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Prescribed Reading: March 2010

CentraCare Clinic

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The Case for Service: Patient feedback

Access to care: “I was so excited to get the postcard regarding walk-in care. The next day, I headed to CentraCare with two sick babies. The staff got us in within about 30-45 minutes. I was so grateful. When I got home, I read the postcard again and realized that ‘walk-in’ hours started the following week! Sorry for showing up without an appointment and thank you for being so kind anyway!”

The visit: “I am very satisfied with CentraCare. Everyone is friendly and helpful which puts me at ease and makes me less nervous.”

The care provider: “Talking to Dr. Mallory was like talking to my best friend.”

“Dr. Mitchell was very thorough, listened carefully and made me feel very comfortable. He was interested in hearing my thoughts and concerns. I felt valued.”

The nurse/assistant: “Dr. Keating’s nurse was wonderful with my child. It is evident she LOVES her job!”

Personal issues: “I usually receive test results by phone within 48 hours followed by mailed results. Excellent.”

Overall assessment: “The clinic operates in an efficient and low-stress manner. I often don’t feel like I’m at a clinic!”

demonstrated by the people of our organization.

Everyone matters – and every thing we do matters as we strive to achieve this vision. We all should believe that our personal contributions are important to becoming the best. Collectively, we can take an important step toward achieving our vision by demonstrating our belief in the CCHS core values of being patient-centered; having integrity in everything we do; working collaboratively with others; letting compassion guide our service to patients, other customers and each other; and being careful stewards of the finite health care resources available to us.

As we give our personal best to fulfill the CCHS mission of working to improve the health of every patient, every day, our contribution will make the difference in someone’s life and health. The payoff will be personal growth, increased job satisfaction and the knowledge that we provide the best care for our patients, families and communities.

I would enjoy hearing your comments, ideas or questions. Please send them to Dr. Allen Horn, CentraCare Clinic Administration.

Have some fun at Women’s Health 101!

CentraCare Health System’s ninth annual Women’s Health 101 is from 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., Saturday, April 10, at CentraCare Health Plaza. The event is free, but a $10 donation is encouraged for the women’s health education fund. Visit booths, receive free screenings and enjoy health-related presentations. At 1:45 p.m., the Three Sisters Inspired will motivate the audience to live with passion and purpose. Breakfast/lunch is available for purchase. Pre-registration is encouraged at www.centracare.com. For more information, call (320) 229-4980.
Health care home collaborative begins

On March 5, more than 75 CentraCare providers, employees and patients met to begin work on a health care home collaborative. The goal is to offer patient- and family-centered care, as well as better coordinated care for complex patients with multiple conditions. Each clinic site has designated patient partners to provide critical input from the patient perspective.

DIAMOND program expansion

Thanks to the success of DIAMOND (Depression Improvement Across Minnesota, Offering a New Direction) in Melrose, the program has been expanded to other CentraCare Clinic primary care sites. Patients diagnosed with depression are assigned a care manager who is trained to monitor a patient’s progress through follow-up care.

MyChart offers patients online record access

MyChart gives patients the ability to view their (or their children’s) medical records and test results, as well as receive medical advice from their provider online. MyChart registration currently is available through Plaza Family Medicine Clinic, Heartland, St. Joseph, Becker and the Pediatric Clinic at Women & Children.

Welcome to these new employees:

Melanie Brown, Clinic Services, Women & Children
Brenda Carriereau, Nursing, Pulmonology
Denise Corrigan, Business Center
Kathleen Dusek Lien, Business Center
Amber Havemeier, Nursing, Women & Children
Melissa Kamrowski, Managed Care
Julie Nacey, Business Center
Denise Saylor, Nursing, Women & Children
Barbara Willie, Business Center

Pediatric Walk-in Care is going strong!

Offering convenient, efficient, high-quality patient care has been well received and growing in popularity. Pediatric Walk-in Care saw 707 patients in January and increased to 1,454 patients in February! Walk-in care is available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday for children with cough/cold, ear pain, sore throat, fever, vomiting/diarrhea, minor injuries, pinkeye, rash, stomach pain or urinary symptoms.

Condolences to . . .

Nancy Frank, Business Office, on the loss of her sister-in-law; Kathy Kulus, MD, on the loss of her father; Linda Mors, Becker, on the loss of her brother; and Sherri Weitgenant, Business Office, on loss of her uncle.

CentraCare food drive for local food shelf

The United Way “Feed our Families” food drive to benefit local food shelves runs from March 22-26. Employees can donate money or food at their site.

Recognition for years of service

25 years: Marla Wegleitner, Women & Children
15 years: Bonita Chromy, Long Prairie
10 years: Shelly Harren, Heartland; Joan Henkemeyer, Dermatology; Tammy Hooper, Women and Children; Tammy Koerner-Inelsey, Heartland; Jami Orndorff, River Campus; Doris Woolcott, River Campus
5 years: Sharon Blaskowski, Melrose; Kristi Gieske, River Campus; Tamara Hagerty, Women & Children; Donna Harris, CNP, Endocrine; Della Kuhl, River Campus; Kay Reardon, Plaza – Family Medicine; Patricia Roshaven, Business Center; Kristine Sievers, Plaza – Internal Medicine.

Our apologies to Joyce Dingmann, River Campus, and Jennifer Ouart, Women & Children, for incorrectly spelling their names in a past newsletter.

Congratulations to:

- Hospitalists Eric McFarling, MD; Holly Peterson, MD; and Darin Willardsen, MD, for being a part of an inaugural group designated as “senior fellows” by The Society of Hospital Medicine.
- Sue Gizzi, Becker, on the birth of her son; and Becky Johnson, Heartland, on the birth of her son.

Kudos to . . .

Peter Nelson, MD, Gastroenterology, and Allen Horn, MD, who will discuss colonoscopy screening and colon cancer on Dr. Horn’s weekly radio show airing from 9:10 am to 9:55 a.m. March 13 on WJON (1240AM).

Erin Scapanski, PA, Digestive Center, who talked at the “Protect Your Bottom Line” presentation as part of colorectal cancer screening month.

Yassir Sonbol, MD, and Jim Gwost, Central Minnesota Heart Center, who spoke to the Meeker County Hospitalist, who presented on “cholesterol and stroke” March 5 at Grand Rounds at St. Cloud Hospital.

Extended hours in Long Prairie

Beginning March 15, CentraCare Clinic – Long Prairie is extending its clinic hours until 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday to better serve its patients.

Become a “Fan” of CentraCare Employee Campaign

Become a Facebook fan of CentraCare Employee Campaign (at a kiosk computer or at home) for the chance to win a $30, $60 or $90 iTunes gift card.

Employee reminders

- Deadline for submission of 2009 medical expense/dependent care claims is Mar. 15.
- Take the the Health Assessment before March 31.