

WHAT'S UP?

FMC PHYSICIAN NEWSLETTER

From the desk of Steven Lewis, M.D.

October 2009

New physician roles

Mark Foster, M.D., and Tom Gaughan, M.D. recently have taken on new medical leadership roles at FMC. Thanks to those physicians who participated in the interviews.

Mark's role has expanded to include Medical Director of Physician Operations. In addition to his duties as Medical Director of the FMC Hospitalist program, and his work with the Care Coordination and Utilization Review departments, Mark now will be a medical staff liaison with Health Information Management (medical records). He will also work with case managers at FMC to ensure cost effectiveness in treatment of patients. Mark will continue to work as a hospitalist with a reduced schedule of shifts.



Tom has assumed the role of Medical Director of Physician Relations. He will lead the Quality, Process Improvement, Patient Safety and Medical Staff Services functions at FMC. Tom will be the lead administrative liaison on the Quality Improvement Committee and Physician Review Committee.

He will continue to operate as

Medical Director of Behavioral Health Services and maintain a limited inpatient practice.

Both will report to me. I will retain my role as CMO/COO. I am very excited to have such outstanding physicians who have a long history at FMC and long-term experience in leadership roles at FMC lend their expertise. Please join me in support of Mark and Tom.

Geographic Team Care Model

Physicians and clinical staff at FMC have been working together recently to adopt a new "geographic team care model." It will provide physicians, care coordinators, nurses and all members of the care team the ability to provide unit-based care with a focus on effective communication and collaboration to increase quality and maximize efficiency on Med/Surg units.

The new model will place hospitalist patients in one geographic area within the hospital and have FMC hospitalists leading the morning discharge process rounds.

The geographic team care model will result in better, physician-nurse communication; improved throughput of patients; better coordination of discharge planning; a should result in better quality of care and patient satisfaction.

New Patient Safety Coordinator

Chad Tharan is FMC's new Patient Safety Program Coordinator. He works under the direction of John Mouglin, M.D., and with physicians and staff to identify any safety issues at FMC. Chad determines the causes of these issues, examines possible interventions and implements steps to prevent issues from recurring.

The safety program uses incident reporting through the MIDAS system, the Patient Safety Hotline (ext. 14777), and rounding throughout the facility.

Please contact Chad at ext. 12678 or 607-5513 with any concerns you may have. Safety is everyone's responsibility.



cont'd.



Flagstaff Medical Center
Northern Arizona Healthcare

More doors locked for safety

In accordance with its enhanced patient safety goals and access control policies, FMC will begin securing more doors throughout the hospital in coming weeks.

Physicians will be able to access units using their badge (if it is encoded with a prox tag) or their security access code. If you need a new badge please visit HR on the fourth floor of FMC's West Campus. If you have forgotten your security code, please call ext. 12900 for assistance.

Office managers and other physician office staff who may access the hospital to pick up physician mail, etc. should be aware the only unlocked entrances to the hospital during regular business hours will be the Outpatient Services entrance by the ED and the Main Lobby entrance. Other exterior doors will be locked.

This brings a slightly increased hassle factor, but hopefully with increase patient safety.



CME program fully accredited

The Arizona Medical Association (ArMA) recently approved a four-year accreditation for FMC's CME program. This is the maximum accreditation and organization can receive.

Thank you to CME Committee Chair Leslie Nishimi, M.D., and the group members for all their hard work in preparing for the ArMA site survey. This is a big-deal achievement.

Kudos

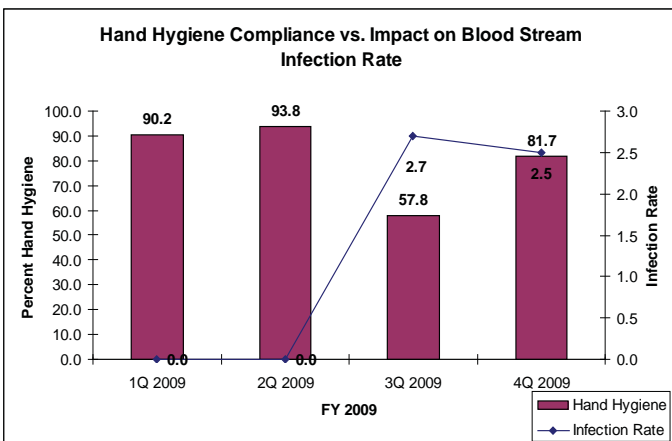
... to Mark Lacy, M.D., who recently had an article published in the journal *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. The article, "Nosocomial Transmission of Invasive Group A Streptococcus from Patient to Health Care Worker" discussed one of the first documented cases of Group A Strep transmission from a patient to healthcare worker.

... to Cindy Martin, M.D., who recently was featured in an *Arizona Daily Sun* article along with Donna Clark, Program Coordinator, for their work with the FMC Palliative Care Program. To read the article, search the archives at www.azdailysun.com.

Importance of handwashing

The graph below is data from the NICU at FMC. Although the correlation made between hand hygiene and infection rate is empirical, it does show the strong possibility of an association between decreased handwashing and increased infection in the SCN.

Especially during this uncertain flu season, please use the greatest weapon we have against spread of infections – **handwashing**. With alcohol-based hand rubs available throughout the hospital, it is hard to imagine a reason not to use this patient and personal measure.



Change in overhead code alerts

NAH has changed overhead-paged codes to alert hospital staff of situations within the facility in accordance with an Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association initiative to standardize hospital code alerts in all Arizona hospitals.

The codes are now as follows:

- Code Red – Fire
- Code Blue – Medical Emergency
- Code Orange – Hazardous Material
- Code Triage – Disaster (Internal or External)
- Code Yellow – Bomb Threat
- Code Pink – Infant Abduction
- Code Gray – Combative Person
- Code Silver – Combative Person (Armed)

PICU fundraiser a success

The recent PICU fundraiser "Bucks for Ducks" was a huge success thanks to the dedicated efforts of the PICU staff, the support of the FMC Foundation and the amazing generosity of the Flagstaff community.

Through the combined efforts of more than 60 locally-owned and operated business, more than \$7,000 was raised to support FMC's PICU — the only PICU in Northern Arizona.