

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

A newsletter for the Maine Medical Center family

## Adult Inpatient Medicine Celebrates CLABSI Reduction

The four Adult Inpatient Medicine units, P3, R2, R4, and R5 are proud to achieve a significant milestone for Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infection (CLABSI) reduction in 2015 with only one occurrence of a central line infection in the 12-month period across all four of these units.

In addition to house-wide strategies to reduce infec-

tion, including daily chlorhexidine bathing, removing central lines no longer in use, and initiating a Vascular Access Team, the units consistently practiced safety rounds.

“Over the past year, all of the AIM floors including R2, P3CD, R4, and R5 have had almost daily patient safety rounds focusing on indications, daily necessity, and maintenance processes

for central lines and Foley catheters,” says Joel Botler, M.D., Physician Leader, Adult Medicine Service Line. “The attention to detail in all of these areas by nursing, P.A.s, N.P.s, and physicians has been one of the factors leading to a dramatic reduction of infections in this patient population.”

Brandi Gordon, R.N., Clinical Nurse Leader on R5,

says, her unit initiated other procedures to help prevent CLABSI, including:

- Discussing which patients have central lines every day at Interdisciplinary Care Rounds, and ensuring proper orders are entered.
- Triaging central line

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## Lighting Up The Holidays at MMC

Rich Petersen, MMC President and CEO (at right), flipped the switch to turn on the Christmas tree outside Bramhall's Main Entrance Thursday, December 3. The tree lighting was part of an annual celebration hosted by the Friends of Maine Medical Center. The Friends held raffles, gave out free popcorn and drinks, and live carols were sung by a local church.

The Friends also sold laminated “bulbs” to decorate the tree. People wrote the name of a loved one they were honoring on each bulb, and the bulbs were hung on the tree. Proceeds from the event support educational scholarships.



## *“Adult Inpatient Medicine” from front*

issues among R5 leadership, the bedside R.N., and medical team, if needed.

These improvements are also good for morale, which results in better patient care.

“Employees are so excited to see that their diligence

and dedication has paid off in keeping our patients safe,” says Marilyn R. Flanners R.N., BSN, Nursing Director, R5 and Dialysis. “They come to work each day wanting to provide the highest quality of care possible and know that when we’ve gone more than a year without an infection, despite the number of lines we’ve had, that they’ve done just that.”

Gordon says they are able to keep infection prevention top of mind for staff by talking about it every day in multiple venues. “Strong physician presence and engagement is key for the success, and our physician lead has really collaborated with the nephrology department for their line orders,” she says.

Most importantly, patients

are happy because their lines are well cared for, they are not spending longer stays at the hospital for infected lines, and they are better educated about their own care because of staff and the vascular access team.

Let us know what your unit is doing to reduce infection. Send your story to *What’s Happening*.

## **MMP Awarded Patient Centered Medical Home Recognition**

All 15 Maine Medical Partners primary care sites have been awarded NCQA Level 3 Patient Centered Medical Home recognition.

Level 3 recognition is the

“gold” standard for delivery of high-quality care and service and is only awarded to the highest scoring and most comprehensive medical homes. The real value is in what the designation

means to patients. Those receiving care from a recognized Patient Centered Medical Home get comprehensive, well-coordinated care; ease in making appointments; and short wait

times to see a physician. The tremendous work and effort of our providers, employees, population health, quality, informatics, and management team is greatly appreciated.

## **MMC Partners With Children’s Museum for Interactive Display**

The Children’s Museum & Theatre of Maine has opened a new health exhibit sponsored by BBCH. The **Be Well Center** features a child-friendly exam room and “ambulance” filled with stuffed teddy bears, which serve as surrogate patients. Visitors are invited to role play as health care providers using scales, stethoscopes, and digital patient charts.

*Pictured: Dr. Lorraine McElwain, M.D., Associate Chief of Pediatrics (right), shows kids how to do an exam.*



  
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MaineHealth

WHAT’S HAPPENING IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE  
COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT

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