

CentraCare Health

DigitalCommons@CentraCare Health

Patient Care News

CentraCare Health Publications (Newsletters,
Annual Reports, Etc.)

5-2002

Nursing News: April 2002

St. Cloud Hospital

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.centracare.com/patient-care-news>



Part of the [Organizational Communication Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

St. Cloud Hospital, "Nursing News: April 2002" (2002). *Patient Care News*. 63.
<https://digitalcommons.centracare.com/patient-care-news/63>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the CentraCare Health Publications (Newsletters, Annual Reports, Etc.) at DigitalCommons@CentraCare Health. It has been accepted for inclusion in Patient Care News by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@CentraCare Health. For more information, please contact schlepers@centracare.com.

♥ NURSING NEWS ♥

Volume 23 Number 4

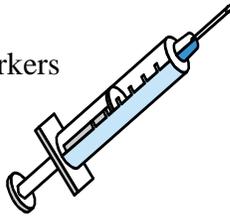
St. Cloud Hospital, St. Cloud, MN

April, 2002

Needlestick Safety & Prevention Act:

Introduction of the “Neutral Zone” and Safety Tray (“Safe-T-Tray”) for Housewide Use

FACT: Hospital-based health care workers experience some **800,000** needlestick/sharps injuries each year in the United States (Jagger, 1990). That’s one out of every seven workers accidentally stuck by a contaminated sharp --- **EVERY YEAR.**



FACT: More than **20 pathogens** have been transmitted through sharps or needlestick injuries, including Hepatitis B (HBV), Hepatitis C (HCV), HIV, tuberculosis, syphilis, malaria, herpes, diphtheria, gonorrhea, typhus, and Rocky Mountain spotted fever (Chiarello, 1992).

FACT: A study by the Johns Hopkins Hospital emergency room determined the prevalence of HCV, HBV and HIV in blood samples from 2,523 patients:

- 18% were seropositive for HCV
- 5% were seropositive for HBV
- 6% were seropositive for HIV

These alarming facts, in part, resulted in the **Needlestick Safety & Prevention Act** that was signed into law on November 6, 2000. **This law requires several recommendations, including “the modification of work practices that pose a needlestick/sharps injury hazard to make them safer.”** Failure to comply with this law could result in a fine of \$70,000 per incident!

St. Cloud Hospital believes in the creation and implementation of an environment conducive to decreasing bloodborne pathogen exposure to all patients and healthcare workers. The risk of injury and subsequent exposure to bloodborne

pathogens during the passing or transfer of needles and sharps during the course of invasive procedures is a serious safety hazard for healthcare workers. Exposure to bloodborne pathogens creates a tremendous financial burden on the health care system, in addition to the subsequent health risks, psychological stress, changes in private and family life, and potential disabilities for the health care worker and their families. Creation of a **Neutral Zone** with **Hands-Free Passing of Sharps** during invasive procedures (e.g., surgery) and the use of a **Safety Tray** during minor procedures on the units (e.g., spinal tap) are two of the safest and most effective means to accomplish a safe environment and prevent sharps injuries.

Definitions:

Sharps: Include, but are not limited to, suture needles, scalpel blades, hypodermic needles, electrosurgical needles and blades, safety pins, and instruments with sharp edges or points.

Neutral Zone: An area on the sterile field pre-designated by the physician and assistant where all sharps are placed during a procedure for pick up without hand-to-hand passing between physician and assistant.

Hands-Free Passing: Instrument transfer between the assistant and physician that ensures that neither ever touches the same sharp instrument at the same time. When the assistant places a sharp needle or instrument in the **Neutral Zone**, he/she alerts the physician that a sharp has been placed in the **Neutral Zone** by stating the name of the sharp item. The physician picks up the item for use, then returns it to the **Neutral Zone** after use.

Safety Tray(s): Designated devices used to self-contain or place all sharps during and after a procedure; especially used for minor procedures on the units. This ensures that all sharps are

contained in one area for proper and safe disposal. Safety Trays are also used in Surgery, but because of the volume of sharps, the Safety Tray contains only one sharp at a time.

The goal is to reduce the potential for injuries by implementing the *Neutral Zone* and *Safety Tray* during invasive procedures. The Surgery Department has implemented a Perioperative Sharps Injury Prevention Task Force that has looked at several products designed for use as the *Neutral Zone*, such as the *Safety Tray*. Trial of these products ended in February with implementation in March 2002.

