# What's Happening

at Maine Medical Center







June 2011 | VOLUME 45, NUMBER 6

## Shhh...Silent Hospitals Help Healing

One of the many quality improvement projects taking place at the hospital focuses on the patients' experience with the quietness of their environment. Our primary goal is to provide a more restful healing environment. Our secondary goal is for patients to report on their Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey that they "always" experienced a quiet room during their stay.

All MMC employees and visitors can help make a difference. During quiet time, we ask you to:

- Speak quietly
- Turn phone and pagers to silent or vibrate
- Limit foot traffic through clinical areas
- Use ground floor elevators to avoid going through patient care areas to reach your destination
- Dim lights on units and in patient rooms
- Offer earphones for viewing TV or portable devices
- Offer earplugs
- Advocate for a quiet environment in patients' rooms
- Tell patients, families, and visitors you will be advocating for reducing noise in their room.

Be mindful of everyday actions you do that generate noise in patient areas and rooms, and report to management noisy equipment and/or systems for review or repair.

# Silent Hospitals Help Healing Hospital Quiet Time

Research proves rest contributes to faster recovery and healing. We all have a responsibility to provide our patients a quiet healing environment.

8 PM - 6 AM

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# President's Message



# Honor Night a Time to Recognize Contributions, Look Ahead

I've been focused lately on efforts to move MMC from a very good organization to a great one. The medical center has a long, impressive history of being the premier care provider in the region,

but the landscape of health care is changing. More is being asked of us by patients, as well as by regulators. And our competition is running harder and faster than ever before. We need to keep pace by achieving high standards consistently, and also want to set ourselves ahead as leaders.

Becoming a great organization doesn't happen overnight, and it's not something that every organization can pull off.

So why am I certain that MMC can become great? Anyone who was at Honor Night knows the answer. This year, 966 employees celebrated milestone anniversaries (5 years, 10, 15, etc.) and have worked a combined 12,930 years. Eighteen of this year's honorees have worked here 40 or more years. Wow.

Throughout its history, MMC has been a leader, and credit goes to our people, past and present, who've always carried a singular focus on providing the best patient care possible.

Look around the medical center at the efforts underway to enhance our care. Our hand hygiene campaign brought a dramatic increase in hand cleaning, the single best way to prevent the spread of germs. The Patient Experience Team is hard at work addressing ways to create a quiet environment that helps patients sleep — and promotes healing — while also striving to improve communication between staff and patients, particularly about medications. Our Chief of Surgery, Dr. Brad Cushing, is leading an institution-wide effort to reduce surgery-related infections. And these are just the beginning of a very long list.

I've said many times that a hospital can have the latest technology, treatments, and surgical procedures, but it's the people who make it truly great.

Patients and families often tell me about the wonderful care they receive at Maine Medical Center, and the comfort they find coming here, knowing they'll be treated by the best and most caring group of people in health care.

While I don't know what the future of health care holds, I know that with all of you on our team, Maine Medical Center will become great.

Respectfully,



Richard W. Petersen President and Chief Executive Officer

WHAT'S HAPPENING

# Getting to know . . .

### Martine Eon



#### Position:

Respiratory Therapist

### Years at MMC:

26 years

What does your job entail? I wear two hats: Interim Supervisor at the Maine Sleep Institute (MSI) and a Clinical Specialist for Lung Health at MaineHealth (MH). MSI is an eight-bed sleep lab, and the only one north of Boston that diagnoses and treats young children. At MH, I educate providers about the importance of spirometry (measuring lung function) in diagnosing and managing Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

## What people may not know is that:

I'm the first and only woman fire commissioner in my community. My health care and neonatal, pediatric, and adult transport experience guides my contribution as commissioner since our EMS service plays such a vital role in our fire department.

# If I could have lunch with anyone, it would be:

This was the most difficult question to answer. My short list was Marie Curie, Benazir Bhutto, my dad, and Paul Cox Jr., MD. Dr. Cox was an advocate and mentor for my profession. An opportunity to share his wisdom, compassion, and insight and the way he stroked his beard as he pondered his answers would be worth the sadness of saying good-bye again.

