Prescribed Reading: April 2008

CentraCare Clinic
April 2008

**Melrose Team receives 2007 Quality Award**

Congratulations to the CentraCare Clinic - Melrose Depression Action Group who was selected by the Quality Council for CentraCare Clinic’s annual Quality Award. This award recognizes employees for their commitment to quality and patient satisfaction.

To improve care for patients diagnosed with depression, this group began educating the nursing staff and providers. Thanks to their hard work, they have seen significant improvement in the areas of depression documentation using the PHQ-9 depression assessment tool; appropriate follow-up for patients diagnosed with depression, as well as improved PHQ-9 scores over time. Their efforts and commitment reflect CentraCare Clinic’s Quality Statement: *Quality is the assurance that health care services will be consistently delivered to achieve optimal patient outcomes and create high levels of patient satisfaction.*

**Women’s Health 101 draws nearly 500 attendees**

Thank you to the CentraCare Clinic providers who presented at the seventh annual Women’s Health 101 April 5. They are: Barbi Kaplan-Frenkel, D.O.; Mark Hauge, M.D.; Kathryn Katka, C.N.P.; Amy Kramer, C.N.P.; Maria Mallory, M.D.; Deb McCarl, M.D.; Vickie Nash, M.D.; Troy Payne, M.D.; Jodi Regan, M.D.; Rachel Schuneman, M.D.; Marilyn Skurdahl, C.N.P.; Tami Von Wahlde, C.N.P.; and Lorinda Zigan, P.A.-C. In addition, the OB & Women’s Clinic, L.I.F.E. program, Bone Densitometry, Genetics, Dermatology and Surgery had six of the nearly 50 booths. Several areas also offered tours. Thanks to all who helped to make this event a success.

**Welcome to these new employees**

Laura Erickson, Admitting, Plaza – Family Medicine
Kathryn Gerads, Admitting, Sleep Center
Melissa Kotaska, Nursing, Plaza - Gastroenterology
Kim Love-Hatling, Imaging, River Campus
Kelly Nagel, Nursing, Plaza-Dermatology

**Sleep Center Open House, May 15**

Don’t miss the St. Cloud Hospital Sleep Center’s open house from 4-6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 15 located at 1586 County Road 134 (Near CentraCare Health Plaza). The sleep center is the first accredited sleep center in Central Minnesota with multi-specialties including ENT, pulmonary, and neurology and offers testing, diagnosis and treatment for adults and adolescents. For more information, call (320) 251-0726.

**Calling all bike riders!**

People of all ages are invited to participate in an attempt to break the Guinness Book of World Record’s largest parade of bikes beginning at 2 p.m. June 28 at Whitney Fields in St. Cloud. The two-mile bike route precedes the Granite City Days parade. The event is sponsored by BLEND (Better Living: Exercise & Nutrition Daily). The first 2,500 people to register online for this two-mile parade at www.BLENDcentralMN.org will receive a free commemorative t-shirt and medallion. For more information or for volunteer opportunities, contact rohej@centracare.com.

**Recognition for Years of Service**

20 Years
Clara Nathe, Melrose
Randy Saliares, M.D., Plaza – Gastroenterology

10 Years
Marlene Deboer, Women & Children
Maryann Gerberding, Heartland
Melanie Odden, Women & Children
Jeanne Welch, C.N.P., Women & Children

5 Years
Carol Dickinson, Internal Medicine
Rebecca Hallerman, Plaza – Family Medicine
Edgar Pineda, M.D., Central Minnesota Heart Center
John Teskey, M.D., Central Minnesota Heart Center
What's all the buzz about medical home?

In the past, people had one doctor for all of their medical care. This doctor would know their patients’ medical histories, living situations, and other concerns and refer to a specialist as necessary. As the medical field has become more complex, a medical ‘home base’ is less common, leading to fragmented care. The medical home approach encourages comprehensive and patient-centered care that is accessible, efficient and coordinated. It blends the personalized, comprehensive care offered by family physicians and capitalizes on new technology to help patients make sense of the complex health care system. Watch for future articles and check out your clinic’s Medical Home QI board.

Together, we can make a difference

The Annual Employee Campaign runs through April 30. This year’s theme, “Small change, BIG change captures the importance of every gift making a difference. Those who can give only a few dollars per pay period are just as important as those who can give much more. Last year’s employee campaign was phenomenal raising $360,000. This year, we are striving to raise $364,000. With nearly 6,300 employees across the health system, we can make a tremendous difference in Central Minnesota. Call ext. 52810, for details or check out CentraNet and click on the Employee Campaign link.

Congratulations to…

- Dana Frank, Business Office – Health Plaza, and her husband, Bobby, on the birth of their son David Ernest, March 27.
- Sandy Florek, River Campus, on the loss of her father-in-law.
- Sondra Haus, Women & Children, on the death of her uncle and her grandfather.
- Loretta Lundy, Long Prairie, on the loss of her mother.
- Colleen Pommier, Long Prairie, on the loss of her mother-in-law.

Kudos to …

- Thomas Schrup, M.D., Women & Children, who was the medical director of the St. Cloud Hospital Incident Command System for the March 27 chlorine leak at Rocori High School.
- Rachel Schuneman, M.D., Dermatology, presented an interactive TV presentation on skin cancer April 10 for Alexandria Technical College.
- The CentraCare Clinic Business Office celebrated the first “Medical Billers Day” March 27 as proclaimed by Gov. Tim Pawlenty.

Schuchard receives Physician of Excellence award

Congratulations to Timothy Schuchard, M.D., Central Minnesota Heart Center, who received St. Cloud Hospital’s Physician of Excellence award. SCH president Craig Broman presented the award to Dr. Schuchard March 13. His nominators characterize him as compassionate and charismatic in his interactions with patients, staff, and students. His warm smile and open door policy put those around him at ease. Dr. Schuchard exceeds what it means to be a great role model.

To nominate a physician for this award, download a form from CentraNet. (Click on Recognition, then on Physician of Excellence.) If you have questions about the awards program, please contact the Physician Recruitment and Relations Department, ext. 54192.

What is peripheral artery disease (PAD)?

If you experience pain or cramps in your legs after walking, PAD could be the cause. Wade Schmidt, M.D., of the Central Minnesota Heart Center, will discuss the disease, causes, symptoms and treatment options at a free program 7 p.m. May 12 at CentraCare Health Plaza.

March of Dimes Walk for Babies, April 26

Join the CentraCare team and join the fight to save babies Saturday, April 26! To learn more about the walk or to join our team, contact Sara Tylutki at ext. 73624, tylutkis@centracare.com or visit our team web page at http://www.marchforbabies.org/450890.

2008 Arthritis Foundation Walk

The Arthritis Walk, featuring a three-mile and one-mile course is Saturday, May 3, at the CentraCare Health Plaza. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the walk starts at 9 a.m. For more information, contact the Arthritis Foundation at (800) 333-1380 or go to www.arthritis.org.

Prescribed Reading is a monthly publication for CentraCare Clinic employees. If you have any employee news or clinic-related information you would like to share, please e-mail it to pauld@centracare.com or send to Deb Paul, Communications department.