

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

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Breathing depends on Respiratory Therapy

You may find respiratory therapists in the Special Care Unit, the Emergency Department, the Pediatric Unit, or any number of other places in Maine Medical Center. Depending on the circumstances, they provide testing, therapy, or medication administration, and may be involved in acute or chronic care. But wherever they are or whatever they're doing, they have a single goal: helping people breathe.

Respiratory Therapists are the majority of the 90 professionals in MMC's Pulmonary Medicine Division. They provide care throughout the hospital for patients with heart and lung disorders. Types of care include oxygen therapy, chronic mechanical ventilatory support, blood and respiratory secretion sampling and analysis, pulmonary function testing, airway establishment and maintenance, and delivery of aerosolized medications.

About 80% of the patients seen by respiratory therapists are in critical care settings, according to George Ellis, Administrative Director of Pulmonary Medicine. Most of the unstable, critically ill



IN MMC'S NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE CENTER, Respiratory Therapists Laurie Bryan, RRT, and Rolayne Estes, RRT, monitor heart and lung function. (A/V Photo)

Chemistry Laboratory is vital to care

(Part Two of a two-part article on MMC's Chemistry Lab, part of a continuing series on the Laboratories.)

Clinical microscopy is the fourth section of Chemistry. The techs in this area specialize in testing urine, stool and semen samples, performing many diverse tests. Analysis of a urine sample can show the presence of infection or diabetes. Sperm counts can be done on semen samples to determine fertility problems. Slides are prepared from stool specimens to search for parasites in the digestive tract. Pregnancy tests are run on both serum and urine samples.

Overseeing the diversity of instrumentation, testing, and technical personnel in the Chemistry are Clark Rundell, Ph.D.,

Director of Chemistry; and Pat Niboli, Chief Medical Technologist. Both are highly visible and actively involved in troubleshooting, problem solving, and decision making to keep the lab running as efficiently as possible. They receive support in this endeavor from a team including assistant supervisors, senior technologists, medical technologists, and two full time lab assistant clerks.

The laboratory is a dynamic, changing area and 1987 has been proof of that, with many changes having taken place. Each morning techs from chemistry go to various units in the hospital or to the outpatient phlebotomy area to collect blood before beginning their work in Chemistry. This gives medical techs an opportunity for increased patient contact.

Another major change in the lab in 1987 was the addition of the ILS-5 com-

National Respiratory Care Week October 4-11

patients in the emergency room or intensive care unit require care by a respiratory therapist. They may have suffered heart attacks, drug overdoses, severe trauma, or other illness or injury, and breathing is of paramount importance in their treatment.

In the intensive care units, the respiratory therapist is responsible for monitoring blood gas levels and administering mechanical ventilation. Their patients

New Employees

NURSING: Carolyn Armstrong, Katherine Evans, Niki Piche, Anne-Marie Watson, Celia Woodcock.

PHLEBOTOMY: Russell Sellner, Crisitina Vela.

ULTRASOUND: Peter Bannerman.

CARDIOGRAPHY: Karen Batura.

HEMATOLOGY: Patricia Bright.

PHARMACY: Deidre Hemphill.

LAUNDRY: Francis Warner.

HOUSEKEEPING: Albert Gribenas.

PATIENT ACCOUNTS: Barbara Brackley.

EMERGENCY: Susan Creswell.

PERSONNEL: Kristina Kenney.

MEDICAL RECORDS: Catherine Miller.

HOME CARE: Eileen Rubin.

OUTSIDE SERVICES: John Miller.



Carol Bocker RN, Nursing Education Outreach Staff (right) and Becky Howland RN, Perinatal Nurse Educator (left) recently attended the 4th National Outreach Education Conference in Chicago, where they made this poster presentation entitled "The Interface Between a Grant Funded and a Fee-for Service Perinatal Provider Program". (A/V Photo)

More Marketplace

FOR SALE: 1979 Chevy Monza. For more information call 854-9994 after 4 PM.

FOR SALE: Drum with case and stand, and flute. Both in excellent condition. Call 839-3946 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: 8' overstuffed couch and matching chair. Harvest print, excellent condition. \$500. Call 772-9008.

FOR SALE: 1984 Chevy Cavalier, 4 DR, standard. Dependable, 30,00 miles, \$3,300. Call 773-5837 after 6 PM.

WANTED: Ride from Sebago/Gorham area to MMC, Monday-Friday, 8 AM-4:30 PM. Call 642-3210, or x2336.

WANTED: Professional mother of 2 would like to babysit your toddlers in my Oakhill, Route One area home in Scarborough. Lovely neighborhood and nice yard. Lots of TLC. Full-time or part-time, excellent references. Call 883-2430.

WANTED: Portland Residents: hire Portland youth for odd jobs, such as raking leaves, washing cars, doing errands, washing windows, cleaning house, splitting and stacking wood and soon shoveling snow. Put kids and jobs together. Call Youth Opportunities 775-6313.

