as follows:

... “Exempt, Expedited, and Full Board. What are the differences and how to apply for each category”
  - March 5 – 7:30 a.m., Educational Conference Center #1, Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78
  - March 21—2 p.m., Classroom 2, Anderson Wing, Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78

For more information, please contact Lisa Gogel in the Research Participant Protection Office at 610-969-2525.

**Medical Grand Rounds**

Medical Grand Rounds are held every Tuesday, beginning at noon, in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78, and videoconferenced to the First Floor Conference Room at LVH-Muhlenberg. Topics to be discussed in March will include:

... March 6 – “Two Approaches to Mortality” – Carol Taylor, RN, PhD
... March 13 – “Severe Sepsis and Surviving the Sepsis Campaign” – Wes Ely, MD
... March 20 – Case Presentation – Gurpreet Dhaliwal, MD
... March 27 – “Acute Leukemias” – Dennis Giangiulio, MD

For more information, please contact Theresa Marx in the Department of Medicine at 610-402-5200.

**Neurology Conferences**

The Division of Neurology conferences are held on Thursdays, beginning at noon. All conferences are held in Classroom 1, in the Anderson Wing at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78, and teleconferenced to the First Floor Conference Room at LVH-Muhlenberg. Topics to be discussed in March will include:

... March 1 – “Tumefactive MS” – Dina Jacobs, MD, Neurologist, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
... March 8 – “Long Cases in MS” – Alexander Rae-Grant, MD
... March 15 – “Short Cases in MS” – Alexander Rae-Grant, MD
... March 22 – Division of Neurology meeting
... March 29 – “Special Topics in MS” – Alexander Rae-Grant, MD

For more information, please contact Sharon Bartz, Program Coordinator, Neurosciences and Pain Research, at 610-402-9008.

**OB/GYN Grand Rounds**

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology holds Grand Rounds every Friday morning from 7:15 to 8:15 a.m., in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78, unless otherwise noted. Topics to be discussed in March will include:

... March 2 – “Osteoporosis” – Patrice M. Weiss, MD
... March 9 – “First Do No Harm” – Fran Miranda
... March 16 – GYN M&M – Joseph Patruno, MD
... March 23 – “Cognitive Error in Medicine” – William Bond, MD
... March 30 – NO OB/GYN Grand Rounds – Mock Oral Boards

For more information, please contact Teresa Benner in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at 610-969-4515.

Continued on next page
Pediatric Grand Rounds

The Department of Pediatrics holds Grand Rounds every Tuesday, beginning at 8 a.m., in the Educational Conference Room #1 at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78, unless otherwise noted. Topics to be discussed in March will include:

... March 6 – TBA – Samir Henien, MD
... March 13 – “Patient Safety Goals” – Kristie Lowery
... March 20 – “Graduate Medical Education Annual Report” – William Iobst, MD, and J.P. Orlando, M.Ed.
... March 27 – “Developmental Delays: How to Help While You’re Waiting for Help”

For more information, please contact Kelli Ripperger in the Department of Pediatrics at 610-969-2540.

Psychiatry Grand Rounds

The next Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds presentation will be held on Thursday, March 15, beginning at noon (registration at 11:45 a.m.) in the Educational Conference Center, Rooms C and D, at LVH-Muhlenberg. The topic of discussion will be:

... “Update on Autism” – John-Paul Gomez, MD, Section of Child-Adolescent Psychiatry

For more information, please contact Tammy Schweizer in the Department of Psychiatry at 610-402-5255.

Spine Conference

Conferences relating to interesting spine cases are held the first Wednesday of every month beginning at 7 a.m. Attendees typically include spine surgeons, neurosurgeons, physiatrists, pain management specialists, radiologists, among others. All clinicians are invited to bring interesting cases to this meeting.

The next Spine Conference will be held on Wednesday, March 7, in Educational Conference Room #1 in the Anderson Wing of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78.

For more information, please contact James C. Weis, MD, Division of Orthopedic Surgery, or Lorraine Pasieka, Clinical Coordinator, at 610-973-6339.

SAVE THE DATE

Lehigh Valley Hospital
Resident Graduation
Friday, June 8, 2007
6 p.m.
DeSales University Center

Surgical Grand Rounds

Surgical Grand Rounds are held on Tuesdays, beginning at 7 a.m., in the Auditorium of Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78, and via videoconference in the First Floor Conference Room at LVH-Muhlenberg. Topics to be discussed in March will include:

... March 6 – “Dealing with Tough Situations: When Families and Caregivers Disagree” – Carol Taylor, RN, PhD, Center for Clinical Bioethics, Georgetown University
... March 13 – “Respiratory Failure in ICU” – Hamed Amani, MD, Surgical Critical Care Fellow, Lehigh Valley Hospital
... March 20 – “Laparoscopic Liver Resection in 150 Patients: Pitfalls and Lessons Learned” – David Geller, MD, Starzl Transplant Institute
... March 27 – “Carotid Endarterectomy (CEA) vs. Stenting (CAS): Role for the CREST Trial” – Robert Hobson, MD, UMDNJ

For more information, please contact Cathy Glenn in the Department of Surgery at 610-402-7839.
Who’s New

This section contains an update of new appointments, address changes, status changes, resignations, etc. Please remember to update your directory and rolodexes with this information.

