

CentraCare Health

DigitalCommons@CentraCare Health

Patient Care News

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

12-2008

Patient Care News: December 2008

St. Cloud Hospital

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



Part of the [Organizational Communication Commons](#)

PATIENT CARE NEWS

St. Cloud Hospital, 1406 6th Avenue, St. Cloud, MN 56303

www.centracare.com

320-251-2700

Have a Blessed Christmas and a Wonderful New Year!



I am again in awe of the accomplishments achieved over the last year by the staff of St. Cloud Hospital. The pressures never cease; we meet them head on and make good things happen. We continue to be recognized as the Top 100 Hospital and most recently a Top 100 Heart Hospital. Our ICU is a Beacon award winner. The Health Grades organization awarded excellence to our orthopedic and urology programs. Quality improvement programs have been recognized as best practice nationally. Our inpatient satisfaction score is at an all time high of 96 percentile and our outpatient scores are in the top quartile. Staff engagement scores were excellent and the engagement to disengaged ratio world class status according to Gallup. We have continued to work on numerous quality initiatives with success. Our use of evidence based practice and research to mold our practice has been exciting and effective. The EPIC System continues to “roll out” and we have worked diligently to optimize the system to better meet our needs.

The building project is well underway with buildings disappearing and new structures taking shape. The design work has been all consuming because we need to get it right. Financial challenges have impacted our budgets and will continue to mandate close monitoring of our expense-revenue equation. We are required to look for ways to maintain a healthy bottom line. New technology, medications and treatments, changing procedures all require due diligence in difficult decisions.

Magnet re-designation activities have given us wonderful opportunity to review all the tremendous accomplishments. As I reflect, I’m reminded of the significant difference we make in the lives of the people we serve and in the lives of our co-workers. I am eternally grateful for the opportunity I have been given to work with you. Though we all have different roles, our common vision of *Care Above All* binds us together.

Every year I look for a new quote that puts things in perspective and I keep coming back to this one by Mayo Angelou:

“I’ve learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow.” “I’ve learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you’ll miss them when they’re gone from your life.” “I’ve learned that making a “living” is not the same thing as “making a life.” “I’ve learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance.” “I’ve learned that you shouldn’t go through life with a catcher’s mitt on both hands you need to be able to throw some things back.” “I’ve learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.” “I’ve learned that even when I have pains, I don’t have to be one.” “I’ve learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. People love a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back.” “I’ve learned that I still have a lot to learn.” “I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you make them feel.”

Happy holidays!
Linda Chmielewski, MS, RN, NEA,BC
Vice President, Hospital Operations/CNO

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|--|---|
| Holiday Greetings | 1 |
| Christmas/New Year’s Cut/Call | 2 |
| Chest Tubes/Catheters in the Pleural Space | 2 |
| Clinical Ladder | 3 |

Christmas & New Year's Cut/Call Sign-up Sheets

Terri Krause, Coordinator, Staffing/Scheduling/Secretarial Services



The Christmas and New Years holidays cut/call sign-up sheets will be arriving on the units in the very near future. The holidays fall on the same schedule and the sign-up sheets for both Christmas and New Years will be posted at the same time on Friday, December 12; however, they will be collected from the units on different dates. Due to the large volumes of staff requesting cut/call for the holidays, collecting the information in advance allows us adequate time to prepare the information needed to accurately determine the order of who will be placed on-call/cut first, second, etc.

THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY cut/call sign-up sheets will cover scheduled shifts starting at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 24th through the 11:00 p.m. shift on Thursday, December 25th.

- These cut/call sign-up sheets will be **collected at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, December 22nd**.

THE NEW YEARS HOLIDAY cut/call sign-up sheets will cover scheduled shifts starting at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 31 through 11:00 p.m. shift on Thursday, January 1st.

- These cut/call sign-up sheets will be **collected at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, December 29th**.

Once the sheets have been collected from the units, any additional requests will be considered late. Please refer to the On-Call/HTO Policy Guidelines and/or your Unit Specific Scheduling Guidelines on how cut/calls are determined on the holiday. Please also note that you may not take back your request once the order of cutting/ and/or placing staff on-call has been determined.

