

Professional Staff News

News and information for the professional staff of
Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota



Professional Staff News is e-mailed monthly to the professional staff of Children's of Minnesota.

May 2008

Notes from Peter Dehnel, MD, Chief of Staff

The value of collaboration

At the outset, I have to admit that I probably have spent too much time since the legislature went into session reading e-mails predicting various levels of demise or decimation of health care as we know it in Minnesota. These e-mails are from generally knowledgeable and well-informed individuals. It is hard not to be concerned that the political discussion about health care and health care services is all about the money – not quality, not access to care, and not even developing a viable “health care home” (medical home) model that will really reduce the cost of health care services over time. The discussion has focused on dramatically reversing the insurance cost trends in health care and solving the nearly one billion (with a “b”) dollar state budget deficit.

As we are nearing the end of this current legislative session, there are still a number of issues in the respective Senate and House bills that are yet to be finalized. One thing that is certain, however, is that the final legislation will look much different than what was originally proposed. This is not by accident or chance. There have been many people working on our behalf as health care professionals in this state and members of Children's Professional Staff to make sure that the legislation does not just provide insurance on paper, but then reduces levels of reimbursement for services to financially non-viable levels – we literally cannot keep the doors open and lights on.

Besides Mary Braddock, MD and the “legislative specialists” (lobbyists) associated directly with Children's, the people working actively on our behalf include representatives from Minnesota Hospital Association, Minnesota Medical Association, Minnesota Medical Group Management Association, East Metro Medical Society, and West Metro Medical Society. These groups have been countering various other lobbyists and organizations whose legislative priorities would likely limit or even eliminate over time our ability to care for a substantial number of children and teens in our respective communities.

A number of these organizations need our direct support, both in terms of membership dues as well as active participation. Contributing in other ways to various organizations aligned with our priorities is always helpful. We cannot reasonably expect others to act on our behalf at the legislature, with insurers or with the government if we are not engaged and participating. Collaborating with other physicians, advanced practice nurses, psychologists, or social workers is absolutely essential if we are going to create an environment where our patients receive the best care possible – truly the “next generation” of care.

Thank you in advance for your increased level of participation. If you would like more information on this topic, please contact me at (612) 813-8098 or peter.dehnel@childrensmn.org.



Delivering Next Generation Care

Notes from Phillip M. Kibort, MD, Vice President of Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer

Patient and Family Experience Summit identified areas of improvement

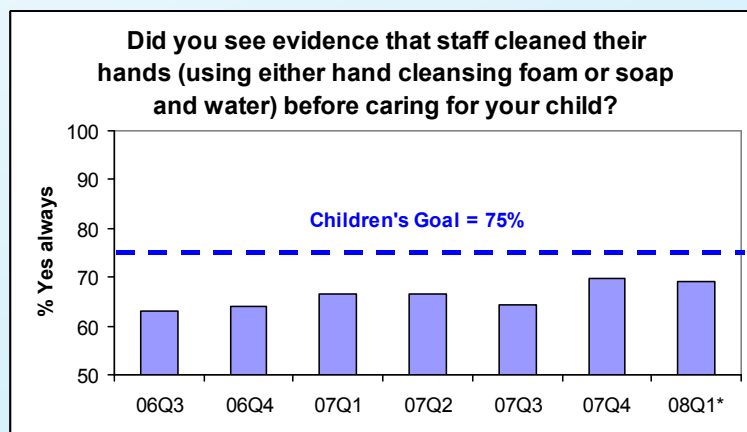
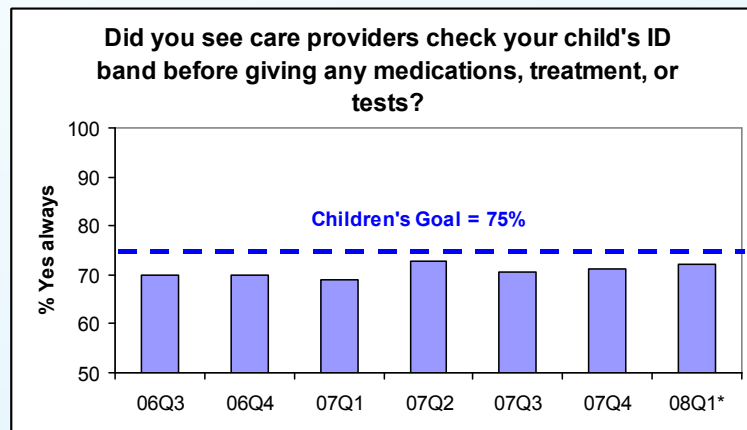
Families of patients who are hospitalized at Children's are surveyed about their child's experience. The surveys, which are translated into Spanish, Somali, and Hmong, are mailed to the family's home two weeks after the child's discharge.