# I love working at MMC because:

I learn new things everyday at MMC and MaineHealth and know I make a difference. It's an environment dedicated to education, research, and delivering the highest quality care to our community. I'm proud to be a part of the MaineHealth family!

## MMCRI Researchers Receive Funding

The Maine Cancer Foundation (MCF) awarded grants totaling \$417,229 to five researchers at MMC's Research Institute. This funding focuses on cancer research, with emphasis on leukemia, breast, and prostate cancers:

Amy Haskins, PhD, received \$71,029 to continue work refining and validating a model that predicts problems encountered by prostate cancer patients after treatment.

Lucy Liaw, PhD, received \$94,184 for research into a tumor suppressor in breast cancer, the patterns of tumors as compared to healthy cells, and how signaling pathways may suppress breast cancer.

Igor Prudovsky, PhD, received \$86,977 to examine blood vessels that feed solid tumors, and if suppressing the proteins secreted by these vessels can inhibit the growth of tumors.

Pradeep Sathyanarayana,
PhD, received a \$92,000 grant
to define the role of certain
biomarkers in acute myeloid
leukemia (AML) and how they
may promote migration and
invasion of leukemic cells in AML.

Doug Spicer, PhD, received \$73,039 for research to identify mechanisms regulating tumor development and progression, and to develop therapeutic approaches to target these mechanisms to combat these processes.

## Around the Medical Center

#### MMC Has Heart

More than 150 staff, family, and friends participated in this year's American Heart Association Heart Walk. Twenty-four teams from MMC raised \$21,187, placing us second among organizations in southern Maine.

## Nursing Excellence Awards - 2011

Congratulations to this year's recipients:

Nursing Excellence: Susan Buthlay, RN, Labor/Delivery; Alleen Eastwood, RN, R7; Susan Harper, RN, Care Coordination; Julie Hill, RN, CTICU; Vicky Hunt, RN, P3CD; Deborah Jackson, RN, SCU; Sarah Lavoie, RN, P3CD; Marilyn Otis, RN, R5

Nurses as Teachers: Debbie Martin, RN, Float Pool; Kirsten Scribner, RN, CTICU

Laura Vogel Humanitarian Award: Marieta Atienza, RN, R3

Team Award: Emergency Department

Nursing Research Awards: Susan Brown, RN, CICU; Christine Lord, RN, CICU; Richard Riker, MD,

Critical Care; David Seder, MD, Chest Medicine; Shawn Taylor, RN, SCU

Research Mentor: Kelly Lancaster, RN, SSC

## DEPARTMENT PROFILE

#### AIM's Care Reaches Far and Wide

When patients come to Maine Medical Center it's likely that at some point during their visit they'll come in contact with a member of the Adult Inpatient Medicine (AIM) team.

AIM provides care for patients of our Hospitalists, Family Medicine, and Internal Medicine resident teaching services. Another important piece of AIM is comprised of the physician assistants and nurse practitioners who work with primary care physicians and hospitalists. Each day, approximately 20 percent of MMC's non-surgical patients — about 100 people — come under the care of our AIM team.

AIM brings together people from many disciplines, including Nursing, Care Coordination, Pharmacy, Spiritual Care, and Therapy, who all make valuable contributions to our patients.

AIM is most recognized on its three principal units, P3CD, R2, and R4, but the program also regularly cares for patients in many other units of the hospital, including R5, R6, R7 and Gibson. (Our AIM staff is larger than many hospitals in the state), and members of the AIM team regularly interact with staff in Cardiac Services, Emergency Department, OB/GYN, Radiology, and Surgery.

"Our patients come from our primary care community, referrals from other hospitals in the MaineHealth system, and of course the summer and fall tourists, so our team touches a lot of patients and departments," says Joel Botler, MD, AIM's Medical Director. "On any given day, we could be caring for patients suffering from cardiac issues, stroke, lung disease, pneumonia, cancer, dementia, as well as a host of other illnesses."

