

St. Luke's
images
for
Physicians

June 2010



Essential news and information

Redesigning healthcare



Ted Townsend
president and CEO

President and CEO Ted Townsend traveled to Washington, D.C., to lead efforts in redesigning healthcare. Townsend along with Tim Charles, CEO of Mercy Medical Center, and Jim Levett, chief medical officer for Physicians' Clinic of Iowa, were among the group invited to attend a meeting titled "How Will We Do That? Building Low Cost, High Quality Health Care Regions in America" May 26-27 by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

Teams from 15 sites around the county were invited to attend the meeting. Throughout the two-day meeting the group reviewed what they know about high-value care, and strategies for pursuing regional engagement and collaboration. They also focused on these regions' accomplishments and ways to continue further progress.

The meeting was a follow-up to the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) event Cedar Rapids representatives were invited to last July because of our low cost, but above-average healthcare quality. Cedar Rapids was one of just 10 communities cited in a healthcare cost report last year by the institute's CEO, Donald Berwick. As Ted informed physicians in his Spring forum, Berwick shared with the nation, that if the United States performed the same as these areas, "we wouldn't have a healthcare crisis."

"The data is pretty clear," Townsend said. "Our costs are well below other parts of the country." Berwick feels this is the case in Cedar Rapids because of the balance between cooperation and competition with the two hospitals.

Change in operating room procedures



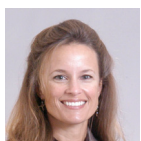
Charles Schauburger, MD
vice president & chief medical officer

Surgeons need to be aware of a change in the skin prep procedure in the operating room that occurred June 1. Instead of the scrub nurse/tech applying the prep solution before draping, the circulator will perform this task. This aligns with AORN standards and decreases the risk of the scrub nurse/tech becoming contaminated during the prep procedure. The nurses and techs have undergone training. This should not slow the prep procedure or otherwise affect OR throughput.

If you have questions or concerns, contact Charles Schauburger, MD, at 319/369-7391 or Kris Sherwood at 319/369-7245.



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Upcoming events

Family Medicine Statistical Tools for Medical Decision Making & Reviewing Medical Literature

George Bergus, MD
Department of Family Medicine,
University of Iowa
Thursday, June 17 - Noon - 1 p.m.
St. Luke's Schwartz Center

Top 100 Grand Slam Celebration

You knocked it out of the park.
Help us celebrate your grand slam season!

Wednesday, June 2
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
1st Avenue parking lot

Reminder: swiping badges

Remember to separate your St. Luke's and Mercy badges when you swipe your St. Luke's ID badge in front of the photo eye to enter a parking lot, the hospital or a unit. If the badges are left together, it momentarily deactivates the badge and entry isn't allowed. As soon as you separate the cards, your badge will work.

A TOP
100
HOSPITAL



TB testing

Medical staff officers approved scheduling clinics for physician TB testing/reading in July with the possibility of a second clinic in the fall. Dates, times, and locations will be posted throughout the hospital and in the July *Images for Physicians*.

Readers on the nursing units will be declared for ease in completing this process. Iowa law requires routine TB testing for health care professionals.

Disease specific certifications

Joint Commission surveyors recently surveyed four programs for disease specific certification. Those programs include: stroke, total hip and knee and advanced heart failure. The surveyors reported all four as excellent programs and awarded certification in all areas. The areas did not receive any recommendations from the surveyors.

Physician Liaison office change

Scott Kallemeyn, director of operations support and Mary Henry, physician liaison, have switched offices. Phone numbers and e-mail addresses remain the same.

Liaison offices, Mary Henry and Scott Whitson, are located on first floor east, next to the physician lounge.



**ST. LUKE'S
HOSPITAL**

IOWA HEALTH SYSTEM

CRMEF announces incoming residents

Cedar Rapids Medical Education Foundation welcomes the incoming first-year residents who begin work June 21. The first-year class includes:

Khushman Dodd, MD; Government Medical College of Jammu, India
Yan Geng, MD; Xinjiang Medical College, China
Catherine Hansen, DO; Des Moines University
Katherine Lange, MD; University of Iowa
Larisa Ravdel, MD; Dnepropetrovsk State Medical Academy, Ukraine
Sujan Vadarevu, MD; Kakatiya Medical College, India
Yakov Zagalskiy, MD; Belarussian State Medical University, Belarus

Metformin & risk for B12 deficiency

Vitamin B12 deficiency can cause irreversible neuronal damage and megaloblastic anemia. According to some studies, up to 30 percent of patients using metformin had vitamin B12 deficiency. One study found that 77 percent of metformin users with vitamin B12 deficiency also had peripheral neuropathy.

Since peripheral neuropathy is a major complication of diabetes, some researchers say the results suggest persons using metformin be screened for vitamin B12 deficiency at initiation of metformin therapy and at intervals of no more than one to two years.

If you would like reference information for this article, please contact Paula Diers, Diabetes Education at 319/369-8715 or via e-mail at DiersPA@crslukes.com.

Welcome

East Central Iowa Acute Care welcomes four new physicians. Dr. Shedek joins the group this month and Drs. Engelman, Pruitt, and Striegel will join in July. These physicians are familiar with St. Luke's. Drs. Engelman, Pruitt and Shedek completed the ER Residency Program through the University of Iowa and completed much of their rotation time here. Dr. Striegel was a flight nurse with St. Luke's prior to receiving his medical degree.



Amy Engelman, MD



Brian Shedek, DO



Josh Pruitt, MD



Thomas Striegel, DO

Schulz receives Guardian Angel award

Carla Schulz, MD, a family practice physician with Family Medicine Specialists, P.C. has taken care of Pat & Cecelia Michael of Vinton for the past 15 years. "Thank you for your loving, caring and understanding ways," said Cecelia. "You've been so awesome to my family and me. We wish you the very best because you're the best doctor around." The Guardian Angel program gives a patient or family an opportunity to express appreciation for someone who made a difference in their healthcare experience. The gift is then directed to the Guardian Angel Fund.



Schulz receives her Guardian Angel award from President & CEO Ted Townsend.

Our Mission:

To give the healthcare we'd like our loved ones to receive.