

# Medical Staff Update

September 2013

## Northwest Tower Designed to Maximize Healing



*A rendering of the 3rd floor waiting room in St. Jude's new Northwest Tower.*

State seismic requirements created the need for the Northwest Tower, but a commitment to outstanding care created its design. Once completed in late 2014, the tower will offer an array of new capabilities and just as the Southwest Tower provided private rooms for new moms and families, the Northwest Tower will offer beautifully-designed private rooms to medical and surgical patients.

"We have a better understanding now of what is necessary for patients to receive optimal care, and it's more than just a bed, a nurse and a doctor – it is an environment," explains James Benoit, MD, Chief of Staff. "The new tower offers patient rooms that are bigger, quieter, more comfortable, and designed to maximize patient healing."

The 200,000 square foot tower will replace the patient rooms and surgical services located in the hospital's two original buildings – opened in 1957 and 1962 – which no longer meet state seismic standards.

Legally mandated to replace the aging facilities by 2015, the new tower includes 14 state-of-the-art surgical suites that feature advances in imaging and robotics capabilities:

- Neurosurgery suite with intra-operative MRI (one of the first of its kind in Southern California)
- Cardiovascular surgery "smart" suite
- Five orthopaedic surgery "smart" suites
- Six general surgery "smart" suites

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## So, What's Growing on Your Hands?

Everyone in health care knows that hand-washing is the best possible means of preventing infection – yet too few do it regularly. To increase the number of hands undergoing regular scrubbing, St. Jude began a "Protect, Don't Infect!" campaign that includes hand-hygiene experts available on every unit to audit compliance and track improvement.



*This hand culture was taken from a randomly selected physician. Heavy staph species and moderate diphtheroid-like organisms were identified.*

Specially trained to monitor whether staff and physicians are washing their hands at key points in patient care, these hand-hygiene experts track missed opportunities for hand-washing by discipline: separate results are reported for nurses, doctors, lab, imaging, etc.

At the end of February, a baseline of 57 percent was established and a month later, compliance had increased to 62 percent. The goal? Over 95 percent.

A random culturing of several physicians' hands as they sat down to eat dinner found a variety of bacteria, including staff and strep. "Bacteria that won't harm healthy individuals can be deadly to patients with open wounds, incisions, catheters or compromised immune systems," explains Claudia Skinner, DNP, RN, CCRN, CNML, NEBC, Director of Evidence-Based Practice and Infection Prevention. "The simple step of washing your hands is where good patient care begins."

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- Cardiovascular hybrid surgery suite with robotic C-arm (combining the power of 3D and 4D imaging, minimally invasive techniques and traditional open surgery techniques in one procedure)

To help purchase some of the new multi-million dollar technology, a community-wide campaign has been launched to raise \$20 million. Through the generosity of physicians, employees, volunteers and community members, \$12 million has been raised to date.

The four-story tower will also house a new pharmacy, pathology department, hospital kitchen, and dining room. Two entire floors of natural light-filled private rooms will overlook a healing garden and feature amenities from bedside computer stations to sleeper chairs for family members. For more information and videos about the new tower, please visit **StJudeNWT.com**.

## Save the Date: Stroke Symposium

Saturday, Oct. 5, St. Jude Centers for Rehabilitation and Wellness

A variety of experts and guest speakers will discuss updates and innovations in stroke care, including pre-hospital management, evidence based approaches, and new research. Lectures will be enhanced with group discussions of case presentations and point-counter-point debates.

For more information, visit **[sjmedstaff.org](http://sjmedstaff.org)** or call (714) 992-3000, ext. 3775.

## Medical Staff News

Please visit the medical staff website at **[sjmedstaff.org](http://sjmedstaff.org)** for a list of the Committee Meetings and CME scheduled activities. For more information, please call (714) 992-3000, ext. 3775.

All meetings held in the in the SJMC Erickson Education Center

### **Quality Review Committees (Peer Review) all members invited:**

9/4 – Surgery, 7 a.m.

9/5 – Medicine, 12:30 p.m.

9/11 – Cardiothoracic, 7:30 a.m.

### **Clinical Service Meetings:**

9/9 – Pathology, 7:30 a.m.

9/27 – Emergency Medicine, 12:30 p.m.

### **New Physicians On Staff:**

Anthony Caffarelli, MD

Cardiovascular Surgery

Colin Joyo, MD

Cardiovascular Surgery

Aidan Raney, Jr., MD

Cardiovascular Surgery

Douglas Zusman, MD

Cardiovascular Surgery

Theodore Okerson, MD

Internal Medicine