WANTED: Houses to clean, anywhere. Days only, by the hour. Call 829-3087.

WANTED: Upholstery to do. Free estimates. 20% discount to MMC employees. Refinishing and restyling also done. Call 773-8251.



The Maine Medical Center School of Surgical Technology graduated its 32nd class, September 10. The graduates are, front row, from left: Nancy Ancil, Rhonda Farrington, Lisa Barton, Melissa Bissonette, Lisa Stevens, Amy Bedard, Lewis Thibault, Sheryl Allen, and Laurie Bouchard. (A/V Photo)

RT, from page one —
may include premature infants, children with lung diseases like asthma, adults with bronchitis and emphysema, post-surgery patients, trauma patients, and cardiac patients.

Respiratory Therapists also perform diagnostic testing. Laboratory testing determines the extent and nature of lung diseases, and blood sampling for blood gases assesses cardiopulmonary function and helps determine the appropriate treatment.

MMC's Respiratory Therapists have 2- or 3-year Associate Degrees or four-year Bachelor's degrees in Respiratory Therapy. They work as an adjunct to the physician who orders the treatment, and evaluate the effectiveness of the therapy.

CHEMISTRY, from page one —

puter system. The ILS is interfaced with the hospital MIS. The ILS-5 records workload and quality control, tasks formerly done manually. Gloves are worn routinely when handling specimens during any part of processing. Masks and/or safety goggles are also recommended in areas where a specimen could splash into eyes, nose, or mouth.

Despite the problems and risks of working with potentially high-risk specimens, chemistry personnel maintain a high standard of job excellence. Quality control, in integral part of all lab testing here, insures that instruments are measuring blood chemistries accurately. In this way, all patient results are verified by running against a substance of known value that has been measured correctly by the instrument.

Chemistry is a vital link in complete hospital services, aiding in diagnosis, followup treatment, and prognosis of many different diseases.



Continuing Education

Nursing Staff Development

• Cardiovascular Update: "12-Lead EKG Interpretation"

Tuesday, October 13, 1987

8 AM-4 PM

8 contact hours awarded by MSNA
Prior registration required

• Cardiovascular Update: "Dysrhythmia Update II"

Thursday, October 15, 1987

8 AM-4 PM

15 contact hours with
"Dysrhythmia Update II", on October 20.



United Way

It brings out the best
in all of us.™

The Greater Portland 1987 United Way Campaign kicks off this week, Tuesday October 6-Thursday, October 29. Maine Medical Center employees once again are being asked for their contributions to help reach this year's goal of \$64,000.

This year's chairman, Robin Rand, and Pat Caporino, co-chairman are assisted by group leaders, Lois Bazinet, Karen Colby, Georgeann Dickey, Rita Nielson, Claralee Swanson, Mike Sweatt, and Al Wicken, in dedicating their time and energy to the success of the United Way campaign at the hospital and in the community.

More than 100,000 local residents received services through United Way funded programs and services in 1986. The following programs represent only a fraction of agency programs supported by United Way:

- **American Red Cross** provides food, shelter, clothing and medical assistance to families affected by a natural disaster.

- **Goodwill** operates a sheltered work environment for mentally handicapped adults.

- **The Community Alcoholism Services** offers counseling to families affected by alcoholism.

- **YMCA** provides day care for children before and after school.

- **Shalom, Inc.** provides a continuum of housing services for the mentally ill.

The United Way includes more than 3,000 men and women who volunteer time and talent to raise funds for nearly 100 services provided by 40 member agencies in Cumberland and York counties, plus the American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association. The efforts of these volunteers keep the combined fund-raising and administrative costs under 9 cents out of every dollar raised.

When you contribute to the United Way you get a fine feeling of satisfaction for having helped others in need as well. All contributors whose cards are returned by October 29, 1987 will have a chance to win one of the following prizes in a drawing to be held in November:

- \$100 gift certificate to LL Bean.
- \$75 gift certificate to LL Bean.
- \$25 gift certificate to Horsefeathers.
- \$25 gift certificate to Channel Crossing.
- 2 passes on the Longfellow Cruiseline.
- One movie pass each month for one year.



THE SOLICITORS FOR THE 1987 United Way campaign at MMC received their pep talk and sailing orders last week, including a presentation by Loaned Executive Ann Burrill from Maine Savings Bank. (A/V Photo)

Marketplace

FOR RENT: 2BR heated 2nd floor apt., W/D hook-up. Saco area. 20 minutes to MMC. Call 284-9059 after 5 PM.

FOR RENT: 2 BR mobile home w/large 16' x 24' added family room. On quiet wooded ¾ acre, ½ hour from MMC. 2 storage sheds. \$550/mo. plus utils. Avail 11/1/87. Call 727-3910.

FOR RENT: Higgins Beach, year round, 1 and 3 BR, parking, laundry, hardwood floors, 100' from beach. Utils. included. Call 883-0172.

