

Medical Staff Update

January 2015

New Chief of Staff Takes the Helm

As Panagiotis Bougas, MD, begins his two-year term as Chief of Staff, learning how to pronounce his first name may be the medical staff's first challenge, but according to the Mayo Clinic-trained intensivist, it is unlikely to be the last.



"Everyone recognizes that healthcare is changing," explains Dr. Bougas, who joined the medical staff nearly 17 years ago. "The demands and restraints placed on physicians have grown, making it much more challenging to practice the kind of medicine that prompted many of us to become doctors."

Yet the multiple subspecialty board-certified physician believes there is no better environment to face an ever-changing healthcare landscape than at St. Jude Medical Center. "This is a very special place to practice medicine," says the father of four teenagers. "A supportive and forward-thinking medical center administration, an obvious commitment to new technology and upgraded facilities, and an exceptionally talented and cohesive medical staff: that is a foundation found at very few hospitals."

The Fullerton resident says he is continually impressed by his peers. "I am always amazed how brilliant and committed our doctors are – it is the reason I have never wanted to practice anywhere else," he explains. "Almost every week I discover a physician's Ivy League education, their MIT engineering degree or MBA degree, their passion for patient care, or some other element that demonstrates once again, what a remarkable group of doctors we have." Recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments and talents of the medical staff will be a priority for the new Chief of Staff over the next two years.

Although born in California, Dr. Bougas was raised in Greece –making him fluent in Greek – before returning to the states to complete high school, college and medical training. He joined St. Jude Heritage Medical Group in 2007 as an intensivist and is board certified in pulmonary, critical care, and neurocritical care, and will be recertifying this spring in Internal Medicine with a focus in hospital medicine.

Critical Care Intensivist Program: Proposed Rule Change

Medical Executive Committee (MEC) is considering an addition to the Medical Staff General Rules & Regulations regarding the critical care intensivist program. Per Medical Staff Bylaws 15.1, the MEC will not act until the Medical Staff has had a reasonable opportunity to review and comment on the proposed rule, which is posted at sjmedstaff.org.

If you would like to submit comments, please fax your comments to Medical Staff Services at (714) 447-6411 between Jan. 5 - 19. All comments will be summarized and provided to the MEC.

FDA-Approved Blood Glucose Monitoring System

A recent CMS Alert brought attention to the use of blood glucose monitoring systems (BGMS) in the hospital setting. St. Jude Medical Center uses the Nova StatStrip Glucose Hospital Meter System – the only BGMS approved by the FDA for use on critically ill patients. There is, however, an exception that states: "even this system is not permitted to be used with capillary (finger stick) blood draws."

In compliance with the finding, the following is recommended: In the care of a critically ill patient, if a BGMS is used to determine the blood glucose level, this value must be confirmed by a concurrent venous blood draw for a STAT blood glucose level performed in the clinical laboratory.

Please contact Victor Lee, MD, at ext. 4014 or Susan Wales, Clinical Laboratory Scientist, at ext. 2897 with any questions.

Board Certification Requirement

Active and Senior Active Staff voted to approve the Medical Staff Bylaws Proposed Amendment for Board Certification Requirements, and the Board of Trustees granted final approval.

Please visit sjmedstaff.org to evaluate if you will be impacted.

Welcome New Physicians

Ali Tajik, MD

**Family Medicine, Board Certified
Internal Medicine, Board Certified**

Medical Staff Meeting Calendar 2015

Physician attendance and involvement in medical staff activities is not only essential to improving and maintaining patient care, but is an obligation of each medical staff member. Physicians earn points by attending their department or QRC meetings, General Staff meetings, and Annual Staff meetings: 6 points are required to maintain Active Staff Status and 2 points are needed to maintain Courtesy Staff Status. Meeting calendar is available at sjmedstaff.org.

All meetings are held in the Erickson Education Center, unless otherwise noted.

Cardiothoracic Dept.: 7:30 a.m., Jan. 14, Mar. 11, May 13, Jul. 8, Oct. 14, William Thibault, MD, Chair, Jesus Vera, MD, Vice-Chair

Cardiology QRC (Peer Review): 7:30 a.m., Feb. 11, Apr. 8, Jun. 10, Sept. 9, Nov. 11

Medicine Dept.: 12:30 p.m., Jan. 8, Mar. 5, May 7, Jul. 2, Oct. 1
William Batty, M.D., Chair, Tuan Trinh, M.D., Vice-Chair

Medicine QRC (Peer Review): 12:30 p.m., Feb. 5, Apr. 2, Jun. 4, Sept. 3, Nov. 5

Surgery Dept.: 7 a.m., Jan. 7, Mar. 4, May 6, Jul. 1, Oct. 7
Derrick Marinelli, MD, Chair, Michael McConnell, MD, Vice-Chair

Surgery QRC (Peer Review): 7 a.m., Feb. 4, Apr. 1, Jun. 3, Sept. 2, Nov. 4

Women & Children's Dept.: 12:30 p.m., Jan. 14, Mar. 11, May 13, Jul. 8, Oct. 14, David Hicks, MD, Chair, Johanna Su, MD, Vice-Chair

Women & Children's QRC (Peer Review): 12:30 p.m., Feb. 11, Apr. 8, Jun. 10, Sept. 9, Nov. 11

Anesthesia Clinical Service: 7 a.m., Feb. 10, Apr. 14, Jun. 9, Oct. 13, Kyle Wehner, MD, Chair, Paul Padova, DO, Vice-Chair

Emergency Medicine Clinical Service: 12 p.m., Jan. 23, Mar. 27, May 22, Jul. 24, Sept. 25, Nov. 20, Anson Lam, MD, Chair, Donald Greco, MD, Vice-Chair

Radiology Clinical Service: 12:30 p.m., Feb. 18, May 20, Jul. 15, Nov. 18, Bradford Silveira, MD, Chair, Danh Nguyen, MD, Vice-Chair

Pathology Clinical Service: 7:30 a.m., North Basement Conference Room, Feb. 2, May 9, Sept. 14, Nov. 2, Patrick Fitzgibbons, MD, Chair, Shirin Farahmand, MD, Vice-Chair

General Staff Meeting: Apr. 28, 6 p.m., All physicians invited