The *Safety Tray* ("*Safe-T-Tray*"), which can be used as a *Neutral Zone* or a container for a small number of sharps during a bedside procedure, is available through Distribution as **Stock Item # 1017720** and can be ordered through JRS. You may also complete a form to have it added to your Omnicell or template and send it to Tom Kirchner (ext. 54609). This item is one option to be used for all invasive procedures conducted at St. Cloud Hospital to sequester sharps for safe disposal. Care still needs to be taken when transporting and during disposal.

Please be certain that the "*Neutral Zone*" concept becomes a part of your vocabulary! Feel free to contact Larry Asplin at extension 54485 with any questions or concerns. He would be happy to demonstrate this concept and product for any requesting unit.

By Larry Asplin
Educator, Perioperative Care

LifeSource Mobile Learning Center on Display April 23 at CentraCare Health Plaza

As part of National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week (April 21-28), LifeSource Mobile Learning Center will be displayed from 8 am to 7 pm, Tuesday, April 23 in the Prairie East parking lot at CentraCare Health Plaza.

At 11 a.m. there will be an inaugural ceremony to dedicate the mobile learning center, as the first of its kind in Minnesota. Speakers at the ceremony will include Susan Gunderson, CEO of LifeSource, and Barb Scheiber, St. Cloud Hospital's donor committee chair. Donor

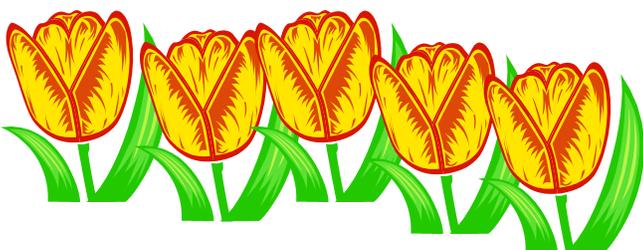


families and recipients also will be available throughout the day.

The public is welcome to view the interactive center designed to provide education and create awareness about organ donation. It is funded in part by a grant from the State of Minnesota and is the centerpiece of a new public education strategy designed to inform the public about the importance of organ donation. The mobile learning center is only the second of its kind in the country and features information and interactive displays designed to dispel myths and misconceptions about donation. A 10-minute tour of the center will significantly enhance public understanding of donation issues.

Currently 80,000 men, women and children are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant—more than 2,000 in our region alone. The mission of LifeSource is to provide the bridge between the loss of life and the gift of life through organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

By Darla Lutgen
Communications Specialist



SCH Nurses Play Key Role in American Red Cross Tissue Donation Process

St. Cloud Hospital nurses play a key role in the tissue donation process. The commitment to place a referral call at the moment of a patient's death is important to assure that potential donor families know their options to make a decision that is right for them through an informed consent process.

Although many in the medical field know about the life saving benefits of organ donation, not so well known, but just as important, is the donation of life saving and life-enhancing tissue. Remarkably, one tissue donor can save or enhance the lives of up to 60 people.

Tissues that can be donated include bone, skin, heart valves, ligaments, tendons, major blood vessels, and corneas. Human tissue donated through the American Red Cross Tissue Service program is used in a wide range of medical procedures, including grafting skin for burn victims, replacing defective heart valves, saving limbs following tumor surgery, reconstructing hip and knee joints, and correcting curvature of the spine.

As an American Red Cross Tissue Services Donor Services Liaison I find working with the St. Cloud Hospital staff very rewarding. They truly understand the deep meaning and peace donation can bring to a donor family. The respect of human life is evident throughout the St. Cloud Hospital system (Donna Naumann, Donor Services Liaison).

During 2001, 17 individuals from St. Cloud Hospital became tissue donors. Because of these 17 donors, the American Red Cross estimates that up to 1,020 people nationwide will live longer, healthier lives.

Thank you St. Cloud Hospital staff. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of donor families and recipients.

For additional information regarding tissue donation or to arrange an inservice for your unit,

contact Donna Naumann, Donor Services Liaison, American Red Cross Tissue Services at 1-800-272-5287, extension 3109.

American Red Cross Tissue Services was established in 1982 to meet the growing need for allograft tissue. Red Cross Tissue Services is one of the nation's largest full service tissue banks, coordinating all facets of tissue donation from developing programs, supporting families and distributing hundreds of thousands of donated tissues to patients in need.

Submitted by:
Donna Nauman, American Red Cross

Give of yourself — Be a Volunteer!

