

# 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.

April 2009

## Notes from Gigi Chawla, MD, Chief of Staff

### CPOE update

With the May 9 CPOE implementation only a few weeks away, I want to thank Children's providers for their supportive cooperation during this important process. We had 100 percent of our providers sign up for CPOE training — something that has made preparations for the go-live process much smoother. Your support is much appreciated by everyone involved.

Some additional important information as we prepare for May 9:

#### *Please complete training by May 9*

If you have not completed CPOE training, please contact me or Rod Tarrago, MD, prior to May 9. Failure to complete this training before the go-live will trigger an automatic suspension of medical staff privileges: you will not be able to operate, see patients on the units, or give verbal orders, etc. (Note: If you see less than 12 patients per year, including outpatients (SSU/same-day surgeries) and inpatients, training is not required. The onsite support team will assist infrequent users with order entry.)

#### *Preparations for go-live and on-site support*

We realize the transition to CPOE during the first few weeks isn't going to be easy. To help ease the process, from May 9 through June 5, there will be an abundance of support staff available to assist and answer questions. (Note: Some areas may require longer support and will be accommodated.) Project Command Centers will also be located on both the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses. Immediate issue identification and prioritization will occur with fixes based on patient safety and critical workflow challenges. Please consider additional coverage to help your colleagues who will be rounding the weekend of May 9 and the following week

#### *For more information*

For more information on the implementation and the CPOE processes and requirements, please see the updated ["CPOE Process Requirements & Expectations — Spring 2009."](#)

### H&P forms updated

In March, the PEC and Children's Board Executive Committee approved changes to the Rules and Regulations regarding updating preoperative history and physical examinations on the day of surgery. This change was made to improve our compliance with the Joint Commission standards.



Delivering Next Generation Care

Previously, a sticker was placed on the bottom of the H&P form, which then required the surgeon/proceduralist to check a box and sign, date, and time the form. This method had multiple potential routes to failure and, as demonstrated by the Joint Commission survey, only occurred successfully 66 percent of the time.

Within the next month, the new changes will now tie this update to the Informed Consent form. A new statement, which is **bolded below**, will be included immediately above the surgeon's/proceduralist's signature.

9. My questions have been answered. I agree to the procedure.  
Additional instructions are:

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Signature (Patient/parent/legal guardian)                      Date / Time

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Witness (Phone consent/emergency surgery)                      Date / Time

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Name of Interpreter/Language/Organization                      Date / Time

I met with and explained to the patient/parent/legal guardian the indications for performing the stated procedure, its benefits, potential risks, alternatives, and likely consequences if it is not performed. The parent or guardian has confirmed their understanding of what they have been told by repeating back in their own words a basic description of what will be done.

**I have also reviewed the patient's history and physical examination and have examined the patient to the extent necessary and have determined that there are no changes that have occurred in the patient's condition since the history and physical examination was completed that might be significant for the patient's planned course of treatment, except for the changes documented here:**

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Physician/or Other Authorized Provider Signature                      Date / Time

## Quarterly staff meeting

Please save the date for the next Professional Staff Quarterly Meeting:

**May 6, 2009, 6 to 9 p.m., Town and Country Club, St. Paul**

—**Social Hour, 6 to 7 p.m.**

Hosted by the Infectious Diseases and Immunology staff.

—**Dinner/Presentations, 7 to 9 p.m.**

*Topic:* International Health Care. *Speakers:* **Tim Lander, MD; Rob Payne, MD; Kojo Benjamin Taylor.**

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

### Children's leading effort to decrease appendicitis evaluation CT scans

Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota is creating a new algorithm which decreases the need for CT scans when evaluating patients for appendicitis. The algorithm, which uses the pediatric appendicitis score (PAS), is the result of a partnership between our emergency department's Gary Fifield, MD, and Pediatric Surgical Associates' Brad Feltis, MD. We are participating in a multi-national, multi-institutional study to further validate the PAS scoring system.

To review the algorithm as well as the clinical guidelines for appendicitis, please visit the emergency department's section of StarNet. Appendicitis can be found at the bottom of the clinical guidelines list under the letter "A."