Geriatric Medicine, which strives to improve the health, wellness, and quality of care for Maine's older adults, is integrated with all of the AIM services.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



#### MMC Adopts New Method to Safely Dispose of Pharm Waste

Maine Medical Center has implemented a safer and more secure way to dispose of pharmaceutical waste. Medication is placed in a black container, as demonstrated in the photo by R1's Nina Swan. A substance is added to solidify the contents, making all medication inside unrecoverable. The container is then removed by a vendor that specializes in environmental waste disposal. A second, larger canister is used to dispose of solid waste, such as IV bags and tubes.

### MMC Lends a Hand at Health Fair

The Maine Medical Center Cancer Institute and Maine Heart Center provided free screenings at the sixth annual Multicultural Exercise for Health and Love, a health fair that focused on health screenings and referrals for racial and ethnic minority communities in Greater Portland. The event, held in May, was organized by the Minority Health Program of the City of Portland's Health and Human Services Department, Public Health Division in partnership with Maine Medical Center and Mercy Hospital. Cancer Institute staff provided free head and neck cancer screenings, while the Maine Heart Center offered cardiovascular health screenings.

## IS Contact Center Launches New Portal

The Contact Center created a new website designed to help you with common PC/phone support tasks. The link is located in the lower left on our Intranet homepage. Or you can type selfservice in the address bar in your browser.

# Honor Night 2011

Honor Night recognizes staff who celebrated milestone anniversaries, and this year's list was especially impressive, as nearly 1,000 employees celebrated milestone anniversaries.

"Honor Night demonstrates what makes Maine Medical Center special", MMC President and CEO Rich Petersen told the gathering. "I look around the audience and see the faces of the hospital. You reassure patients, comfort families, and work behind the scenes to keep the hospital operating smoothly."

Congratulations to all who celebrated anniversaries this year.



After the ceremony, staff and family stayed for a night of music and dancing.

## TAKE THE CODE QUIZ

### CODE

## **DESCRIPTION**

RED

**BLUE** 

**WHITE** 

**PINK** 

**PURPLE** 

**YELLOW** 

**GRAY** 

**SILVER** 

**ORANGE** 

GREEN

TRIAGE

1. Patient elopement

2. Bomb threat

3. Behavioral emergency

4. Active violence; weapon/hostage

5. Rapid Response Team

6. Hazardous material spill/release

7. Child abduction

8. Possibility of disaster situation

Fire in the area of sounding alarm.Follow RACE procedure

10. Infant Abduction

11. Medical Emergency

How did you do? Answers on page 10.

# Doctor's Volunteer Work Featured in Surgeon's Publication

Samuel Broaddus, MD, FACS, MMC Trustee, and urologist with Maine Medical Partners Urology—shared his experience providing volunteer medical care to the people of Haiti in the May edition of *The Bulletin*, a publication by the American College of Surgeons. Since his first visit in 1994, Dr. Broaddus has become inextricably linked with Haiti, visiting regularly and providing volunteer surgical care and training through the organization, Konbit Sante. Through Konbit Sante, Dr. Broaddus and others are working to help Haitian colleagues build and strengthen the public health system specifically in and around Cap-Haitien. He and others have also arranged opportunities for physicians from Haiti to come to Maine, specifically MMC, and to sharpen their surgical training skills.





# Publication Recognizes MMC Hip Surgeon

Brian McGrory, MD, has been named as one of 70 Outstanding Hip Surgeons and Specialists by Becker's Orthopedic, Spine & Pain Management Review (May 2011), which serves to recognize the research and academic accomplishments of medical experts nationwide. Dr. McGrory was recognized for his leadership at the MMC Joint Replacement Center and national organizations, as well as for his role as the lead investigator in the research of hip replacement materials.