We would like to remind you to please make sure you **write legibly** and **provide a telephone number** where you can be reached. If you have any questions, please call me at Ext. 55705

Flushing/Irrigating Chest Tubes/Catheters in the Pleural Space

*Kirsten N. Skillings RN, MA, CCNS, CCRN
ICU Clinical Nurse Specialist*



Over the last several months there have been a few occurrences of small chest tubes/catheters being inserted into the pleural space with accompanying orders for nursing to flush/irrigate them. The appropriateness of nursing being held responsible for catheter patency by instilling fluid into the pleural space was questioned.

A literature review was completed, networking with other facilities nationwide was done via list serves and local calls were made to other hospitals for inquiry regarding this requested practice. This extensive review validated that bedside registered nurses are not performing this intervention. The review did validate small chest tubes/catheters do need flushing/irrigation to maintain patency, but intervention will be performed by the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice nurse if trained or credentialed.

As a result of this, a statement will be added to the Chest Catheter policy stating that **nursing will NOT flush/irrigate chest tube/catheters in the pleural space.**

~Clinical Ladder~

*Congratulations to the following individuals for achieving
and/or maintaining their Level III Clinical Ladder status!*

Level IVs:

Brenda Spoden, RN Chemo/Infusion

- Subject Matter Expert - EPIC
- Patient Safety Goals - PI
- 2008 Patient Safety Goals - PI
- CRNI, OCN
- Safety Council Chairperson

Brenda Liestman, RN Emergency Trauma Center

- PALS, TNCC, ENPC Instructor
- CEN, Certified Flight Registered Nurse (CFRN)
- Rapid Sequence Intubation Inservice
- Trauma Assessment/Code Inservice
- Preceptor

Melissa Fradette, RN Intensive Care Unit

- EKG Class Instructor
- Code Blue Station
- Monthly Mock Code Blue
- CMAC Program Chairperson
- CCRN

Cathy Barden, RN Surgical Care Unit

- Nursing Process Class
- Code Blue Audit
- CPOE CBT
- Preceptor
- CMS RN

Dick Beaström, RN North PACU

- Basic EKG Instructor
- Preceptor
- Muscle Relaxant Inservice
- Post-Anesthesia Care Course Module
- Certified Perianesthesia Nurse (CPAN)
- Adult Health Advanced Practice

Level IIIs:

Shelby Sorenson, RN Medical 2

- EPIC Super User
- EBP Committee - PCA Retention
- PCA Retention Inservice

Jane Chounard, RN Surgery, Operating Room

- Team IV Resource Module
- Pediatric Trauma C-Locker
- Curbside Stations
- Certified Nurse Operating Room (CNOR)

Level IIIs cont'd:

Janet Ostendorf, RN Dialysis

- EPIC Super User
- CPC
- Case Scenarios - Communication

Susan Anderson, RN Emergency Trauma Center

- EPIC Super User
- MDH Influenza Testing
- ETC Nurse Practice Committee Chairperson
- Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN)

Mary Pohlman, RN Kidney Dialysis, Inpt.

- Preceptor
- MRSA Poster for Patients
- Hemodialysis Devices Inservice
- Certified Dialysis Nurse (CDN)

Sharon Spanier, RN Surgical Care Unit

- Preceptor
- Vascular Inservice
- PE Case Study
- RNC - Med/Surg

Angie Mehr, RN Surgical Care Unit

- Discharge Writers: Thyroidectomy, Mastectomy
- Safety Goals PI Report
- Preceptor
- Wound Camera Station

Janet Kociemba, RN Family Birthing Center

- Perinatal Loss CCP
- RTS Committee
- Perinatal Loss Grad Class
- RTS Support Group

Janet Bearden, RN Children's Center

- Car Seat Clinic
- Preceptor
- Posters: Clinical Ladder, ICP
- Color Coded Omnicells

Kathy Morin, RN Surgical Care Unit

- Urology Inservice
- Safety Goals PI Report
- Preceptor
- Clinical Ladder Committee