### Congratulations to Stephen Kurachek, MD

The American Board of Pediatrics, in a letter from its President and CEO James A. Stockman, III, MD, to Children's President and CEO Alan L. Goldbloom, MD, commended Children's for our work improving care for patients in the pediatric intensive care unit. Dr. Stockman specifically recognized Stephen Kurachek, MD, who leads our hospital in the NACHRI bloodstream infection collaborative for pediatric intensive care units.

The PSI collaborative has achieved sustained 45 percent reductions in infection rates over the past two years, translating to 73 lives saved, more than 600 infections prevented, and \$21 million saved — numbers that grow every month.

Congratulations to Dr. Kurachek also for the remarkable work he — along with the team of nurses and infection control prevention staff — has done in keeping central line bloodstream infections down to almost zero.

## Programs and Services

### Children's Cultural Care Pocket Guide

Children's Cultural Care Pocket Guide is a handy tool that offers a basic, at-a-glance list of the key questions on which to focus when providing care across cultures. It also offers tips for achieving successful communication, addressing such important elements of patient care as:

- Inquiring about health-related customs and traditions
- Obtaining the family's perspective on illness and care
- Adjusting to different communications styles
- Assessing health literacy
- Managing mistrust

The guide, which was produced through collaboration between Children's communications department and the Office of Health Care Equity, is intended as a complement to cultural competency training. It is available to all Children's employees, staff, providers, and trainees through the Office of Health Care Equity.

### Children's introduces velocardiocardial (VCF) clinic

Last month, Children's opened a velocardiocardial (VCF) clinic to provide multidisciplinary care for children born with VCF (also known as DiGeorge syndrome, Schprintzen's syndrome, Catch 22 syndrome, and asymmetric crying faces).

This new clinic, which is part of Children's cleft and craniofacial clinic, will save patients and families time by avoiding multiple trips to many doctors and providers. A child's visit may include evaluations from several health care providers as appropriate to the child's specific needs.

Please contact Jim Sidman, MD, leader of the velocardiocardial clinic, at (612) 813-6888 with any questions.

### Hard-hat tours give an up-close look at campus development

Each Tuesday, from 4:30 to 6 p.m., Children's Foundation will host hard-hat walking tours of the new construction at Children's - Minneapolis. All members of Children's professional staff are invited and encouraged to attend.

The tour offers an up-close and behind-the-scenes look at how and why the hospital is changing nearly every day. Children's Foundation will also describe unique opportunities to make a lasting gift that will become a permanent part of Children's.

Contact Annie Waters at (651) 855-2821 or [annie.waters@childrensmn.org](mailto:annie.waters@childrensmn.org) to schedule your tour.

## Upcoming Events

### **Ahlaya Seminar in Pediatric Palliative Care**

April 15 - 17, 2009

### **Quarterly Staff Meeting**

May 6, 2009, 6 to 9 p.m.,  
Town and Country Club, St. Paul

### **Pediatric Pain Master Class**

June 21 - 26, 2009  
Marquette Hotel, Minneapolis

### **Katkov-Lundeen 28th Annual Visiting Professorship in Pediatric Cardiology**

June 15 - 16, 2009  
Sheraton Midtown, Minneapolis

### **6th Annual National Pediatric Telehealth Conference**

Sept. 24 - 26, 2009  
[www.cponline.org](http://www.cponline.org)

Information about these conferences and other upcoming events will be posted on Children's Web site, [www.childrensmn.org](http://www.childrensmn.org).

## Awards and Accolades

**Andrea Lampland, MD, and Mark Mammel, MD,** are publishing the article "Review of Conventional Mechanical Ventilation in Premature Infants" *Neonatal Respiratory Diseases*, Tufts University School of Medicine.

**Patsy Stinchfield, RN, CNP,** was recently profiled in an article titled, "In Guiding Public Policy on Immunizations...Needling the Public About Getting Those Vaccinations," *Alum News*, a publication of Minnesota State University Moorhead (Winter 2009, pps. 48-51). She was profiled as an alum of MSUM and for all of her great work on immunization.

**Phil Kibort, MD,** spoke on "Leadership Development for Physicians" to the AAP Leadership Forum in Chicago.

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