Get involved as a volunteer at the new CentraCare Health Plaza, which provides a beautiful, natural setting for outpatient services near the intersection of Minnesota Highway 15 and 20th Street North.

Caring, compassionate volunteers are needed for a new program in the Coborn Cancer Center. Volunteers will assist cancer patients by providing hospitality services, offering educational materials, listening, and helping them connect with appropriate services or programs. In the Cancer Center Library, Volunteers with Internet skills also are needed to help patients and their families search the Web for cancer information.

Other volunteer opportunities at the Health Plaza include:

- reading/coloring with children as they wait to see their physician
- greeting people at the doors and escorting them throughout the facility
- deliver supplies or medications for departments
- assisting medical records, or other departments, in office work

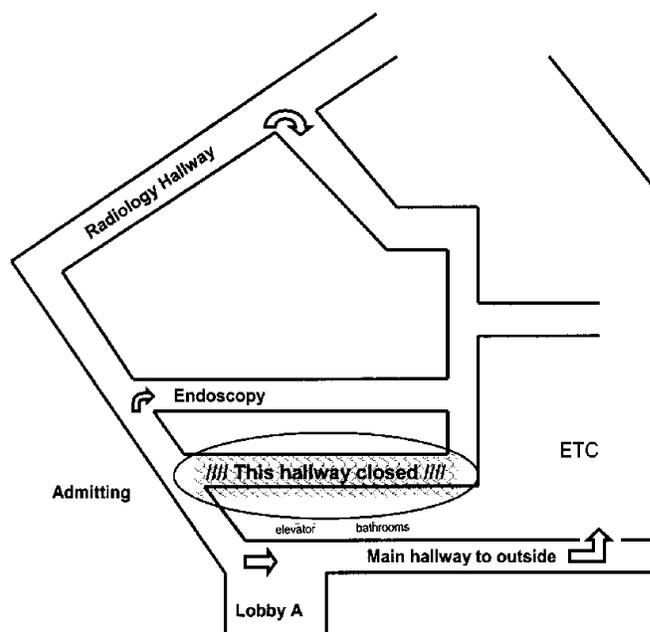
To learn more, call the Volunteer Office at (320) 255-5638, visit our Web site at www.centracare.com, or e-mail us at volunteer@centracare.com.

Submitted by Cheri Tollefson
Communications Specialist

o Not Cross Construction Line Do Not Cross Construction Line Do Not Cross Construction Line Do

ETC Hallway Closing

Beginning April 8, 2002, the hallway into the ETC from the service elevator will be closed. I believe this is the hall most people use. This hall will need to be closed for about 8 weeks. Entrance into the ETC is still available through the back hallway by Radiation Oncology, the front hallway, or through the old Endoscopy area.



o Not Cross Construction Line Do Not Cross Construction Line Do Not Cross Construction Line Do

Notice of Health Science Library Check-out Policy

Because the library has had difficulty in retrieving overdue materials, all employees and physicians will now be asked to complete a responsibility form the next time they check out materials from the library. This form will be kept on file, so that you will not have to fill one out each time.

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you are responsible for any & all materials that you check out of the library. We do not use a fine system, but if materials are lost or damaged, you will be expected to pay the replacement cost. **This is not meant to discourage you from checking materials out - we encourage you to do so.** This to verify that everyone knows the policy. Thank you for your cooperation!

Submitted by:
Judy and Karen
Health Science Library



Health Science Library

The Health Science Library has just received several new books that you should come and check out:

Nursing Books

- ◆ Nurses Guide to Consumer Health Web Sites
- ◆ Essentials of Nursing Leadership & Management
- ◆ Using Grounded Theory in Nursing
- ◆ Palliative Care Nursing: Quality Care to the End of Life
- ◆ Principles & Practice of Psychiatry Nursing (new edition)

Other Interesting Titles

- ◆ The 10 Natural Laws of Successful Time & Life Management: Proven Strategies for Increased Productivity & Inner Peace
- ◆ The Nature of Leadership (a picture book with gorgeous photographs!)
- ◆ Several new Covey publications

Feel free to stop in anytime and browse! These all may be checked out.

Submitted by:
Judy and Karen, Health Science Library

Up for a Challenge?



As presenting sponsor for Earth Day Half Marathon activities, the Central Minnesota Heart Center is sponsoring an Earth Day Half Marathon/5K Run Team Challenge for CentraCare Health System employees. The challenge encourages employees to get fit with co-workers, friends and family and to participate in either the 5K run on Friday, April 19 or Half Marathon on Saturday, April 20.

