

Medical Staff **NEWS**

EXPANSION OF EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT CASE MANAGEMENT AND MEDICAL SOCIAL WORKER COVERAGE

By Mark Greenberg, M.D.

Several regulatory changes have necessitated expansion of case management and social work services in our Emergency Departments.

- Effective March 1, 2002, Medicaid is implementing a Web site-based clinical prior authorization program that requires additional staffing to ensure compliance.
- On 1/21/02 BCBS of Florida changed the HMO and PPO medical inpatient admission certification/authorization process which places additional demands (requests for clinical information) on Case Management.
- Medicare's Payment Error Prevention Program (PEPP), with its focus on screening for unnecessary admission, will continue into the soon to be released FMQAI "Seventh Scope of Work."

Finally, the ED Physicians have requested expansion of coverage because of the increased efficiencies resulting from having Case Management and Social Work services available. When all positions are filled, Case Management coverage will expand from 12 hours – 7 days per week to 16 hours Monday through Friday (no change on weekends). Social Workers will be in the ED from 12:00 PM to 8:30 PM – 7 days per week. The hope is that these changes will allow LMHS to meet new regulatory demands while minimizing the impact on physicians.

EMS DESTINATION PROTOCOL

Due to the increased number of people that come to Southwest Florida during the "seasonal" months, a great demand is put on the Emergency Medical Services and the hospitals in Lee County. As a result of this, EMS in cooperation with area hospitals has implemented transport destinations based on protocols. The following is a synopsis:

Acute Myocardial Infarction: For those patients showing positive EKG changes and positive Troponin I results, these patients are to go to HealthPark Medical Center or SW Regional Medical Center.

Brain Attack: These patients are suspected stroke, including stroke alerts, and should go to Lee Memorial Hospital-Cleveland Campus and SW Regional Medical Center.

Pediatrics: All pediatric patients (all children 18 or younger) should go to HealthPark

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Medical Center, Cape Coral Hospital, East Point, or Gulf Coast Hospital.

OB/GYN: By protocol, these patients should be sent to HealthPark Medical Center, Cape Coral, East Point, or Gulf Coast Hospitals.

Trauma Alerts: All patients meeting **Trauma alert** protocols will be transported to Lee Memorial Hospital as the designated trauma center. Non-trauma alerts can be treated at all of the Lee County hospitals.

Neonates: All neonates will be transported to HealthPark Medical Center.

All **PRIORITY ONE** calls from EMS will go to the nearest hospital regardless of the **diversion** status of that hospital called by EMS. Ruth Brooke-Antony, HealthPark Medical Center ED

MICROMEDEX

What is Micromedex?

Micromedex is a product Lee Memorial Health System has purchased to provide easy access to a clinical resource for clinician reference and patient education. Micromedex supports an internal editorial staff of over 50 pharmacist, toxicologists, physicians, and nurses. In addition, Micromedex has an international editorial board of more than 450 practicing experts in the field of industrial and clinical toxicology, industrial hazard risk assessment, emergency and critical care medicine, and pharmacology. They ensure that the full text documents are unbiased, thoroughly researched, evaluated, and referenced based on the world's leading literature. Editorial Board information is available online in Micromedex.

Micromedex tools that have been purchased include:

- Toxicology - product ingredient information and Tablet & Capsule identification.
- Trade/Generic Drugs – Drug trade name, manufacturer and dosage form information.

- Drug Interactions – Drug interaction information, Drug-Drug, Drug-Food, Drug-Disease, Drug-Ethanol and Drug-Laboratory assay interactions.
- Dosing Tools – Emergency drug dosing calculators.
- IV Compatibility
- Care Notes – Health and drug patient education leaflets.
- An integrated search function is also available.

How can you access Micromedex?

- 1) Micromedex is currently available from the IntraLee home page. From any device that already accesses IntraLee → On the home page → Click on **Application** → Micromedex is listed on the drop down menu. To access, click on **Micromedex**.
- 2) As the new devices in a department receive the New “Windows” look, Micromedex will be displayed on the applications desktop as a separate icon.

Micromedex Education

Online tutorial is available within Micromedex, and is user-friendly.

If you desire educational assistance for navigating Micromedex, please call 334-5226, and a representative of Information Services will arrange to meet with you, or send you an instructional packet. Clinical Department staff is in the process of being educated in the use of Micromedex, and may also be able to assist you.

TRANSFER OF PATIENT AND CHARTS

Effective March 12, 2002, patients and their charts will be transferred together from CCH to HP. The current MAR will accompany the chart. HealthPark Medical records will return all charts to Medical Records at Cape Coral Hospital within 24 hours. This process is currently working well at Lee Memorial. This is a process improvement for safe and efficient care for our patients.