## Alzheimer's Association Honors Maine Med Doctor, Geriatric Program

**Joel Botler**, **MD**, and the Geriatrics Center at Maine Medical Center were honored with the Maine Alzheimer's Champion Award, presented by the Maine Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

The award, given by 2010 Maine Alzheimer's Champion Katherine Pope, MD, is presented to an individual or group whose work or activity benefits those living with dementia.

Dr. Botler is the Medical Director of Adult Inpatient Medicine at Maine Medical Center. The award was presented at the Alzheimer Association's annual Champions Breakfast.

"Caring for patients with dementia presents a unique challenge," says Sarah Stepp, Director of Development for the Alzheimer's Association, Maine Chapter. "In addition to the wonderful clinical care they provide, Dr. Botler and his Geriatric team offer compassion and support for both patients and their families."



## Our Quality Commitment

Maine Medical Center is committed to providing information about our quality and safety record that is clear and understandable. We believe that reporting this information supports our mission to deliver the most effective and safest care to our patients and community. Soon, every patient care unit at MMC will have its own Quality Board, where patients, families, and staff can review certain quality measures at any time. These boards can also be found in public areas at MMC.

We will report MMC-wide measures in each issue of What's Happening, as shown below. Watch for updates every month, and let us know how we can improve the information provided; write to Judy Lucas, Interim Director of Center for Performance Improvement, lucasj1@mmc.org.

#### Patient Experience: What are patients saying about us?

Measures for March 2011	MMC Rate	MMC Target	US Average
Communication with doctors	81%	85%	80%
Communication with nurses	74%	83%	76%
Responsiveness of staff	61%	70%	60%
Communication about medicines	60%	67%	60%
Quietness	45%	57%	58%
Care transitions	64%	65%	65%

#### Patient Care: How often do we deliver recommended care?

Measure for March 2011	MMC Rate	MMC Target	US Average
Heart attack	95%	98%	95%
Measures for April 2011			
Heart failure	96%	95%	88%
Pneumonia	98%	98%	86%
Surgical care	99%	95%	84%

# Readmission Rates: How often do our adult patients come back to the hospital within 30 days of their discharge?

Measure for March, 2011			
Readmitted within 30 days:	181	Readmission rate:	12%

#### Smart Pump: How often do we use the safety features?

Measure for May 29, 2011			
MMC	77%	Target:	75%

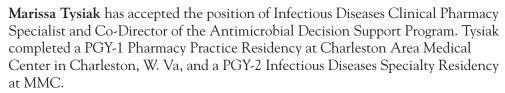
For further information, visit the Balanced Scorecard on MMC's intranet.

## People

Eric Field, Ian Geib, and Robert Smart obtained certification with International Association of Health Care Security and Safety (IAHSS), a professional organization comprised of security, law enforcement, and safety professionals dedicated to the protection of health care facilities worldwide.



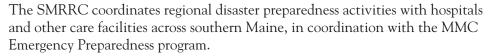
Marissa Tysiak



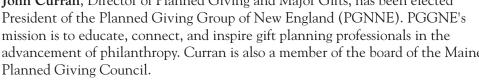
Judy Lucas has been named Interim Director of Performance Improvement. Lucas currently serves as the Chair of our Safe Patient and Family Centered Care Advisory Council and as well as a patient/family advisor to the Board Performance Improvement Committee and Quality Council. She is also a long-term hospital volunteer, serving at our front desk and in our Ambassador program in the Emergency Department and The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital.

Rocket Wong has assumed the role of Interim Data Analysis Manager in CPI. Wong has been with MMC eight years as a Senior Systems Analyst, and played a significant role in the developing our SAS tools, dashboards, and scorecards.

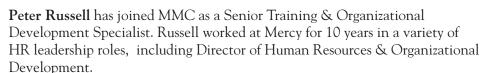
Paul Weiss has accepted the position of Director of the Southern Maine Regional Resource Center (SMRRC). Weiss had served in the interim SMRRC Director role since October.



John Curran, Director of Planned Giving and Major Gifts, has been elected advancement of philanthropy. Curran is also a member of the board of the Maine



R9's Cecilia Inman was selected as one of eight participants by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to write questions for future Cardiovascular certification exams.