Rules:

- At least one person on each team must have an affiliation with CentraCare Health System.
- Participants must select a team from one of the six categories below.
- Participants must submit their team name/members to Ann Middendorf, St. Cloud Hospital Marketing, 251-2700, ext. 54726, by Friday, April 12.
- The Team Challenge has no entry fees; it exists to encourage health and fitness within CentraCare Health System and the community.
- Challenge organizers will combine team members' race finish scores. The team with the highest score wins.
- The winning teams in each of the six categories will receive a ribbon and recognition.
- All decisions made by team challenge organizers are final.
- The Central Minnesota Heart Center will hold a race kick-off party for participants.

Half Marathon Teams:

Participants must form into one of these three two-person teams:

Male/Male

Male/Female

Female/Female

5K Run Teams:

Participants must form one of these four-person teams

All male
Two male/Two female
All female

Now is the time to start preparing for Earth Day Half Marathon activities! Train as a team and have fun. For more information about the team challenge, please call Ann at ext. 54726.

Submitted by:
Darla Lutgen
Communications Specialist

Children & Violence Prevention

- **What:** Children & Violence Prevention Conference "*Tools for raising healthy youth in a violent world*". A one-day conference to learn strength-based practical tools and strategies on guiding children through peaceful conflict resolution. The purpose of the conference is to address violence and its effects on early childhood. Areas of focus include health, early education and development, as well as identifying prevention efforts currently available in the area.
- **Who:** For anyone who impacts the life of a child: (parents, health care professionals, law enforcement personnel, school counselors, teachers, principals, public health nurses, child care providers, social workers, etc)
- **When:** Conference April 26th, registration deadline April 12th.
- **Cost:** \$60.00. Includes a continental breakfast and lunch. CEU's will be available. Scholarships are available for parents, day care providers and foster parents.

Conference offers tools for raising children in a violent world

For a complete list of sessions and speakers, please call (320) 251-2700, ext. 55642 by April 10th.

Process to Peace -Children & Violence Prevention Conference would also like to encourage parents, children, and the community to attend the "Peace by Piece Carnival" 6-9 p.m., Thursday, April 25, at

Southside Boys and Girls Club. The event is planned by St. Cloud State University students to promote peaceful interactive activities for families. There will be game and prizes for the whole family!

Registration brochures are available throughout the hospital or by calling the Education Department, ext. 55642.

Submitted By:
Dawn Koeniguer
Marketing Specialist

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

Secure **CONFIDENTIALITY** prior to screening. Be certain spouse, mother-in-law, sister/brother or any friends who may be with the patient are sent out to wait in lobby area before asking the question.

If you feel uncomfortable about going right to the question, some health care providers explain; “our staff want all patients to know this is a safe place to talk about domestic violence and we ask all of our patients these questions as part of their medical history” or “Because how we get along with others can strongly impact our health we ask all of our patients this question...”

FHA QUESTION; “Are you in a relationship where you are physically hurt, threatened or made to feel afraid?”

IN-PATIENT STATUS

Does patient disclose abuse? Yes – Offer Unit Social Worker and/or explain there are free and confidential advocacy services available here on site. Some patients have fear and will resist seeing a social worker. It is important to give them the choice and explain the difference. Advocates do not document in the medical record. If the patient wants to see the advocate, call the Hospital Based Advocacy Program, ext. 53224, Monday through Friday to make the referral, leave your name, department and patient name and room number on VM. If this is a weekend situation and the patient will be discharged before Monday, use the Program pager 203-3344 to reach an advocate.

OUT-PATIENT STATUS

The process is the same as above. However, if this is an emergency; i.e., Patient is in physical therapy and tells therapist he/she is afraid to go home, use the pager 203-3344 for an advocate to respond within 30 minutes.

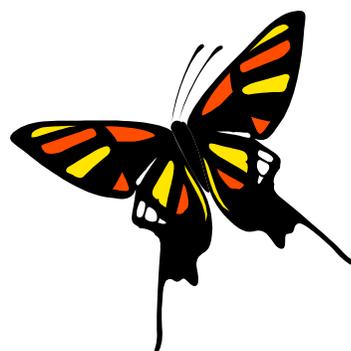
DOCUMENTATION – Document in the medical chart that patient was screened and acknowledged abuse is occurring. Use patient’s direct quotes when possible; i.e., “Jerry grabbed me, then pulled my hair.” Describe any injuries, location and size, use a body map if necessary.