FOR RENT: Chandlers wharf luxury waterfront condo. 2BR, 2½ bath, loft, deck, living and dining room, fireplace, all modern appliances. \$1250/mo. plus utils. and security deposit. Call days 603-772-4925.

FOR RENT: Sunny, 2 BR apt. w/new bath. Carpeted, W/D hook-up, yard, parking and storage. \$460/mo. plus utils... Call 773-5460 after 5 PM.

FOR RENT: 3 BR apt. Kitchen, dining room, living room, full bath, office size room, gas heat, small yard. 30 seconds to MMC. \$660/mo. plus utils. Call 773-9022.

FOR RENT: 8 mo. lease, avail. now. 5 BR, 2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard. North Deering, \$900/mo. Non-smoker only. Call 797-7555, evenings.

FOR RENT: Sunny 2 BR apt. on Hammond Street. Wall to wall carpet, new bath, dryer avail. washer hook-up, parking, yard and garden, cat, okay. \$460/mo. plus utils. Call 773-5460.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Non-smoking M/F to share 2BR home in Scarborough. \$325/mo. plus utils. Call 883-8548.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Would like to share townhouse with mature individual. Very nice home, private bedroom and bath, run of house, swimming pool, parking space. References required. \$600/mo. utils. included. Call 761-7052 after 5 PM.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Mature individual wanted to live rent free in exchange for watching 8 year old. Own bedroom, home located on lake. Call 797-0278.

ROOMMATE WANTED: To share large sunny apt. with non-smoker, located 12 miles from Portland. \$250/mo. plus utils. Call 1-929-3691.

ROOMMATE WANTED: To enjoy peaceful country environment, in tasteful home on the water with sandy private beach. Own entrance, private bath, share large kitchen & wood stove. 15 minutes north of Portland in Cumberland Foreside. Call 781-4860, leave message. Seeing is believing.

ROOMMATE WANTED: To share apt. with one other roommate and cats. Effective 11/5/87. Space avail. is large BR w/private full bath. Shared kitchen and hallway. 3rd floor, former servants quarters on Vaughan St. 4 blocks from MMC. Call 772-5193 before 7 AM, or after 10:30 PM.

FOR SALE: 1980 Plymouth Horizon, standard, 107,000 highway miles, recently inspected, good until 8/88. No rust, no accidents, mechanically and cosmetically sound. High quality radio and speakers. BIC roof rack. \$1400 or best offer. Call 773-9628.

FOR SALE: Men's bike, Lotus Classique, 21" frame, all alloy wheels, components. Entry level racer. Best offer above \$200. Mens leather jacket, approx. size 42 reg. Must be seen, \$75. Call 879-1648.

FOR SALE: VHS-VCR, 3 different record/playback speeds. 7 day, 1 event timer. 105 channel cable ready. 9 function wired remote control. \$200. Call x2255 days, or 775-6708 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: 19" Zenith color tabletop TV. 16" snow tires, new. Call 781-2200 7 AM-7 PM.

FOR SALE: Atari 2600 video game, 2 joysticks, 8 game cartridges, less than 1 year old. For everything \$85, or best offer. Call 773-2463 before 8 AM or after 6 PM.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING is published every Wednesday at Maine Medical Center, Portland, Maine 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 Public Information Office, MMC, Portland, ME 04102. Telephone: (207) 871-2196.

Wayne L. Clark, Editor.

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FOR SALE: Couch and upholstered chair, moosehead maple. \$250 or best offer. Call 767-5881, evenings.

FOR SALE: Texaco forced hot air furnace. 95,000 BTU's with plenum and duct work. Used 4 winters. Call 797-9439.

FOR SALE: 1984 Dodge 600 convertible. Red with white roof. Red interior. One owner. 28,000 miles. Rust proofed. Has been garaged every winter. New battery, fantastic stereo. \$7,200. Call 772-4775 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: 2 mahogany desks 60" x 34". 1 executive and 1 secretarial. Newly refinished. Call 773-8742 between 9 AM-4 PM.

FOR SALE: Drop leaf table with 4 chairs, \$125. Loveseat and chair, good condition, \$100. Call 774-2724 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: Tempwood woodstove, all nighter. Sheet metal screen goes with it. Excellent condition. \$265. Call 655-7944.

FOR SALE: 1978 Mercury Zephyr station wagon. Good running car, asking \$300. Call 797-9344 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: Estate car, maroon 1985 Buick, somerset-regal sedan, automatic, am/fm radio. 16,000 miles, excellent condition. Asking \$7000. Call 829-5633.

FOR SALE: Sears Kenmore Portable clothes washer. Excellent condition, \$100. Large comfortable couch, navy blue, asking \$50. Call 929-3931 after 6 PM weekdays, or anytime weekends.

FOR SALE: 1984 Toyota Corolla, 4 door, standard transmission, am/fm radio, 48,000 miles, excellent condition. Asking \$4800. Call 772-0771 after 5 PM.

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