In 2007, a Patient and Family Experience Summit was held and survey questions with low scores were selected for improvement efforts. At Children's, parent perception of hand hygiene and ID band checking by all care providers were high problem areas.

Below are the last seven quarters of results for these two safety questions. Children's has made statistically significant improvements in both of the safety focus questions, since our baseline measures were established in 2006; however, we still have not reached our goals.

Please partner with our physicians and other providers to help improve parent perception of ID band checking and hand hygiene practices. More specifically, verbalize with families whenever you check a patient's ID band, regardless of whether or not you know the family.

Also, in terms of improving our hand hygiene scores, walk into each patient room with a dollop of hand cleansing foam in your hand. Or if you prefer using soap and water, wash your hands inside the patient's room. Verbalize to families that you are cleaning your hands in order to prevent hospital-acquired infections.



Asthma – The never ending story

There are very few diseases in pediatrics with such a significant amount of evidence-based treatment data as there is for asthma. At Children's, we do fairly well on some of the key aspects of asthma treatment, but in others we are still behind the curve. In getting children on the pathway at discharge, we are close to 100 percent. We are also close to 100 percent in utilizing oral steroids with patients during their hospitalization.

Where we fail is that *we only get about 60 percent of our patients on the asthma action plan and 80 percent on inhaled steroids for their discharge*. It is time that we move up to best care. It is our expectation that if patients do not have an action plan in place or are not sent home on inhaled steroids for the recommended six weeks, that these cases will go to peer review. Gentle reminder letters will be sent to you to use evidence-based treatments.

Please begin to execute the full asthma pathway. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me.

Welcome to Judy Brown

David Brumbaugh and I are pleased to announce that Judy Brown has joined Children's as our physician recruiter. Judy joins us from Ministry Medical Group in Stevens Point, Wis. She has more than 18 years of physician recruitment experience, having previously worked for Allina, Fairview, and the Columbia Park Medical Group. Judy offices at the Westgate facility and reports directly to Dave and me. Please join us in welcoming Judy.

Computerized Provider Order Entry: Project update

In response to the financial challenges facing Children's in 2008, one of the decisions made by the executive team is to delay the Computerized Provider Order Entry (CPOE) project training and the Sept. 27, 2008, go-live in order to defer the associated operational costs for 2008. Our goal is to continue the CPOE design and build, while maintaining the current progress and momentum. We are in process of defining the impact for 2008 and the plan for the implementation in the first half of 2009 and will communicate this information as soon as it's available.

Joint Commission preparedness guide available

A brochure to provide professional staff with an overview of key ways Children's provides a safe environment and follows Joint Commission standards is available on the Professional Staff Portal under "Professional Staff Documents" by clicking on "Joint Commission Survey Guide." It also includes an overview of the Joint Commission survey process.

If questions, contact me, phil.kibort@childrensmn.org; Pete Dehnel, MD, peter.dehnel@childrensmn.org; or Tracey Miller, director of regulatory and accreditation, tracey.miller@childrensmn.org.

Remembering Barbara Berg

As many of you know, Barb Berg, MD, passed away on March 22, following a battle with cancer. Dr. Berg graduated from the University of Minnesota Medical School and became a partner with Southdale Pediatrics in 1985, working primarily from the practice's Eden Prairie and Edina locations. She will be sorely missed by many, including the many patients and their families to whom she was so dedicated.

Congratulations to Brad Feltis and call for next generation care examples

Congratulations to Brad Feltis, MD, for his role in Children's first fetoscopic intervention for twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome — another example of Children's next generation care. Do you have a story to share about the care you're providing in the outpatient or inpatient environment? If so, I'd like to hear from you. Please contact me to let me know what you are doing in your fields. I can be reached at (612) 813-6165, (651) 220-6165 or phil.kibort@childrensmn.org.

Programs and Services

Online access to clinical privileges and other authorizations

Beginning April 15, the clinical privileges of all current professional staff may be viewed through Star Net, Children's Intranet site. To view these privileges:

- Click on the "Learning & Education" tab on the StarNet home page.
- Under "Authorized Providers," click "Search Privileges & Authorizations."
- Then, under "Privileges," select the "e/Delineate" link.
- By selecting "Privilege Inquiry," entering your last name (first letter must be capitalized) in the "Find a Practitioner" field, and clicking on your expanded professional name when it appears, a list of your currently granted clinical privileges will be visible.

The clinical privileges of physician assistants and the job descriptions of allied health professionals authorized to engage in patient care may be viewed in a similar manner via "e/Delineate."

The "Authorized Providers" page also contains links to trainee supervision requirements for fellows, residents, interns, and students in various graduate health care education programs while they engage in patient care at Children's. These trainee supervision requirements indicate levels of progressive involvement and independence in specific patient care activities. These requirements are not linked to the names of individual trainees.

