

Medical Staff Update

September 2014

Palliative Care vs. Hospice: What's the Difference?

Often the lines between palliative care and hospice can become blurred, but the fact is the two serve very different purposes. "There is a lot of confusion over the difference," says Dorothy Lippman, RNP, a Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner, "which can mean patients aren't receiving the full range of services of what palliative care can offer them and their families."

So, who should be referred to palliative care? Those with a life-limiting condition – such as cancer, advanced COPD, severe heart disease, or end-stage dementia – who are approaching the limits of what medical management can provide. Palliative care patients benefit from additional support in managing their symptoms as well as help clarifying their goals for care.

"Our patients are often still undergoing treatment but may be reaching the end of what medical management can offer," says Lippman, who explains that patients remain under the direct medical care of their personal physician. "We provide support and resources, with a goal of creating the highest possible quality of life."

Specially trained palliative care nurse practitioners and physicians can step in and bring a fresh perspective to symptoms such as pain, severe fatigue or shortness of breath – as well as help the patient and family better understand the illness and their priorities for the future. "By alleviating symptoms and providing additional education, we can often reduce the patient and family's anxiety," explains Mansur Lee, MD, board-certified intensivist and palliative care physician. "We don't replace the attending physician, we simply aim to provide support."

To contact Palliative Care services, please call (714) 992-3000 ext. 2463.

Joint Commission: Coming Soon

Joint Commission surveyors are expected sometime during the next several months and an essential element of the survey will include interviews with physicians.

"The surveyors want to see that our physicians are familiar with – and hopefully actively participating in – performance improvement and patient quality initiatives," explains Paulette Fletcher, RN, MSN, CPHQ, HACP, Manager, Regulatory Compliance.

If you are interviewed, here are some specific elements about the medical staff's role in performance improvement the surveyors will be looking for:

1. Awareness that there is a Performance Improvement Plan that incorporates all departments of the hospital.
2. Recognition that performance improvement indicators are directly related to our organizational goals, patient safety and outcomes.
3. Awareness of where performance improvement activities are displayed.
 - Bulletin boards on the nursing units
 - Medical staff department meetings
4. Familiarity with what indicators the hospital is currently monitoring.
 - Patient satisfaction scores
 - Core measures: CHF, Pneumonia, Stroke and SCIP

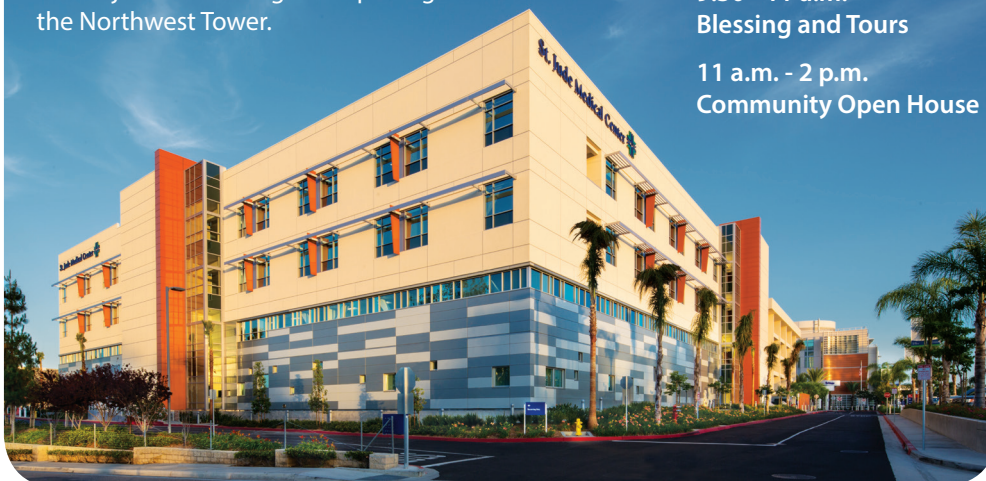
Questions? Please contact Paulette Fletcher, RN, MSN, CPHQ, HACP, Manager, Regulatory Compliance at ext. 3609 or Cindy Radcliffe, Director, Medical Staff at ext. 3986.

Save the Date: Northwest Tower Grand Opening Nov. 8

Please join us for the grand opening of the Northwest Tower.

9:30 - 11 a.m.
Blessing and Tours

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Community Open House



Welcome New Physicians

Noor Haffar, MD
Ophthalmology

Jeffrey Milliken, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgery

Important Dates to Remember

Sept. 30: Physician Leadership Series at St. Jude Medical Center, 6 p.m.
Keynote Speaker: Jay Kaplan, M.D., Topic: Leadership & Accountability

Oct. 18: 2nd Annual Stroke Symposium at St. Jude Centers for Rehabilitation & Wellness, Brea
7:30 a.m. registration - Noon

Nov. 4: Annual Staff Meeting at St. Jude Medical Center, 6 p.m.

Keynote Speaker: Daniel Kraft, M.D. Topic: Exponential Technologies and The Future of Medicine

Daniel Kraft is a Stanford and Harvard trained physician-scientist with over 20 years of experience in clinical practice, biomedical research and innovation. Dr. Kraft chairs the Medicine track for Singularity University and is Executive Director and curator for the FutureMed program, which explores convergent, exponential technologies across healthcare. He is board-certified in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics following a residency at Massachusetts General Hospital, and completed Stanford fellowships in hematology/oncology & bone marrow transplantation, and postdoctoral work in stem cell biology and regenerative medicine. He has multiple scientific publications, medical device, immunology and stem cell related patents through faculty positions with Stanford University School of Medicine and as pediatric bone marrow transplantation clinical faculty at University of California, San Francisco.

Dr. Kraft recently founded IntelliMedicine, focused on connected, data driven, and integrated personalized medicine. He is the inventor of the MarrowMiner, an FDA approved device for the minimally invasive harvest of bone marrow, and founded RegenMed Systems, a company developing technologies to enable adult stem cell based regenerative therapies. Dr. Kraft is an avid pilot and has served for the past decade as a flight surgeon with an F-16 Squadron in the California Air National Guard. He has conducted research on aerospace medicine that was published with NASA, with whom he was a finalist for astronaut selection.

Contact the Medical Staff Office for details on any of the above events at (714) 446-5751.

(September Medical Staff Meetings – Points awarded for attendance to the meetings below.)

Medical Staff Meetings

9/8: Pathology Clinical Service, 7:30 a.m.

9/10: Cardiothoracic QRC, 7:30 a.m.

9/11: Patient Safety/PI Committee, 7:30 a.m.

9/26: Physician Informatics, 7:30 a.m.
Emergency Medicine Clinical Services, 12 p.m.