

Physician's News Brief

Advances in clinical and patient care at Lakeland HealthCare



February 2010

Hot Topics

Heart Center Significantly Reduces Morbidity and Mortality Rates

By identifying opportunities to minimize blood transfusion requirements and through the adoption of best practice standards, Lakeland HealthCare was able to transfuse an average of 34% fewer red blood cell units per procedure when compared to a national benchmark of 150 other adult open-heart programs in the U.S.

Read more in the 2010 March edition of Physician's News.

Small Changes Result in Significant Savings

Lakeland HealthCare's Surgery department has developed a method for cutting supply costs that has become a model shared with hospitals nationwide. In the first week alone, the savings from using these best practices meant an estimated 26% drop in supply cost per laparoscopic cholecystectomy across the Lakeland system.

Read more in the 2010 March edition of Physician's News.

Three Patient Alert Wristbands to be Discontinued

Starting February 15, Lakeland will discontinue using the following patient alert wristbands: Do Not Resuscitate (DNR), Allergies and Fall Precautions. All care providers should look for this information within the patient's medical record. This change is designed to increase patient safety. Studies have shown that these wristbands cannot effectively communicate all of the different variables to staff. DNR orders are too complex to list on a wristband; often patients have too many allergies to list on a wristband; health care organizations who have used the fall precaution wristbands have not experienced a reduction in the number of patient falls.

Awards & Recognition

Physicians Honored Lakeland HealthCare's Five Star Physicians for the First Quarter of 2010 are **Drs. George Kolettis, Orthopedic Surgeon, and David Terhune, Urologist**. This honor was based on nominations by patients, Lakeland associates, and volunteers. It is awarded to physicians who demonstrate outstanding service.

Hospice and Homecare Accredited

The Joint Commission recently accredited Lakeland Hospice and Lakeland Homecare, now the only Hospice and Homecare providers in Berrien County with this distinct honor.

In the News

Lakeland HealthCare and Southwestern Medical Clinic, P.C. Announce Integration

In December, both Boards of Directors approved integration of the two organizations. By working together, rather than as separate business structures, they plan to streamline the healthcare delivery system in southwest Michigan to provide more efficient care at optimal value. *Read more in the 2010 March edition of Physician's News.*

Emergency Department Expansion Complete

Similar to emergency departments nationwide, Lakeland Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph has seen a dramatic increase in their patient volumes. Originally built to accommodate 18,000 visits a year, the Emergency Department is now used by 33,000 patients each year. The number of patient rooms has nearly doubled and the building project includes a redesigned lobby, five triage rooms, two trauma bays, a radiology suite, including a CT scanner. The expansion also improved privacy, security, and information management.

Read more in the 2010 March edition of Physician's News.

Valet Parking Free in St. Joseph

Lakeland Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph, provides free valet parking for all direct admit and surgery patients. The service is available at the main hospital entrance, Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Please contact Linda Fites at (269) 983-8278 for more information.

Resources

Physician Services and Medical Education Relocate

Both departments are now located at Lakeland Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph on the third floor, at the north end of the hospital, and accessed by the C elevators. The phone and fax numbers have remained the same for Physician Services. To reach the Medical Education Department contact **Dr. Mark Smalley, Director of Medical Education** at (269) 429-3332 or Lorraine Kelly, Medical Education Coordinator at (269) 927-5224.

New Website Compares Nursing Homes

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has launched **Nursing Home Compare**, a new website that allows the public to compare data on long-term care facilities, available at www.medicare.gov/NHCompare.

Resources Continued

Medical Libraries a Close Convenience for Physicians

Lakeland HealthCare offers reference and research assistance for its general medical staff and nurses. Medical libraries at Lakeland Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph and Lakeland Community Hospital, Niles subscribe to a variety of journals including *the New England Journal*, *the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *Stroke*, *Spine*, and *Health Affairs*. To request research assistance or a new publication subscription, contact Michael Dill, Lakeland's Medical Librarian at (269) 982-4904.

Annual Report Available to the Community

Lakeland HealthCare is a community-owned, not-for-profit health system with a long history of providing care to all who need health services. The annual report shows how Lakeland is caring for its community in ways that extend beyond the hospital walls, such as offering wellness screenings, presenting free health programs, or raising awareness of important medical topics at local events. Lakeland has been, and will continue to be, a good steward of our finances so that it can care for future generations of southwest Michigan residents. To view our annual report to the community, visit www.lakelandhealth.org/annualreport.

New & Returning Physicians

Please join us in welcoming all new and returning physicians. Lakeland is committed to providing the physicians necessary to meet the needs of the surrounding community.

New Physicians

Clarence Brown, MD

Dermatology

St. Joseph Dermatology, St. Joseph

Vassilios (Bill) Dimitropoulos, MD

Dermatology

St. Joseph Dermatology, St. Joseph

Samuel Durham, MD

Cardiothoracic Surgery

Lakeshore Cardiothoracic and Vascular, St. Joseph

Elizabeth Knepfelkamp, MD

Surgery

Southwestern Medical Clinic Surgical Specialties, St. Joseph

Gerald Kozuh, MD

Oncology/Hematology

Lakeside Cancer Specialists, St. Joseph

Stephen Miller, MD

Family Practice

Cass Family Clinic, Cassopolis

Christopher Newton, MD

Emergency Medicine

Lakeland HealthCare, Niles and St. Joseph

Alexander Runowski, MD

Family Practice

Family Care of Coloma Watervliet, Coloma

Inga Sriubiene, MD

Sleep Medicine

Lakeland Sleep Disorder and Treatment Centers, Niles and St. Joseph

Ellen Tambunan, MD

Family Practice

Lakeland Family Care of Niles, Niles

Returning Physicians

Daniel Hayward, MD, Internal Medicine,

has returned to his practice in Bridgman after serving with his sons at Tenwek Hospital in Kenya for the past year.

Suzanne Hayward, MD, Hospitalist/

Family Practice, has returned to the hospitalist service at Lakeland Specialty Hospital, Berrien Center in Long-term Acute Care after serving with her sons at Tenwek Hospital in Kenya for the past year.

Holly Tapley, MD, Family Practice,

has returned to her practice in Niles after serving as a medical missionary to impoverished communities in Nepal.

Jason Tompkins, MD, Internal Medicine/

Infectious Disease, has returned to the hospitalist service at Lakeland Community Hospital, Niles, after serving in China.

Weekly Continuing Education

Every Thursday from noon to 1:00 p.m. Lakeland Care CME provides Continuing Medical Education events for Lakeland's general medical staff members and other appropriate patient care providers. For more information, contact Debra Killingbeck, CME coordinator, Lakeland Care CME at (269) 927-5153 or visit www.lakelandhealth.org/CME.

Lakeland Care CME is accredited by MSMS CME Accreditation to provide CME for physicians. Our programs are conducted with ACCME Essential Areas and policies. Lakeland Care CME has designated this activity for 1.0 credit toward the "AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™." Each physician should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.