Implementation of this system meets a Joint Commission standard that requires granted clinical privileges and other authorizations to engage in patient care be made available. Individuals are allowed to engage in patient care activities at Children's only within the scope of their job description (employees and allied health professionals), their clinical privileges (professional staff and physician assistants), or their trainee supervision requirements.

Additional evening MRI coverage available in St. Paul

The radiology department at Children's - St. Paul is pleased to announce that coverage for outpatient non-sedated MRIs is expanded to 10 p.m. weekdays. Coverage for outpatient non-sedated MRI procedures will continue on the weekends.

This expanded service will provide improved access to MRI, as well as increased patient and family satisfaction. If you have any questions, please contact Catherine Hilby, manager of radiology, at catherine.hilby@childrensmn.org. To make an appointment at any Children's site, call radiology at (612) 874-5399.

Fifth annual National Telehealth Conference registration open

Registration is now open for the Fifth Annual National Telehealth Conference to be held September 25-27 at the Minneapolis - St. Paul Airport Hilton Hotel. All conference details are available online at www.cponline.org. Click on "Reach for the Stars." E-mail questions to childrenstriage@childrensmn.org.

Assessing telephone consultation with psychiatry

Telephone consultation with Children's psychiatrists is available 24 hours by calling (612) 600-5139. This number is intended for telephone consultation on psychiatric questions such as medications, dilemmas over whether a child should be referred for psychiatric admission, and questions about the psychiatrists' patients.

Please be aware, however, that with calls to the psychiatry phone during the regular workday, there may be a delay of up to 30 minutes while the psychiatrist completes a session with an outpatient.

For inpatient consults: At Children's, most mental health consults are handled by staff in social work and psychology. Psychiatry becomes involved, with a few exceptions, only when there is a medication question. Please work with social work or psychology to determine when/whether to bring in psychiatry. Please do not call the psychiatry telephone consultation pager to make a request for an inpatient consult. The pager number is for consultations and/or questions that can be handled over the telephone only.

On the Minneapolis campus, the Abbott Northwestern Hospital child psychiatrists will respond to inpatient consults for psychiatry. They are credentialed at Children's. Again, please check with psychology or social work if at all possible before referring to Abbott to determine what has already been done. Abbott's phone number is (612) 863-8513.

Natural Standard database now available to all clinical staff

The "Natural Standard" database is now available free of charge to all clinical staff on StarNet, Children's Intranet, in the "External References" section under "References-Clinical." The database is a clinical decision-making support tool used by leading health care institutions, including Mayo Clinic and Harvard-affiliated hospital programs. This evidence-based resource offers an excellent drug-herb interaction checker as well as quality information on safety/efficacy of herbals, dietary supplements, and complementary/alternative therapies.

Database features include:

- **Herbs and supplements:** Rigorous scientific systematic reviews of herbs and supplements available in multiple reading levels and languages.
- **Health and wellness:** Scientific analysis on the data for or against the use of therapies such as acupuncture, reiki, Qi Gong, and special diets.
- **Comparative effectiveness:** Comparative efficacy charts to determine which practices may effectively treat specific conditions.
- **Medical conditions:** Information about a specific condition (background, causes, prevention, treatment, integrative therapies).
- **Brand names:** Ingredients inside the products your patients are taking.
- **Interactions:** Comprehensive scan of interactions with drugs, herbs, foods, nutrient depletion, and labs.
- **Dictionary:** More than 10,000 complementary and traditional medical terms.
- **Education:** CE modules for multiple health care disciplines.

Contact **Tim Culbert**, MD, medical director of integrative medicine and cultural care, with any questions at tim.culbert@childrensmn.org.

2008 Competency Fairs

May 12-15, St. Paul River Centre
(For more information, contact Keri Rateliff at keri.rateliff@childrensmn.org)

Spring Pediatric Update: Psychopharmacology

May 8, 2008
John Nassef Medical Center
Children's – St. Paul campus

Cystic fibrosis: Care for the Next Generation

May 15, 2008, 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Zuhrah Shrine Center, Minneapolis

Visit Children's Web site, www.childrensmn.org, and click on "For Health Professionals" for conference and registration information.

Anne Bendel, MD; Bruce Bostrom MD; Linda Madsen, RN, CNP; Stephen Nelson, MD; Julie Lentz, RN, CNP; presented "Carboplatin Hypersensitivity in Children with Low Grade Glioma and Successful Outpatient Desensitization," 20th annual meeting of American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Toronto.

Bostrom and Nelson presented "Successful Use of Bevacizumab in Life Threatening Steroid-Resistant Infantile Hepatic Hemangioendothelioma," 20th annual meeting of American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Toronto.

