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Prescribed Reading: November 2009

CentraCare Clinic

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Welcome to these new providers

Jamie Bartnick, FCNP, is a certified family nurse practitioner with the Hospitalist team. She completed her master’s in nursing and her family nurse practitioner certification at the University of Colorado in Aurora. She has experience in women’s health, family medicine, long-term and geriatric care.

Rebecca Wertish, FCNP, Women & Children, is a certified nurse practitioner with the OB & Women’s Clinic. She completed her master’s and family nurse practitioner program at Minnesota State University - Mankato. She has special interest in teen and women’s health and preventive care.

Jennifer Ellstrom, CNP, River Campus, is a family nurse practitioner working in Internal Medicine. She completed her master’s degree and family nurse practitioner program at Minnesota State University, Mankato. She has special interest in cardiovascular and diabetes disease prevention.

MyChart expanding to pediatric patients

CentraCare Clinic – Women & Children now offers MyChart online communication for its pediatric patients/parents. MyChart gives patients easy online access to: the patient’s medical record and immunization records; test results; and medical advice. Patients can review past appointments; request an appointment, view their health summary, current medications and test results as released by their provider, access information from a broad range of health-related topics, view immunization and medication allergies and receive e-mail messages when a new result is released to MyChart. MyChart also is available at CentraCare Clinic - Becker and Mid-Minnesota Family Medicine Clinic. Other clinics will be added in the future.

Mandatory online education for all employees

By Dec. 18, 2009, all CentraCare employees and physicians must complete a mandated online education module on health care fraud, waste and abuse. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid now requires all organizations providing care to Medicare patients to provide compliance education to employees. Visit the Education tab on CentraNet and then click on Online Education Registration Center. This module will not have audio associated with it.

Welcome to these new employees

Andrian Mack, Medical Assistant, Becker
Kati Ostendorf, Nursing, River Campus
Karen Fladung, Clinic Services, Nephrology
Lisa Drong, Customer Services, River Campus
Karla Morinville, Nursing, Women & Children
Bethany Krattenmaker, Ultrasound, Women & Children

Recognition for years of service

15 Years: Kimberly May, River Campus; Christy Mohrman, Business Center; Thomas Schrup, MD, Women & Children.
10 Years: Marjorie Andel, River Campus; Loretta Lundy, Long Prairie; Jody Boser, Women & Children
5 Years: Debra Burggraff, River Campus; Jody Kamholz, Women & Children; Connie Reimann, River Campus; Kelly Shefland, Women & Children.

Condolences to . . .

River Campus employees: Patty Zapf on the loss of her father-in-law; Julie Tiemann on the loss of her grandfather; Marsha Pietrzak on the loss of her father-in-law; and Carol Degiovanni on the loss of her mother.
Clinic services featured in the Spotlight on Health

Check out the most recent Spotlight on Health publication which highlights CentraCare Clinic’s sports medicine program and the diabetes collaborative.

Rieke presents to St. Cloud Hospital Medical Staff

Kathleen Rieke, MD, Neurology, presented Life Changes: Neurology through Menopause & Andropause at St. Cloud Hospital’s Nov. 6 Grand Rounds.

Sleep issues with Multiple Sclerosis

Troy Payne, MD, Sleep Medicine, will discuss common sleep issues seen in people with multiple sclerosis and provide tips to manage them effectively from 7-8 p.m. Nov. 11 at CentraCare Health Plaza.

New cardiologist based in Willmar

Yassir Sonbol, MD, cardiologist with the Central Minnesota Heart Center, is primarily practicing at Rice Memorial Hospital in Willmar. As an introduction to the community, Dr. Sonbol will discuss heart disease intervention and treatment from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Nov. 19 at Rice Memorial Hospital.

Clinic Open House planned in Melrose

CentraCare Clinic – Melrose staff and providers will begin seeing patients in their new clinic Dec. 7. A public open house is planned from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. Tours and refreshments will be available.

Sharing with the community

CentraCare Health System leadership presented the annual Report to the Community in St. Cloud Nov. 5. Community presentations also are planned from 12-1 p.m. Nov. 13 in Long Prairie and 7:30-8:30 a.m. Dec. 3 in Melrose. At these meetings, CentraCare leadership shares a year-in-review with community leaders.

Remember the golden rule

H1N1 has been taking its toll in our community and our system. Unfortunately it’s only November and we have many months to go before the cold and flu season are over. All parts of the health care system are working hard and are becoming over-stressed. Please remember to be flexible where we can, and be patient with each other through these stressful times.

Other flu vaccination updates

Employees experiencing flu-like symptoms are reminded to stay home for 24 hours after their symptoms have gone away. Employees off for illness-related reasons must check-in with their supervisor before returning to work.

Flu season cancelations

To protect patients, families and staff during this severe cold and flu season, St. Cloud Hospital has canceled the Nov. 12 Surgery Open House. For this same reason, the hospital also is canceling, relocating or rescheduling other events planned in patient care areas. Avoiding unnecessary gatherings at this time is encouraged to help decrease the spread of infection. People often are contagious the day before showing any symptoms. Thank you for your understanding.

Dance benefits clinic in Africa

Earlier this year, CentraCare donated used medical and lab equipment, office furniture and building supplies from various CentraCare sites for use in a clinic construction project planned in the Ngamini Village in Kenya, Africa. To further support this effort, a swing dance benefit with music by Jazz.Combo is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 6, at the Moose Lodge in Waite Park. A swing dance lesson will begin a 7:30 p.m. with the dance following from 8:30-11 p.m. A $7 donation is suggested at the door. For more information, contact (320) 363-8791. Information also is available at www.ngathainternational.org.

Dermatology Department part of TLC documentary

Freeport native Michael Mills, a veteran of the Iraq war who was injured by a roadside bomb, received follow-up care with Dermatologist Christina Anderson, MD. TLC Network has followed him on his road to recovery and will air a documentary at 8 p.m. Nov. 22.

Tournament raises $150,000 for pediatric cancer

CentraCare Health Foundation thanks Coborn’s and other Grocers on the Green Golf Tournament sponsors for providing hope to local children with cancer. Since 2002, the annual September tournament, which involves grocers from around the state, has raised more than $869,000. Tournament proceeds benefit SCH Pediatric Cancer Services through the Pediatric Cancer Fund of CentraCare Health Foundation.

Pharmacies awarded Medicare certification

CentraCare Health System Pharmacy Services, located at CentraCare Health Plaza, Becker, Heartland and St. Cloud Hospital, have been certified by the American Board of Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics. This new certification is required of pharmacies in order to provide durable medical equipment services and diabetic supplies for Medicare patients. The pharmacies will need to be re-certified every three years.