Kathleen Berube, Director of Volunteer Services, received the President's Award from the New England Association of Directors of HealthCare Volunteer Services (NEADHVS). The award is given to "recognize colleagues as innovative administrators, effective collaborators and for their ability to create 'high impact' volunteer programs."



Rocket Wong



Cecilia Inman

Note: People will be moving to eNews and the MMC intranet, beginning in July. Look for regular updates about MMC staff. Submit items for People to: MMCnews@mmc.org.

#### Answers to the Code Quiz

Red - 9; Blue - 11; White - 5; Pink - 10; Purple - 7; Yellow - 2; Gray - 3; Silver - 4; Orange - 6; Green - 1; Triage - 8

### June Anniversaries



Rosalie Blenkhorn, 35 Years



Jackie Campbell, 25 Years



Rachel Girard, 25 Years

#### 35 Years

Janet Beecher, Clinic - Employee Health Rosalie Blenkhorn, Dialysis Rita Dorazio, Outpatient Registration Anh Nguyen, R3

#### 30 Years

Joanne Burgess, Cardiac Services Debra Oliver, Information Services Brenda Quatrano, Nutrition Services Philip Scavotto, SCU Cheryll St. Onge, Anesthesia & Pain Management

#### 25 Years

Jacqueline Campbell, SCU
Joseph Dalton, Cardiothoracic ICU
Sharon Ferrante, Distribution
Rachel Girard, Diabetes Nursing
Sarah Gowell, R9
Susan Guertin, Pediatrics
Cynthia Jesseman, NICU
Dorothy McLaughlin, NICU
Kelly Patchell, Post Anesthesia Care
Susan Skowronski, ACCU
Bridget Weisser, R5

#### 20 Years

John Hubbard Jr, Outpatient Registration Paula Keogh, Radiation Therapy Carolyn Lancia, Poison Control Nicholas Liberatore,

Environmental Services Ann-Marie Neal, R3 Richard O'Toole, Psychiatry Amy Robinson, Brighton FirstCare Jennifer Roy, SCU Janet Springborn, Gibson Pavilion Cynthia Tack, Social Work Noreen Vincent, R3

#### 15 Years

Nora-Lee Bishop, Heart Cath Lab Denise Chadbourne, Radiology Michelle Flanders, Diagnostic Kyle Reed, Pulmonary Medicine Alison Samitt, Family Medicine Lori Walker, ASU Elizabeth Whitney, Cardiology

#### 10 Years

Dyan Albano,
Medical and Academic Affair
Angela Bagley, Information Services
Carol Barre, R1
Peter Bates, Medical Affairs
Erich Bohrmann, Psychiatry
Tanya Cadger, Radiology
Susan Connolly, SSU
Benjamin Cowan, Hospitalists
Melissa Daigle, Nutrition Services
Lisa Donahue,

Clinic - Adult Medicine Deanna DuBail, Nutrition Services Tricia Foley, Center for Clinical & Professional Development

Professional Development John Gladu Jr, Birth Center Deborah Gregoire,

Post Anesthesia Care Patricia Gullick, Radiology Kate Herrick, Care Partners Christine Irish,

Emergency Department Diane Kandilakis,

Audit & Compliance Gloria Ledoux, NICU Lorianne Libby, Clinic Richard Marino Jr, Family Medicine Gina Marquis, Patient Services Jacqueline Martin, Gibson Pavilion Jill Mazer, R1 Wayne Miller, Security John Misiewicz,

Health Information Management
Julianne Ontengco, Surgery
Denise Owens, SCU
Charles Papa, Environmental Services
Eileen Poulin, Physicians
Edmund Presby III, Heart Cath Lab
Maria Reinhard, Pediatrics
Laura Schwindt, Physician
Dwayne Simpson,
Information Services
Marianne Turner, Care Coordination
Emily Walters, Kids CO-OP

