

Medical Staff **NEWS**

SAFETY & IV PUSH MEDICATIONS

Institute for Safe Medication Practices

Most high-alert medications that are known to cause patient harm are administered via the IV route. Administering an IV medication too quickly can seriously harm patients.

A recent study in the British Medical Journal confirmed that rapid administration of IV medications occur frequently. The majority of the errors occurred when giving IV push doses, and in 95% of those cases, the dose was given faster than recommended. More than half of these errors were of potentially moderate severity.

Safe Practice Recommendations for Physicians:

- Dilute medications that carry a risk of adverse effects if administered too quickly and administer as a piggyback or via an infusion pump.
- When writing orders, avoid using terms such as "IV push", "IVP", or "bolus" with drugs that require administration over 1 minute or longer.
- Use more descriptive terms such as "IV over 5 minutes".

DIRECT ADMISSIONS AND COGENT

If a physician is sending a direct admission to the hospital and the patient is going to be managed by a Cogent Hospitalist, the referring physician must call the Cogent physician to discuss the case and the reason for admission prior to sending the patient to the hospital. This will greatly enhance our ability to have the patient in the right place at the right time and to provide optimal patient care.

I N • T H I S • I S S U E

- Safety & IV Push Medications • Direct Admissions and Cogent
- A Message From Your Librarian • HIPAA • Physician Notes
- Medical Staff Hotline • Continuing Medical Education

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN.

More than ever, medical information is at your fingertips. The Medical Library subscribes to a variety of databases that are available to all physicians on staff at Lee Memorial Health System from their personal computers.

View the Medical Library WEB site at:
www.leememorial.org/MedLibrary.

OVID, one of the most useful databases, offers access to full-text articles from 150 medical journals, full-text medical textbooks, Evidence-Based Medicine databases, Medline, HealthStar, and CancerLit.

ProQuest, another proprietary database, offers full-text articles from approximately 270 medical and nursing journals available instantly. Among the titles, you will find Lancet, JAMA, and British Medical Journal.

The Medical Library WEB site contains announcements about recent library acquisitions and availability of free trials. The latest is the trial of PIER; the database of the American College of Physicians designed to answer clinical questions.

To obtain passwords to this and to other databases, please e-mail your request to Narges Ahmadi, Medical Librarian at

narges.ahmadi@leememorial.org. Please include your name and your phone number. The librarian will send you your passwords and directions via e-mail.

Happy surfing! Narges Ahmadi, Medical Librarian

HIPAA revolution: Dazed & Confused



PHYSICIAN NOTES

Congratulations to **William Liu, MD** for his recent publications.

“Medication Errors in the NICU”, *Pediatric Research* 2003;53(4):560A

“A Model for Quality Improvement in the NICU”, *Journal for Healthcare Quality* 2003;25(3):12-20;
website: <http://www.nahq.org/db/ce/articleDetail?article=150&searchTerm=>

MEDICAL STAFF HOTLINE

For Medical Staff Issues or Concerns, call the Medical Staff Hotline at 334-5700.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

The University of Miami School of Medicine offers a home study course “**HIV/AIDS Update** for \$15. This self-instructional course fulfills the HIV/AIDS CME requirement of 1 hour for Florida licensed physicians.

The link to view course, post-test and evaluation:

<http://www.med.miami.edu/med/education/cme/pdf/HIVAIDS%20UPDATE%20SELF%20INSTR.pdf>

CME JUNE

“SUBSTANCE ABUSE”

Mark Lokitus, D.O.

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

7:00 – 8:00 PM

Lee Memorial Hospital Auditorium

RSVP by June 16th for Dinner

“PODIATRIC DIABETES AND VASCULAR DISEASE”

David Gavin, DPM

Thursday, June 26, 2003

12:30 – 1:30 PM

Lee Memorial Hospital Auditorium

COMING SOON.

LEE CARDIAC CARE PRESENTS:

“DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE”

Lawrence Klein, DO, FACC, M. Erick Burton, MD, FACC, Gary Allen, MD & Cedric Sheffield, MD

Saturday, July 19, 2003

Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa
Objectives for this 4 CME conference include CHF management, indications for the application of resynchronization therapy, Surgical Ventricular Restoration and destination therapy using implantable ventricular assist devices.

If you have questions or would like to submit an article to *Medical Staff News*, please contact Joanne Gorgone, RN, BSN, CME Coordinator, Lee Memorial Health System

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