



# M E D I L I N E

A MEMORIAL HOSPITAL COMMUNITY RELATIONS PUBLICATION

FEBRUARY 2009

**BEST PLACES**  
to work in **PA**<sub>2008</sub>



Sally Dixon

## MESSAGE FROM SALLY...

*The first phase of Memorial's three-phase Emergency Department (ED) renovation project is completed. We expect our second phase of the project to be done this spring and the entire project to be completed by early summer. We plan to have an Open House when the renovations are complete so you will have a chance to see our new ED.*

*We decided to undertake this renovation project, even though we are making plans for a replacement hospital, because of the tremendous growth we have experienced in the ED over the last decade. The replacement hospital is slated to open in 2013.*

(continued on next page)

## Memorial Hospital Receives Echocardiography Laboratory Accreditation

Memorial Hospital was granted accreditation by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL). The accreditation demonstrates Memorial Hospital's echocardiography program meets the highest industry standards for services provided. "Hospitals today are held to very high levels of accountability by patients, the public, Medicare and other payers. Having the ICAEL accreditation enables Memorial Hospital to demonstrate the level of care we provide in our Echocardiography Laboratory," said Sundra Shaffer, Cardiology team leader.

The Cardiology Department staff worked hard to prepare for this accreditation process and they are proud to have received the accreditation on the first attempt. "This is a stringent process and many facilities make more than one attempt to receive the accreditation. Our immediate approval is indicative of the level of service we provide," said Sundra.

Special thank you goes out to the following individuals in the Cardiology Department who were instrumental in the accreditation process: Darlene Frankhouser, Dr. Rowland Leedy, Anita Martinex, Deborah Myers and Sundra Shaffer.

## Radiology Department Purchases New Equipment

Memorial Hospital's Radiology Department recently purchased the new Philips Easy Diagnost Eleva Xradiography/fluoroscopy system. The system is designed to perform a wide range of applications from gastrointestinal, iodine and vascular procedures to standard radiography.

"The new equipment has added benefits that enable us to provide better service to our patients," said Jeff Callender, chief radiology technologist.

The most dramatic change produced by the new system is enhanced image quality. Images are considerably clearer and more detail is now visible. Another benefit is the flexibility with adjusting fluoroscopy dosage levels for pediatric patients. This means we can reduce the level of radiation without sacrificing image quality. Also, the new system can accommodate larger patients. Previously, our machine could only accommodate patients under 300 pounds, and the new machine can scan patients in static mode who weigh up to 550 pounds.

"This is another example of Memorial investing resources into state-of-the-art equipment. As we look to the future, we need to be able to offer our patients the latest technology they expect from their health care provider," said Rick Lillo, chief operating officer.

# The Lesson of Semmelweis Evidence-Based Medicine

By Flavius Lilly, Ph.D., vice president of quality and strategy  
*This is the first article in a series of four.*

In 1992, two Canadian physicians from Ontario's McMaster University, Gordon Guyatt and David Sackett, published a manifesto calling for evidence-based medicine (EBM). Their core idea was simple. The choice of treatments should be based on the best evidence and, when available, the best evidence should come from statistical research. Guyatt and Sackett didn't call on physicians to be exclusively guided by statistical studies. Indeed, Guyatt is on record as saying that statistical evidence "is never enough." They just wanted statistical evidence to play a bigger role in treatment decisions.

Empirical tests of medical treatments have been around for more than a hundred years. As early as the 1840's, the great Austrian physician Ignaz Semmelweis completed a detailed statistical study of maternity clinics in Vienna. At Vienna General Hospital, Semmelweis first noticed that maternity patients were much more likely to die when student physicians treated them just after the students left the autopsy room. When his friend and colleague Jakob Kolletschka died from a scalpel cut, Semmelweis concluded that puerperal fever was contagious. He found that mortality rates dropped from 12 percent to two percent if physicians and nurses at the clinics washed their hands in chlorinated lime before seeing each patient.

The startling result, which ultimately would give rise to the germ theory of disease, was fiercely resisted. Semmelweis was ridiculed by other physicians. Some thought his claims lacked a scientific basis because he didn't offer a sufficient explanation for why hand-washing would reduce death. Physicians refused to believe that they were causing their patients' deaths. And they complained that hand-washing several times a day was a waste of their valuable time. Semmelweis was eventually fired. After a nervous breakdown, he ended up in a mental hospital, where he died at the age of 47.

The story of Semmelweis remains relevant. Physicians and other health professionals still don't wash their hands enough. But most importantly, it's still a conflict that is centrally about whether physicians are willing to change their modus operandi because a statistical study says so. So, here we've come to the point of this series on evidence-based medicine. In future issues, we'll explore the EBM movement in modern times, why old myths in medicine die hard and how we can get connected up with the relevant data that can positively impact medical practice.

