

MEDICAL STAFF

update

March 2004

St. David's Medical Center

MESSAGE FROM COLE ESLYN, CEO

In February we celebrated the topping out of our Phase 6 construction project, currently under way on the west side of campus. The placement of the ceremonial evergreen on the top floor marked a significant milestone toward completion of the structure.

Construction and installation of St. David's new Biplane Angiography Suite will be completed this month. The addition of the suite allows neurointerventionists at St. David's to perform a relatively new procedure - the placement of GDC coils for endovascular treatment of intracranial aneurysms. The new suite further expands the total offerings for neuroscience now available through St. David's Institute for Neurology and Neurosurgery. For more information, contact Scott Schmidly, associate administrator, at 404-8904 or contact him by email at scott.schmidly@stdavids.com.

I hope you'll plan on joining us as we celebrate Doctors' Day during the General Medical Staff meeting on Friday, March 26. We'll be serving a special buffet, followed by an entertaining program. As always, I'm available at 397-4287 if you have questions or concerns, or via email at cole.eslyn@stdavids.com.

WELCOME!

Please welcome the following new members of the St. David's medical staff: Sami Aboumatar, MD, neurology; Barry Barrows, MD, emergency medicine; Jeff Hagen, MD, obstetrics and gynecology; Sherri James, MD, family practice; and Gregory Weston, MD, emergency medicine.

ADDING A NEW PARTNER? START THE APPLICATION PROCESS EARLY!

It takes about two to three months to credential a new physician and grant privileges. If you're adding a partner this summer, please make sure the new physician initiates an application for staff membership and privileges as soon as possible. Below are some frequently asked questions:

1. Whom do I call for an application?

Call Carmen George in the St. David's Central Medical Staff Office at 370-4468.

2. Why does the credentialing process take so long?

JCAHO and Medicare COP standards require that hospitals obtain primary source verifications from all licensing and certification boards, post-graduate training programs, hospital affiliations, and peer references. Applicants can expedite the verification process by ensuring that their references respond to requests for verification.

3. What about temporary privileges?

They are no longer an option due to compliance issues with JCAHO. Please remember to get those applications started now, if possible!

If you have questions, contact Janet Wilson, director of Medical Staff Affairs, at 397-4213 or via email at janet.wilson@stdavids.com.

NEURO ICU CHANGES

In response to the current nursing shortage and long-term vacancies in the Neuro ICU, the resources of the ICU and Neuro ICU are now combined to ensure the best quality outcomes. Marylyn Kajs-Wyllie, Neuro CNS, is assisting with the ICU staff competency neuro training; she is also following the neurology/neurosurgical patients in the ICU. The ICU now operates as a 22-bed unit (combining the current 16-bed ICU with the six-bed Neuro ICU). If you have questions or concerns, please contact Chris Wright at 370-4307 or via email at chris.wright@stdavids.com.

PHYSICIANS PARTICIPATE IN SPECIALIZED TRAINING



The following physicians participated in Advanced Stereotactic Training held in January at the St. David's Health Resource Center: Kelly Martinez, MD; Moya Griffin, MD; Brant Victor, MD; Abel Galaviz, MD; Declan Fleming, MD; Robert Markus, MD; William Mayer, MD; Ames Smith, MD; Dean Kocay, MD; J.P. Forage, MD; Christopher Shin, MD; Jane Nelson, MD; Stephen Clark, MD; Kevin O'Farrell, MD; and William Hart, MD.

NEEDLE-STICK UPDATE



Dan Gill, RN, occupational health nurse, has created an information packet for physicians exposed to blood/body fluids. After such an exposure, physicians should ask the director of nursing in the Main OR, Day Surgery, L&D, ED, or Radiology for this "Notice to Physicians" packet, which addresses questions about responsibility for costs related to the physician's medical care, lab work, etc. The physician's personal or workers' compensation insurance plan will be billed for services provided. Source lab results are provided at no charge to the physician. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Gill at dan.gill@stdavids.com.

Doctors' Day is March 26!

Please join us for...





A Special Breakfast
with waffles and omelettes made by Cheryle
6:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Doctors' Dining Room



Doctors' Day Luncheon Buffet
11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Cafeteria
(Musical entertainment from 11:30 - 12:30)

Quarterly General Medical Staff Meeting
12:30 to 1:30
Cafeteria



SDMC TO SPONSOR SPRING BLOOD DRIVE

SDMC will host a blood drive on Friday, March 5, from 7:40 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Conference Hall. To schedule a donation time, please contact Jean Little at 397-4290 or jean.little@stdavids.com.

DICTATION COPIES

We are compiling a list of physicians who prefer using Meditech rather than having dictation notes mailed to them. If you would like to stop receiving your dictation notes via mail, please contact transcription specialist Chris Brewer in HIM at 397-4151 or by email at chris.brewer@stdavids.com.

ST. DAVID'S INCREASES LOCAL VISIBILITY AS WRANGLERS' CORPORATE PARTNER

Austin's Arena Football League team, the Wranglers, kicked off its inaugural season in February - with St. David's Medical Center as the official corporate hospital partner. If you would like more information, go to www.arenafootball.com/teams/austin_wranglers/.

JCAHO PATIENT SAFETY INITIATIVES

JCAHO has mandated patient safety initiatives concerning medication errors. One initiative requires all U.S. hospitals to discontinue the use of certain unacceptable abbreviations. Our next JCAHO examination is scheduled for April of this year.

Beginning March 1, 2004, physicians will not have forbidden abbreviations in written orders accepted without nursing "read back" confirmations. Doctors writing these orders will be called to confirm the meaning of the order. Please help us reduce unwanted callbacks by writing out the full words for any abbreviations that are no longer accepted!

Information cards on unacceptable abbreviations are available from the charge nurses, at department meetings, at the central nursing office, and from Administration. The abbreviations are also conveniently listed on patient charts on the physician orders divider, and they appear online at www.sdmcmmedweb.com.

EASING THE BED CRUNCH

St. David's has converted some rooms on the 4th and 5th floors to allow for overflow while patients admitted through the Emergency Department are waiting for a bed. The rooms being retrofitted will normally hold one patient only, until we have to add another. We're informing our patients of the situation, and we will be as sensitive to personal needs as possible. Patients in overflow rooms will be placed as same gender and non-infected, with short-term stay expectations.

Bonnie Salzberg, CNO, and our nursing supervisors are working very diligently to make this happen as comfortably as possible. Please share this information with your group and call partners, and address any concerns to Bonnie Salzberg, CNO, at 397-4275; Jane Jordan, director of Medical /Surgical units, at 370-4455; or Bill Race, MD, VP of Medical Affairs, at 397-4090.

MEDICAL STAFF UPDATE

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