Medical Staff

New Appointments

Rajeev K. Arora, MD
Kandula and Pendurthi Surgical Associates
2640 Schoenersville Road
Suite 203
Bethlehem, PA 18017-7316
610-861-0470
Fax: 610-861-0208
Department of Surgery
Division of General Surgery/Colon and Rectal Surgery
Provisional Active

Annette M. Brunetti, DO
LVPG-Emergency Medicine
1240 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Suite 214
Allentown, PA 18103-6369
610-402-8130
Fax: 610-402-7160
Department of Emergency Medicine
Division of Emergency Medicine
Provisional Active

Bolanle A. Dada, MD
LVPG-Hospitalist Services
1240 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Suite 412
Allentown, PA 18103-6218
610-402-5369
Fax: 610-402-5959
Department of Medicine
Division of Hospital Medicine/General Internal Medicine
Provisional Active

Guillermo Garcia, MD
Toselli, Brusko & Garcia Surgical Associates
1575 Pond Road
Suite 201
Allentown, PA 18104-2254
610-366-7700
Fax: 610-366-7777
Department of Surgery
Division of General Surgery
Provisional Active

Kevin J. Madtes, MD
LVPG-Emergency Medicine
Lehigh Valley Hospital Cedar Crest & I-78
P.O. Box 689
Allentown, PA 18105-1556
610-402-8111
Fax: 610-402-4546
Department of Emergency Medicine
Division of Emergency Medicine
Provisional Active

Madankumar Raj, MD
Good Shepherd Physician Group
Good Shepherd Rehab Hospital
850 S. Fifth Street
Allentown, PA 18103-3308
610-776-3278
Fax: 610-776-3326
Department of Medicine
Division of Physical Medicine-Rehabilitation
Provisional Active

Continued on next page
Address Changes

Toeruna S. Widge, MD
Allentown Anesthesia Associates Inc
97 Fredericksville Road
Mertztown, PA 19539-9761
610-682-2807

Practice Changes

Cindy M. Barter, MD
(No longer with HealthSpring)
LVPG-Administration
1605 N. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Suite 610
Allentown, PA 18104-2351
610-439-7520
Fax: 610-439-7527

Holly L. Binnig, MD
(No longer with HealthSpring)
Lehigh Valley Family Health Center
1730 Chew Street
Allentown, PA 18104-5595
610-969-3500
Fax: 610-969-3509

Adnan Qayyum, DDS
(No longer with Green Street Dental Associates)
Adnan Qayyum, DDS, LLC
65 E. Elizabeth Avenue
Suite 504
Bethlehem, PA 18018-6515
610-868-1322
Fax: 610-866-3873

Adam J. Teichman, DPM
Douglas Tozzoli, DPM, PC
501 N. 17th Street
Suite 107
Allentown, PA 18104-5044
610-432-9593
Fax: 610-432-4887

Pager Change

Richard D. Battista, MD
no longer carries a pager
He may be reached through his office – 610-973-6200
or through his cell – 610-704-3516

Status Change

Thomas E. Leet, MD
Department of Radiology-Diagnostic Medical Imaging
Division of Diagnostic Radiology
From: Active
To: Honorary Status

Stanley R. Walker, MD
Department of Medicine
Division of General Internal Medicine/Geriatrics
From: Active
To: Associate

Status Change and Change to Departmental Assignment

Jeffrey W. Thompson, MD
Department of Family Medicine
Removal of: Section of Occupational Medicine
From: Affiliate
To: Provisional Active

Change to Departmental Assignment

Jin I. Kim, MD
Department of Anesthesiology
Removal of: Division of Obstetric Anesthesiology

Addition to Departmental Assignment

Islam A. Shahin, MD
Department of Radiology-Diagnostic Medical Imaging
Division of Diagnostic Radiology
Addition of: Cardiovascular-Interventional Radiology

Continued on next page
Continued from Page 17

**Resignations**

Russel S. Bleiler, Jr., DDS  
Department of Dental Medicine  
Section of General Dentistry/Special Care

Fernando M. Garzia, MD  
Department of Surgery  
Division of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery  
Section of Cardiac Surgery/Thoracic Surgery

**Medical Staff Leadership Appointments**

L. Wayne Hess, MD  
Interim Chief  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine

L. Wayne Hess, MD  
Medical Director  
High Risk Perinatal Unit

L. Wayne Hess, MD  
Medical Director  
Perinatal Center

Eduardo Lara-Torre, MD  
Director, Ambulatory Care  
Center for Women’s Medicine

Lester Rosen, MD  
Associate Medical Director – GI  
GI/Pulmonary Endoscopy Unit

John J. Stasik, MD  
Associate Chief  
Department of Surgery  
Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery

Anthony T. Werhun, MD  
Medical Director  
Observation Unit – Cedar Crest & I-78

**Allied Health Staff**

**New Appointments**

Justin J. Fatula, PA-C  
Physician Assistant-Certified  
(Valley Sports & Arthritis Surgeons – Barry I. Berger, MD)

Melissa S. Hix, CRNP  
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner  
(LVPG-Emergency Medicine – Anthony T. Werhun, MD)

Wendi A. Hontz, PA-C  
Physician Assistant-Certified  
(Allen Ear Nose & Throat Associates – Robert M. DeDio, MD)

Jaclyn C. Lustig, PA-C  
Physician Assistant-Certified  
(LVPG-Emergency Medicine – Anthony T. Werhun, MD)

Melissa R. Schaefer, CRNP  
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner  
(LVPG-Neonatology – Lorraine A. Dickey, MD)

**Additional Supervising Physician and Group**

Catherine C. Shelly, PA-C  
Physician Assistant-Certified  
(Neurosurgical Associates of LVPG – Chris A. Lycette, MD)  
Addition: LVPG-Emergency Medicine – Anthony T. Werhun, MD

**Removal of Supervising Physician**

Afifi A. Khoury, CRNP  
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner  
(Wound Healing Center – Robert X. Murphy, Jr., MD)  
Additional Supervising Physician — Michael W. Kaufmann, MD  
Removal of — Robert D. Riether, MD
Resignations

Melissa R. Armstrong, RN
Registered Nurse
(LVPG-Internal/Geriatric Medicine)

Elaine T. Bausch, RN
Registered Nurse
(Bausch and Jones Eye Associates)

Robert L. Bugno, CCP
Perfusionist
(Perfusion Care Associates, Inc)

Marsha K. Evans, CRNP
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
(LVPG-Neonatology)

Robert M. Gordon, PhD
Psychologist
(Robert M. Gordon, PhD)

David R. Renner, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
(Orthopaedic Surgical Group)

Erica M. Rose, PA-C
Physician Assistant-Certified
(Orthopaedic Associates of Bethlehem and Easton)

Christine L. Watts, CNM
Certified Nurse Midwife
(Hamilton Obstetrics & Gynecology, PC)

Renee J. Zimmer, RN
Registered Nurse
(The Heart Care Group, PC)

TUESDAY, MARCH 27

DOCTORS’ DAY
CELEBRATION

In celebration of Doctors’ Day, a buffet luncheon will be available for members of the Medical Staff at the following locations:
Medical Staff Lounges at
- LVH-Cedar Crest & I-78
- LVH-Muhlenberg
and ASU O.R. Lounge at LVH-17th & Chew

TIME: 11 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.
Medical Staff Progress Notes

Linda L. Lapos, MD
President, Medical Staff
Matthew M. McCambridge, MD
President-elect, Medical Staff
Donald L. Levick, MD, MBA
Past President, Medical Staff
John W. Hart
Vice President, Medical Staff Services
Janet M. Seifert
Coordinator, Communications & Special Events
Managing Editor

Medical Executive Committee

Scott W. Beman, MD
Gregory Brusko, DO
Michael J. Consuelos, MD
Wayne E. Dubov, MD
Peter E. Fisher, MD, MBA
John P. Fitzgibbons, MD
L. Wayne Hess, MD
Michael W. Kaufmann, MD
Sophia C. Kladias, DMD
Richard A. Kolesky, MD
Robert Kricun, MD
Linda L. Lapos, MD
Donald L. Levick, MD, MBA
Edgardo G. Maldonado, MD
Matthew M. McCambridge, MD
Thomas M. McLoughlin, Jr., MD
William L. Miller, MD
Victor R. Risch, MD, PhD
Deborah W. Sundlof, DO
Elliot J. Sussman, MD
Ronald W. Swinfard, MD
Gary W. Szylowsky, MD
John D. Van Brakle, MD
L. Kyle Walker, MD
Michael S. Weinstock, MD
Patrice M. Weiss, MD
John F. Welkie, MD
James T. Wertz, DO
Robert E. Wertz II, MD
Thomas V. Whalen, MD
Matthew J. Winas, DO

We’re on the Web!

Visit the Medical Staff Services website through the hospital’s Internet Homepage at: www.lvh.org and select “Professionals”

Medical Staff Progress Notes is published monthly to inform the Medical Staff and employees of Lehigh Valley Hospital of important issues concerning the Medical Staff.

Articles should be submitted by e-mail to janet.seifert@lvh.com or sent to Janet M. Seifert, Medical Staff Services, Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest & I-78, P.O. Box 689, Allentown, PA 18105-1556 by the 15th of each month. If you have any questions about the newsletter, please contact Mrs. Seifert by e-mail or phone at (610) 402-8590.