I'd like this to be a dialogue. If something I write raises your ire or you just have a comment, I would like to hear it. Even more, we'll publish it in the *Medline* newsletter in hopes of generating even more comment. Just send your thoughts to Amy Lowe at [alowe@mhyork.org](mailto:alowe@mhyork.org) and we'll make sure they get to the proper place.

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## Application for Employment

The physicians listed below recently applied for medical staff appointment and/or privileges at Memorial Hospital. If you have any information concerning these individuals that may assist the Credentials Committee, please provide that information to Bernadette Emig, Medical Affairs coordinator, or Thomas Kurland, D.O., chairperson of the Credentials Committee.

**Guita Ghadiri, M.D.**  
Nephrology

**Eric S. Harmelin, D.P.M.**  
Podiatry

**Steven N. Truong, M.D.**  
Ophthalmologist  
(Surgical Center  
of York staff only)

**Jennifer Sloane, M.D.**  
Internal Medicine



## DOCUMENTATION TIPS FOR PHYSICIANS

When documenting mental retardation, specify the degree of mental retardation as:

Mild – IQ of 50 to 70

Moderate – IQ of 35 to 49

Severe – IQ of 20 to 34

Profound – IQ under 20

When documenting staph aureus, specify whether it is methicillin SUSCEPTIBLE or methicillin RESISTANT. For example, document MSSA or MRSA.

### MESSAGE FROM SALLY...

(continued)

*In the meantime, we have outgrown our current space and need to continue to have capacity for more patients as we build our business in anticipation of moving to the replacement hospital.*

*We are also beginning to work on strategic plans for expanding key service lines, such as cardiology and oncology. I will have more information to share with you about this in the future.*

*While we continue to experience the affects of the economic climate, similar to what is being experienced by hospitals around the country, we feel we are making the strategic business decisions necessary to position us for future growth.*

*We are committed to providing York County with a choice for quality health care, and I would like to thank you for being our partner in fulfilling this important mission.*

*If you have any questions or suggestions, please call my office at (717) 849-5340.*

*Sincerely,*

*Sally J. Dixon  
President and CEO*



# Patient Safety 2008

By K. Barry Wentland, D.O.

At a recent Memorial Hospital Medical Staff Meeting, a patient safety quiz was offered. This quiz, combined with Flavius Lilly's presentation on never events, provided patient safety continuing medical education (CME) credits. Pennsylvania licensure mandates patient safety CME hours.

It is true that patients are encouraged to take an active role in their health care to ensure their own safety. It is false that it is adequate to tell patients regarding test results that no news is good news. It is true that electronic prescriptions can minimize handwriting errors. It is true that annual influenza vaccine for health care workers protect our vulnerable patients. It is false that medication lists need not include over the counter medication, vitamins and herbal supplements. It is true that venous thrombus emboli prophylaxis should be considered for every admission, and deep vein thrombosis (DVT) is a never event for some orthopedic surgeries. It is false that inappropriate and indiscriminate use of antibiotics is not responsible for the emergence of methicillin drug resistant organisms. It is true that patients are encouraged to ask their caretakers if they have washed their hands. It is true that hospital-acquired infections can be tamed by infection control practices. It is false that physicians possess magical properties that allow them to ignore infection control procedures like hand hygiene and gloving and gowning and still not transmit disease.

Dr. Lilly discussed never events as things that should never happen in our hospital, but also as events that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) believes are reasonably preventable. Medicare listed 10 preventable conditions for which payment for subsequent treatment will not be made. These include: falls and trauma, vascular catheter associated infections, manifestations of poor blood sugar control, catheter associated urinary tract infections, DVT and pulmonary embolism following total knee arthroplasty or total hip arthroplasty, foreign object retained after surgery, surgical site infection following coronary artery bypass graft and certain orthopedic and bariatric procedures, air embolism, blood incompatibility, stage three and four pressure ulcers. These are listed from the most common to the least common except that there is no data for pressure ulcers by stage. It is believed that CMS will follow the lead of Medicaid in several states where the number of never events is 28. Although the economic impact is important, it is the quality of care that we provide for our patients that is paramount.



## NEW MEDICAL STAFF OFFICERS ELECTED

New officers for the Memorial Hospital Medical Staff were elected in December. They are as follows:

President –

**Dr. Terry N. York**

Vice President –

**Dr. James A. Lease**

Secretary/Treasurer –

**Dr. Nicholas J. Spagnola**

Member at Large –

**Dr. Robert C. Matylewicz**

## The most advanced scanning technology!



Ask to have your next diagnostic evaluation at Memorial, where some of the most advanced scanning technology in Central Pennsylvania – if not the country – is available.

Our new SPECT-CT is the most advanced diagnostic scanning technology in the region. One scan pinpoints with tremendous accuracy the exact three-dimensional anatomic location, size, nature, and extent of a disease, anywhere in the body. This advanced imaging equipment allows our physicians to diagnose problems earlier, with better accuracy, and to more effectively plan treatment for heart disease, cancer-related illnesses, neurological disorders, orthopedic problems and other diseases.