Emily Chapman, MD, presented "Pediatric Problems That Shouldn't Be Missed," at the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians.

Laurel Edinbrough, RN, CNP, et al.: "The Hmong Youth Task Force: Evaluation of a Coalition to Address the Sexual Exploitation of Young Runaways," *Public Health Nursing*, (Vol. 25, No. 1, Feb. 2008, pps. 69-76).

Stefan Friedrichsdorf, MD, and Culbert et al.: "Mind/Body Skills for Children in Pain" In Rice, Warfield, Justins and Eccleston (eds). *Clinical Pain Management: Practical Applications and Procedures*. London, Arnold Publishers.

Stefan Friedrichsdorf, MD; Stacy Remke, MSW, LICSW; Barbara Symalla, RN, CNS; Christine Gibbon, PhD, LP; Jody Chrastek, MSN, RN, CHPN: "Developing a Pain and Palliative Care Program at a U.S. Children's Hospital." *International Journal of Palliative Nursing* (Vol. 13, Issue 11, Nov. 2007, pps. 534-542).

Friedrichsdorf presented "Management of Neuropathic Pain in Pediatric Palliative Care," Annual Assembly of American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Tampa.

Friedrichsdorf presented "Pediatric Pain Medicine and Palliative Care - an Overview" and "Pain and Palliative Care Program, at the Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota: Case Reports," Inaugural Meeting of the International Scientific Advisory Board for Pediatric Pain Management and Palliative Care, Kuwait.

Elizabeth Gilles, MD, presented "Pain in Neurodevelopmental Disorders: Analgesic Failure and the Promise of Biomarkers" at a two-day international symposium sponsored by the Office of Vice President for Research (OVPR) Minnesota Futures Grant University of Minnesota.

Gilles, et al.: "Perspectives on Pain and Intellectual Disability," *Journal of Intellectual Disability Research* (Vol. 52, Issue 4, Jan. 2008, pps. 275-286).

Margaret Heisel Kurth, MD, Nicole Leonard, et al.: "Immune tolerance therapy utilizing factor VIII/von Willebrand factor concentrate in haemophilia A patients with high titre factor VIII inhibitors." *Haemophilia* (Vol. 14, No. 1, Jan. 2008).

Kurth, Leonard, et al.: "Intracranial hemorrhage in newborns with hemophilia: the role of screening radiologic studies in the first 7 days of life." *Journal of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology* (Vol. 30, No. 1, Jan. 2008, pps. 81-84).

Timothy Lander, MD; James Sidman, MD; et al.: "Resolving Feeding Difficulties With Early Airway Intervention in Pierre Robin Sequence." *Laryngoscope* (Vol. 118, Issue 1, Jan. 2008, pps.120-123).

Nancy Mendelsohn, MD, et al.: "Genetics Evaluation for the Etiologic Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders," *Genetics in Medicine* (Vol. 10, Issue 1, Jan. 2008).

Awards and Accolades

Mendelsohn, et al.: "Genetic Evaluation of Autism." *Seminars in Pediatric Neurology* (Vol.15, 2008, pps. 27-31 2008).

Susan Sencer, MD, et al.: abstract "Identifying Remarkable Outcomes In Pediatric Oncology: Expanding The NCI Best Case Series," was accepted for oral presentation, International Congress on Complementary Medicine Research (ICCMR), Sydney, Australia, March 2008.

Joeseph Sockalosky, MD, presented on the topic "Failure to Thrive: A Primary Care Approach" at the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians.

Patsy Stinchfield, RN, CNP, and **Kathy Como-Sabetti**, MPH, presented "Outcome of influenza vaccination program for healthcare workers using a declination process in a pediatric healthcare institution, 2006," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Immunization Conference, Atlanta.

Stinchfield, **Como-Sabetti**, and Stephanie Deantoni, presented "Use of Technology to Improve Influenza Vaccination Among Healthcare Workers at a Pediatric Healthcare Facility, 2007" Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Immunization Conference, Atlanta.

Stinchfield et al.: presented a workshop on "Use of the HICS to Coordinate Multi-Agency Mass Influenza Vaccination Clinics in Response to Pediatric Influenza Deaths During the 2006-2007 Influenza Season, Minnesota" Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Immunization Conference, Atlanta.

Judy Zier, MD; **Gloria Drake**, RN, CNRA; **Marsha Finkelstein**, MS; **Mary Kay Farrell**, RN; and **Denise Rucker**, RN: "Creation of a Registered Nurse-Administered Nitrous Oxide Sedation Program for Radiology and Beyond." *Pediatric Nursing* (Vol. 34, No. 1, Jan./Feb. 2008, pps. 29-35).

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