NEWS FROM THE MEDICAL LIBRARY

Doing research just got easier. The Medical Library at LMHS has added 130 full-text journals to its electronic journal collection. Over 150 full-text journals are available via the Internet and can be accessed from computers in the LMH and CCH libraries. Physicians on staff at LMHS may also access journals from their computers at home. Please contact Narges Ahmadi, the Medical Librarian at **334-5410** to register for this service. In addition to the journals, users may access Evidence-Based Medicine, Medline, HealthStar, Cancerlit, and many other databases at the same address. Retrieved citations will either have a link to the full text or will have a notation as to whether the print journal is available in the LMH or CCH collection.

PHYSICIAN NOTES

Lee Physician Group is pleased to announce that **DR. DANIEL S. BENDETOWICZ** has been elected to the Fellowship in the American College of Physicians-American Society of Internal Medicine (ACP-ASIM).

STATE OF THE ART EQUIPMENT IN THE NEURODIAGNOSTIC LAB

Long term video monitoring is available for patients with epilepsy. This new piece of equipment allows for simultaneous video taping and brain wave monitoring for up to 48 hours. Pediatric seizure patients can stay at HealthPark now for this procedure instead of going to Tampa or Miami. For more info contact Terri Barrington, Supervisor for the Neurodiagnostic Lab at **432-3449**.

INFANT PROTECTION SYSTEM

Thanks to Dave Kistel and John Wiest, a new infant protection system was installed at CCH to track patients in **OB and Peds**. This same system will soon be in place at HealthPark as well. Locked units, alarms, access codes and cameras are all ways that LMHS provides for patient safety.

ERROR PREVENTION TIPS

- **Check all patient charts for legibility**
- **Avoid felt tip pens. They don't go through multi-page order sheets.**

PHARMACY NEWS

Due to the imminent shortage of injectable furosemide (**Lasix**), the following substitution will be initiated for the health system.

Ordered Medication	Primary Substitution	Secondary Substitution
20 mg IV Furosemide	0.5 mg IV Bumetanide	5 mg IV Torsemide
40 mg IV Furosemide	1 mg IV Bumetanide	20 mg IV Torsemide
60 mg IV Furosemide	1.5 mg IV Bumetanide	30 mg IV Torsemide
80 mg IV Furosemide	2 mg IV Bumetanide	40 mg IV Torsemide
100 mg IV Furosemide	2.5 mg IV Bumetanide	50 mg IV Torsemide

According to the manufacturer, the next proposed release date for IV Furosemide will be some time around April. Since many hospitals across the nation are substituting IV Bumetanide (Bumex) for Lasix, it has resulted in a shortage of IV Bumex. In an effort to maintain patient diuretic therapy the substitution chart has been developed so that IV Torsemide (Demadex) can automatically be substituted in the event that Bumex is unavailable.

All medical staff and nursing will be notified of the substitution via the Therapeutic Interchange Physician Order Sheet.

CELLULAR PHONES AND PATIENT SAFETY

Recent studies have indicated that electromagnetic or radio-frequency interference (EMI,RFI) can cause monitoring, diagnostic or therapeutic medical equipment to malfunction. Such interference can be generated by cellular telephones and other telecommunications devices.

Since the need for rapid communication among medical personnel is an important part of quality patient care, LMHS seeks to balance these two concerns and enhance patient safety through application of appropriate limitations on the use of personal cellular phones in our facilities.

No cellular phones should be used within 5 feet of any medical equipment that is in use.

Personal cellular phones should not be used in any patient rooms or in the following areas:

- All Critical Care areas
- Laboratories
- Surgical Units
- Cardiac Cath suites
- Neonatal patient care areas
- Emergency Dept. patient care areas
- Hemodialysis areas
- Outpatient infusion areas

Portable phone systems which have been installed by the system (zone phones) should not be utilized within 5 feet of functioning medical equipment except in emergency situations.

Personal cellular phone usage is allowed in lobbies, waiting rooms, corridors / hallways, cafeterias and outside the buildings.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION – CME MARCH 2002

Saturday, March 16, 2002

Lee Memorial Hospital Auditorium
8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. CME lecture
“Advances in the Treatment & Prophylaxis of Venous Thromboembolic Disease”
Daniel Kett, MD
Associate Professor, University of Miami School of Medicine
Director, MICU Jackson Memorial Hospital
This CME is co-sponsored with Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center
RSVP Breakfast 574-0374

Thursday, March 21, 2002

Lee Memorial Hospital Auditorium
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
“Pain Management and Palliative Medicine”
Mary Stegman, MD

Tuesday, March 26, 2002

Lee Memorial Hospital Auditorium
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
“PCA Pump Skills: The Physicians Role”
Gene Mahaney, MD
Yvonne Bokrand-Donatelli, PharmD, MPAS
RSVP Dinner 574-0374

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
Medical Staff Services, 636 Del Prado Boulevard, Cape Coral, Florida 33990
Phone: (941) 574-0397 Fax:(941) 772-6564 • E-Mail: joanne.gorgone@leememorial.org