MMC Receives Award from The American Heart Association

Maine Medical Center has received the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines®-AFIB Gold Quality Achievement Award, the highest level possible for high quality management of atrial fibrillation in patients.

To receive a Get With The Guidelines®-AFIB Gold Quality Achievement Award, hospitals must show that they meet AHA criteria for treating the kind of irregular heartbeat known as atrial fibrillation for at least 24 consecutive months. These include providing appropriate medications and aggressive risk reduction therapies as a way of preventing stroke, stabilizing the heart rate and rhythm and treating additional heart disease. Before discharge, patients should also receive education and counseling on managing their condition and plans on follow-up care.

“This is a great recognition for Maine Medical Center’s cardiovascular providers and staff,” said Andrew Corsello, MD, Medical Director of Electrophysiology at MMC. “The MMC Cardiovascular Institute is dedicated to improving the quality of care for our patients with atrial fibrillation by implementing the AFIB initiative.”

“We are pleased to recognize Maine Medical Center for their commitment to atrial fibrillation care,” said Eric E. Smith, MD, national chairman of the Get With The Guidelines Steering Committee and an associate professor of neurology at the University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada. “Research has shown that hospitals adhering to clinical measures through the Get With The Guidelines quality improvement initiative can often see fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates.”

OUR Place Announces the Winner of Where in the World

Congratulations to Employee Health’s Jennifer Mercier, the winner of the 2018 Where in the World photo contest!

Mercier submitted a photo of herself wearing her OUR Place T-shirt at Angel’s Landing in the Grand Canyon in Arizona. She’s pictured with her son.

We are appreciative of all colleagues who submitted photos for the Where in the World contest, and of the 481 of you who voted!

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the 2018 Employee Giving program so far. There’s still time to make a donation! OUR Place ends on Friday, June 8 and gifts can be made through: fundraising.mmc.org/OURPlace

Our generosity and dedication make MMC a great place to work and a wonderful place for our patients and their families. Remember, MMC colleagues – keep taking pictures in your 2018 OUR Place T-shirts for next year’s Where in the World photo contest.

This photo of Jennifer Mercier and her son in the Grand Canyon received 193 out of the 481 votes cast in this year’s Where in the World photo contest.
Tamas Peredy, MD, FACEP, FACMT, has joined Maine Medical Center - Department of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Peredy is returning to MMC from Tampa General Hospital and was the medical director at Florida Poison Information Center. Dr. Peredy is currently President of Medical Toxicology of Maine. Dr. Peredy received his medical degree from University of Vermont College of Medicine. He completed his residency and fellowship in medical toxicology at University of Connecticut. In his spare time, Dr. Peredy enjoys group road bike rides and Cajun cuisine.

Irina Domantovsky, MD, of Bangor Plastic & Hand Surgery was newly appointed to the Maine Medical Center Medical Staff. Dr. Domantovsky received her medical degree from the State University of New York Upstate Medical Center and will provide plastic surgery care.

U.S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that nearly 5.7 million Americans suffer from chronic wounds. If a wound has not improved significantly in four weeks or if it has not completed the healing process in eight weeks, it should be considered a chronic wound.

Here are five reasons why many wounds don’t heal.

1. Poor Nutrition. Did you know that when the body is working to heal a wound, it takes up to three times the normal daily requirement of protein? Patients with chronic wounds need to pay special attention to their diets.

2. Infection. Infections can all but halt the wound healing process. That’s one of many reasons they need to be taken care of right away.

3. Inadequate Circulation. Blood brings healing cells to the site of the wound. If your circulation is poor, that process doesn’t work as well.

4. Excessive Edema. Edema, or swelling, occurs when fluid leaks from blood vessels and accumulates in nearby tissue. Swelling impairs the body’s ability to heal by restricting oxygen to skin that is required for normal healing.

5. Pressure. People who are on bed rest for a long period of time need to be moved regularly to heal and prevent pressure sores. The same goes for those who have spinal cord injuries or who are paralyzed in their lower body.

Patients who have diabetes, arterial disease or chronic edema of the lower extremities, a history of collagen vascular disease such as scleroderma or rheumatoid arthritis or wounds related to radiation injury should seek early referral to Maine Medical Center’s Wound Healing & Hyperbarics Program.

The phone number is 662-HEAL (4325).

June Is Wound Healing Awareness Month: Five Reasons Wounds Don’t Heal