

WHAT'S UP?

FMC PHYSICIAN NEWSLETTER

February 2009

Eric Cohen, M.D., named Cath Lab medical director

Eric D. Cohen, M.D., F.A.C.C., F.S.C.A.I., interventional cardiologist, has been named medical director of FMC's Cath Lab.

Eric has long been nationally recognized as an expert in interventional cardiology, stroke intervention and limb salvage. He has led extensive research studies, authored numerous medical articles and lectured across the country. He is heavily involved with research and development of interventional devices.

Congratulations!

New VP of Professional Services at FMC

FMC Senior Vice President of Patient Services Alice Gagnaire retired last month after 35 years. Barbara Dember has been hired. Barbara most recently served as Regional Vice President of Clinical Institutes at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eugene, Ore.

Barbara's areas of responsibility include Surgical Services, the Cancer Center at FMC, Imaging, Care Coordination/Disease Management, Laboratory, Emergency Services and the Children's Health Center.

The Feds lighten up — a little

CMS has recently relaxed its requirements for completion of pre-printed orders. Physicians now are required to date, time and sign only the last page of multi-page pre-printed order sets. If a choice has been crossed out, the physician must initial/sign the area. Check boxes as you have always done. Physicians must date, time and sign each telephone/verbal order within 48 hours or on the next visit (whichever comes first). You also need to write the diagnosis and allergies only on the first page of an order set.

Physician of the Year

It is time once again to cast ballots for this year's Physician of the Year. The Healing Excellence and Leadership Award has been presented to 15 physicians at FMC.

Look for nomination forms in various parts of the hospital and on your email. Nominations are due Friday, Feb. 20 at 5 p.m.

Help with EHR purchase

In collaboration with other agencies, AHCCCS is spearheading the development of the Arizona Electronic Health Record (EHR) Collaborative Purchasing Program (CPP). Slated for an early 2009 launch, the CPP is designed to help providers in small- and medium-sized medical practices with the transition to an affordable, user-friendly EHR system.

The CPP will offer a web-based EHR and discounts on hardware and other products and services. For more information, visit www.azhealthrecord.gov.

Banner feels economic pinch

In mid-January, Banner Health announced it would lay off 334 employees in Arizona. This came after Banner also delayed construction for at least a year on its Ironwood hospital in Queen Creek and made other budget cuts.

Banner CEO Peter Fine said the cuts are necessary as the hospital system faces myriad financial pressures, such as the growing ranks of uninsured seeking health care and those with insurance having trouble paying their hospital bills.

The current economy demonstrates that healthcare is not immune to these economic pressures. We need to work together to deliver the best care possible while being the best financial stewards possible. Thanks.

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Flagstaff Medical Center
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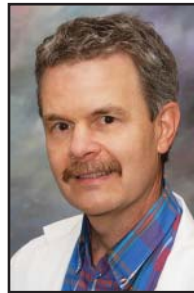
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