Oscar Wangabo,
Environmental Services
Steven Woodward,
Information Services
Encarnacion Young, CICU
Mariya Yurkevich, Nutrition Services

#### 5 Years

Amanda Barbee, R9 Katelyn Beeley, R5 Sophie Belanger, P3CD Georgia Bell, Endoscopy Donald Breton, Distribution Maya Bulman, Psychiatry Loretta Burley, Switchboard Melissa Cashman, MRI Jennifer Cleasby, Family Center Danielle Coon, Pediatrics Susan Copeland, Financial Services Stacy Davis, Vocational Services Jaime Devin, Nutrition Services Diana Dorval, R9 Jennifer Duprey, Housestaff Elizabeth Eisenhardt, Internal Medicine Ashlev Eldridge, SCU Kami Farnum, P6 Lurene Forbes, Radiology Sandra Fritsch, Psychiatry Daphrose Gatete, Environmental Services

Jason Gaudet, Radiology
Joyce Johnson, Radiology
Bonnie Jones, SCU
Elizabeth Kasny, R4
Anne Kieryn, Housestaff
Scott King, Housestaff
Kathryn Klima, Housestaff
Traci Kruse, Housestaff
Urszula Kwiatkowski, Dialysis
James Little, Emergency Department
Lindsey Lucas, NICU
Amy MacQueen, Sports Medicine
Douglas MacQueen, Housestaff
Casey MacVane,

Emergency Department Mia Marietta, Housestaff Donna Masi, P3CD Heather Mateja, SCU Erin Maynard, Housestaff Jamie McNeil, Heart Cath Lab Kayla Methot, Family Center Gregory Morin, Psychiatry Logan Murray, Pediatrics Hospitalists Stephanie Nichols, Pharmacy Boriana Petkov, Housestaff Shaun Samuelson, Housestaff Amanda Savage, Cardiothoracic ICU Nebojsa Simatovic, R7 Katherine St Onge, Pediatrics Corina Tanguay, Physical Therapy Jessica Timberlake, P3CD Abigail Turay, Emergency Department Sarah Ward, Gibson Pavilion Jennifer Whitling, Gibson Pavilion Susan Wilson, Pediatrics

# Save \$\$ With WOW! Rewards

Want to save \$338? It's easy with WOW! Rewards, the voluntary incentive program for employees enrolled in the MaineHealth health plan. By completing two simple steps, you can receive up to \$338 towards your health premiums in 2012.

The plan rewards those who lead healthy lives and provides an incentive for others to make positive changes in their health. This year, you can earn rewards based on health factors, such as blood pressure, cholesterol, weight, and being tobacco-free.

If you're enrolled in the health plan, you can take advantage of WOW! Rewards:

- Go to a NorDx lab to complete a free screening (requires 8-12 hours of fasting)
  - The NorDx Lab at 22
     Bramhall offers employee only hours Monday Friday
     mornings, 6 10:00 a.m.
- Other NorDx locations are available
- 2. Complete a HealthQuotient Risk Assessment by September 30, by logging into www.webmdhealth.com/ mainehealthwow. You'll need to re-register.

Want to learn more? Visit www. mainehealth.org/wowrewards.

# Looking Back . . .

## Nothing to be Afraid Of



Photo courtesy Maine Medical Center Archives

In 1953, a series of photos, including this one, depicted a child's hospital visit. Entitled "Dougie Goes to the Hospital," the pictured were designed to allay the fears of hospitalization.

The photos, displayed in the main lobby, showed Dougie packing his bag, meeting student nurse Dottie Breton, watching his mother leaving, and finally explaining to his "ailing" teddy bear that going to the hospital isn't so scary.

The caption that accompanied this photo read: "This isn't so bad after all, friends to play with and a nice nurse to take care of me."



centered around you

22 Bramhall Street Portland, ME 04102-3175 What's Happening is published monthly at Maine Medical Center for members of the hospital community and for friends of the institution throughout Maine and northern New England.

Comments, questions and suggestions may be addressed to Communications & Marketing. (207) 662-2196 Editor: John Lamb