Document patient will see a DV advocate, advocate called. Document after advocacy that patient received advocacy. If patient declines advocate, offer SW, and if patient declines provide patient with Safety/Resource Card. Document patient declined from advocacy, referral resources were given to patient.

ETC

Call 203-3344 to page the advocate on-call. Document that patient was offered advocacy services and advocate is paged. Following advocacy document patient received advocacy services. If patient declines advocacy services, offer hospital social worker if patient declines, provide patient with Safety/Resource card and other information filed in the ETC domestic violence drawer. Document in medical chart patient declined advocacy services and was provided with the domestic violence resources.

Submitted By:
Cindee Koll, M.S., Health Care Systems
Domestic Violence Advocate



Clock Codes for On Call

I have received many questions from staff on the right code to use when clocking into work from an on-call shift. I agree that it is very confusing, and hopefully, the following clarifies the correct codes to use:

- Employees should use clock code 82 when placed on-call in lieu of scheduled hours. When called in to work, on-call pay ceases (clock an 89) and the employee is paid their regular wage (clock in with a 1 or a 5 if going to another unit).
- When employees are on call (clock code 82) **in addition to their scheduled hours** and are called into work, their on-call ceases (clock code 89), and employees are paid at time and one-half rate (clock code 2).

Sue Laudenbach
Staffing/Scheduling/Secretarial Services

New Closed System Formula

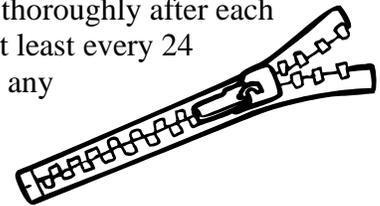
In order to make it easier for staff, Isosource 1.5, which has been used in cans, will soon be changed to a closed system. Because this is from a different manufacturer than our other formulas, Isosource will be coming in a rigid flask/bottle. Spiking will be done after removing a small white cap. Do not attempt to remove the large white cover/cap. Adding blue dye to the formula will also require a different technique. Please refer to the policy for complete instructions on spiking the bottle and adding dye. The hang time for these flasks will be the same as for our current system. They can hang for 48 hours undyed or 24 hours if dye is added. If there are any questions, please contact me.

Submitted By: Joannie Nei, RN
Product Review Committee Chair
Ext. 55753

Zip-N-Squeeze Bags

For patients with wired jaws, the Zip-N-Squeeze bag will be available soon for feeding. This product can be ordered through JRS. It consists of a zip-lock bag and a straw that attaches to the outside. The pureed food is placed in the bag and the patient can then administer per self.

With this product, the patient has more control over the rate of feeding. These bags and straws should be cleaned thoroughly after each use and replaced at least every 24 hours. If there are any questions, please contact me.



Joannie Nei, RN
Product Review Committee Chair
Ext. 55753

New Blood Administration Slip Mounting Forms

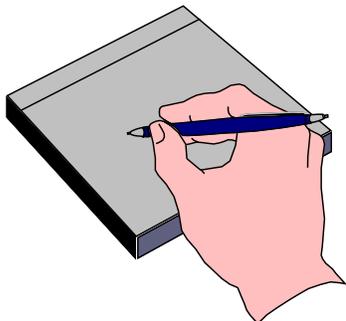
The CentraCare Health System is now in the process of implementing scanning of charts into the computer system for ready access by providers when patients are admitted. This improves patient care and getting information to health care providers. Our current blood mounting form has the slips attached in a shingled format. This does not lend itself very well to scanning, since only the top form will be visible. Due to this, the Blood Administration Slip Mounting Forms will be changed to a form that will have only two per page so that scanning can be done. Although we realize that this will increase the number of forms needed for some patients, it is felt that this patient population is a small percentage. If there are any questions, please contact me.

Joannie Nei, RN
EMR Forms Committee Member
Ext. 55753

New Product Concern Form

Did you ever want to let someone know about a concern regarding a product that was NOT related to a product failure? As we started to implement safety devices and looked for ways to have user input, the Sharps Injury Prevention Task Force recommended use of a Product Concern Form. It was then recommended that this form be available for all products, not just for safety products. This was approved by Product Review Committee. This form will be available for you to use to describe concerns that you have regarding products. No more need for wondering whom to call or leaving written messages on notes for anyone. If you did leave a message or write a note in the past, did you wonder what happened with it? This form will now be used to document follow-up on your concern, which will be available for you to review. This green form is available in Distribution and on the forms carts. Its item number is 1017986. (See attached for sample of form.) **This form is not to be used in place of the Medical Device Failure Form (MDFR). The form is intended for use for concerns with products not for actual product failures. Examples might include: sharpness of IV catheters, effectiveness of new clippers, difficulty in the use of a new product, etc.** Please contact me if there are any questions.