Among other examples of our cutting edge scanning technology:

- We were one of the first hospitals in the nation to offer full-field digital mammography technology. Our new system is much better at finding cancers, especially in dense breast tissue. And it is more comfortable, too.
- We also have the latest MRI technology, including breast MRI, and PET/CT imaging that aids in the diagnosis and treatment of cancers.
- Only the top third of hospitals our size nationwide have a 16-slice CT scanner and we have one.
- Our PACS software system allows multiple physicians to view your digital diagnostic images – x-rays, MRI scans, CT images, ultrasounds, etc. – from any computer, any place, any time...ideal for consultation.

All of our images are read onsite by our highly experienced, trained radiologists, not sent off-site for interpretation.

And here's the best news ... in most cases we can schedule your MRI within two days, and CT scans often the same day!



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We accept most major insurances.

Memorial Hospital • Greenbriar Medical Center • HomeCare of York • Industrial Resource Center  
Memorial Behavioral Health • Memorial Primary Care • Surgical Center of York • White Rose Hospice





## MEDICAL STAFF ADDITIONS

**Anuradha Bhamidi, M.D.**  
**Care Hospital Consultants**  
200 Hidden Hill Farm Lane  
Jacobus, PA 17407  
909-4928 • Fax: 564-3135  
Specialty: Internal Medicine

**Thomas F. Ceello, M.D.**  
**Internal Medicine Consultants**  
1777 Fifth Avenue  
York, PA 17403  
843-8051 • Fax: 848-2578  
Specialty: Internal Medicine

**Charles U. Gbadouwey, M.D.**  
**Lung, Asthma and Sleep Associates, P.C.**  
1497 S. Queen Street  
York, PA 17403  
848-9888 • Fax: 848-9686  
Specialty: Pulmonary Medicine

**Kamran Majid, M.D.**  
**Orthopaedic and Spine Specialists, P.C.**  
1855 Powder Mill Road  
York, PA 17402  
848-4800 • Fax: 741-9867  
Specialty: Orthopedic Surgery

**Vatsala D. Parchuri, M.D.**  
**Internal Medicine Consultants**  
1777 Fifth Avenue  
York, PA 17403  
843-8051 • Fax: 848-2578  
Specialty: Internal Medicine

## Paragon Webstation Training

Memorial Hospital is offering Paragon computer training for physicians and physician office staff. Paragon is Memorial Hospital's computer system used to manage patient information.

The training is great for individuals who need a refresher course, are experiencing trouble accessing information or have specific questions that need to be addressed.

Training will be held at Memorial Hospital on the following dates:

- Wednesday, February 25 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 10 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 25 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Attendees are encouraged to bring questions and specific examples. For more information or to register for the training, please call 849-5365.

## Physician News

Memorial Hospital Orthopedic Surgery Resident, **Paul Muccino, D.O.**, received a Scientific Paper Award by the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics. His winning paper is titled, "Fixation of Intertrochanteric Fractures of the Femur: A comparison of the Gamma Nail and the Dynamic Hip Screw."

**Dr. Dean Nachtigall**, Orthopedic Surgery Institute, is currently serving a one-year term as president of the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics.

## Changes to the Advance Beneficiary Notice

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has revised the Advance Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage (ABN) by combining the general ABN and Laboratory ABN into one single document. Memorial Hospital's Laboratory implemented the new version in December.

The primary difference between the old version and the revised ABN is the addition of a new option. An individual may now choose to have the laboratory test performed, and pay for it out-of-pocket, rather than have the claim submitted to Medicare.

If you have any questions about the revised ABN, please contact Brenda Gates, Memorial Hospital Laboratory, at 849-5371.

## Medical Staff Information Changes

**Fouad M. Abbas, M.D.**  
Voluntary Resignation

**Nikhilesh N. Agarwal, M.D.**  
Voluntary Resignation

**Roland H. Allard, D.O.**  
From Honorary to Active Staff

**T. Glen Boudier, M.D.**  
Voluntary Resignation

**Mark P. Doran, D.O.**  
Voluntary Resignation

**Garth M. Good, M.D.**  
From Consulting to Courtesy Staff

**Bonny L. Lightner, D.O.**  
From Active to Courtesy Staff

**Anthony A. Minissale, D.O.**  
From Active to Honorary Staff

**Kathryn A. Nicholson, M.D.**  
Voluntary Resignation

**Ravichandran Suppiah, M.D.**  
Voluntary Resignation

**Brent E. Yoder, M.D.**  
From Consulting to Courtesy Staff

**Peter K. Zucker, M.D.**  
Voluntary Resignation

**New Address**  
**Lung, Sleep and Critical Care Consultants, P.C.**  
recently moved to a new location:  
2350 Freedom Way,  
Suite 200  
York, PA 17402  
851-2465  
Fax: 741-3043