Joannie Nei, RN
Chair of Sharps Injury Prevention Task Force
Ext. 55753



Education and Professional Development Programs

May

- 1st – Chicken Soup for the Healthcare Workers Soul
- 3rd-6th – Integrative Imagery – Phase IV
- 8th – Neuro Workshop, The Non Compliant Brain
- 14th – Surgical and Special Care Workshop, GI: It's a Gutsy Business
- 15th – Precepting Basics for Licensed Individuals
- 21st – Diabetes Care in the 21st Century: A Model of Change
- 22nd – Precepting Basics for Unlicensed Individuals
- 29th-30th – Trauma Nursing Core Course

June

- 18th, 20th & 25th – Professional Registered Nursing Retreat: Promoting a Healthy Balance of Body, Mind and Spirit

Congratulations to the Following Who Have Achieved or Maintained Their Level III and IV Clinical Ladder Status!

Level III's

Marty Emblom, RN CSC

- *Peri-Op Pain Poster*
- *Body Piercing Book*
- *Preceptor*
- *Employee Satisfaction Committee*
- *SDSA*
- *Career Day, Tech High School*

Karla Rajkowski, RN Endo

- *Domestic Abuse Sticker*
- *Women's Expo*
- *JCAHO Readiness Packet*
- *Anaphylactic Kit*
- *Topical Anesthetic Policies*
- *Preceptor*
- *Achalasia Poster*
- *Chair Education Committee*
- *SGNA*
- *Motovac Validations*

Colleen Olsen, RN **OR**

- Preceptor
- Surgical Count Peri-op Care Class
- Employee Satisfaction Task Force
- Lazer Committee
- Prone List Reference

Ann Gagliardi, BSN **OR**

- Peri-op Flowsheet Revision
- Met with Department of Health on Sentinel Event
- Emergency Phone List Manual
- Magnets in OR Rooms for Pacemakers
- Phonostomy Count Sheet
- Policies and Procedure Development/Revision
- Practice Committee Chair
- AORN
- Inservice Staff CentraNet Policies and Procedures

Marla Horner, RN **OR**

- Inservice on Mislabeled Instrument
- Open House Ortho Room
- New Narcotic Sign Sheet
- Update Procedure Cards
- Preceptor
- AORN
- Trauma Committee Chair
- Inservice On Cell Saver
- CPD OR Committee Group
- Peri-op Practice Committee

Cheryl Spanier, RN **FBC**

- Diabetes In Pregnancy Inservice
- New Kardex for Nursery
- Pre-op Hyster Class
- Preceptor
- Workload Assignment Task Force
- Women's Health Patient Care Council (Chair)
- Novice Support Group Task Force

Sue Benoit, RN **Tele**

- Preceptor
- Heart Center PI Committee
- Defibrillator Audits
- Preceptor
- Stress Test Module
- Telemetry Education Day Pacemaker/Defib Stations
- Cardiology Planning Committee

Marci Temlin, RN **4NW**

- Vascular Inservice
- Nursing Process Core Group Leader
- Skin Task Force
- PI Committee
- Heparin Drip Skill Station Education Day
- AMSN
- Champion Chart Audit Patient Education

Carol Robinson, BSN **Endo**

- TIPS Poster
- Computer Resource
- Preceptor
- CBO/CBA GI Schedulers
- Digestive Disease Task Force

Level IV**Sherri Pikus** **FBC, ANCC**

- Fetal Monitoring Inservice
- Management of 2nd Stage Labor Inservice
- NRP Instructor
- Infant Care at Child Birth Class
- Policies and Procedure
- V-Back Policy
- Preceptor
- High Risk Mother/Baby Class
- Patient Care Council
- CPR Instructor

Chuck Kalkman, RNC **MHU**

- Onmicell Supervisor
- Safety Committee
- Win-Win Aggressive Management Inservice
- Champions Code Green Audits
- Clinical Ladder Committee
- AMP Class Instructor
- Alliance for Mental Ill Planning Committee



