

In Touch

New CME to Focus on Medical Imaging

Advances in interventional radiology and other medical imaging techniques top the agenda at St. Mary Medical Center's new continuing medical education (CME) conference, "Imaging Update for the Clinician," on September 26. According to **Valerie Frazier**, Manager, Continuing Medical Education, this is the first time St. Mary is offering a CME program that focuses solely on topics in medical imaging.

"This half-day conference will help to foster a better understanding of new developments in radiology and the application of imaging to patient care," notes the program's moderator, **Daniel Cohen, MD**.

Topics of the conference include radiation safety for the clinician, management of the incidental pulmonary nodule, CT angiography for the diagnosis and treatment planning of vascular abnormalities, MR angiography, and MRI and sports medicine.

In addition to Cohen, the expert faculty includes the following St. Mary specialists:

- **Christopher Kirkpatrick, MD**
- **Joel Neuman, MD**
- **Gustavo Sanchez, MD**
- **Davindra Seelagan, MD**
- **Lynne Taus, MD**

"Teaching methods will include lectures, case presentations, and question-and-answer sessions with faculty using a wireless audience-response system," Frazier notes.

The conference will begin at 9 AM and conclude at 1 PM at the Middletown Country Club, 420 North Bellevue Avenue. Breakfast and lunch will be available. Participants will earn 3.25 CME credits. To register, please call 215.710.4612. ☞

St. Mary Earns Reaccreditation from Joint Commission

The Joint Commission recently granted three-year reaccreditation to St. Mary Medical Center, following a comprehensive on-site survey earlier this year. Accreditation signifies that the Medical Center meets the Joint Commission's national standards for healthcare quality and safety of patient care.

The Joint Commission's 2009 survey focused on key areas such as Emergency Management, Infection Prevention and Control, Information Management, National Patient Safety Goals, and Performance Improvement.



"St. Mary takes very seriously its commitment to providing high-quality patient care, and we continually benchmark our quality and patient safety with national and state hospital indicators," says **Joseph Conroy, MD**, Vice President and Chief Medical Officer.

In addition to the hospital accreditation, the Joint Commission has awarded Gold Seals of Approval™ to the St. Mary Primary Stroke Center, the St. Mary Sleep/Wake Disorders Center, and our hip and knee joint replacement programs. ☞

QUALITY AND SAFETY

First-Quarter Quality Core Measures

For the first quarter of 2009 (January through March), St. Mary Medical Center continued its outstanding performance on the CMS Core Measure composite scores. The composite scores for the quarter were: acute myocardial infarction (AMI, 100 percent), congestive heart failure (CHF, 99.1 percent), pneumonia (99.2 percent), and the Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP, 96.2 percent).



Core Measures are publicly reported measures of healthcare quality, used by consumers and payors alike, according to **Suzanne Lion**, Director of Patient Safety and Regulatory Affairs.

"A new challenge for us this year is preparing for the CMS' upcoming expansion of the Core Measures," says Lion. "Physician documentation is key to the accurate abstraction and submission of data that reflect the care provided our patients."

The anticipated new Core Measures include cardiac surgery; readmission rates for AMI, pneumonia, and CHF; death among surgical patients with treatable serious conditions; accidental puncture or laceration; and post-operative wound dehiscence.

To read more about the Core Measure initiatives, please visit www.StMaryHealthcare.org/quality. ☞

Watch for Single Sign-On

St. Mary Medical Center is moving forward with Single Sign-On, an advanced technological tool to enhance quality of care and streamline physicians' workflow.

The software allows physicians, nurses, and healthcare providers to log onto a workstation once and use a single password to start multiple applications.

The system will be available on clinical workstations in the Emergency Department, nursing units, physicians' lounge, and cardiology reading room. Physicians also will have the ability to use Single Sign-On in their offices.

"Physicians' time is so valuable. With Single Sign-On, the applications will be available to doctors much more quickly," says **Gerry Bender**, Application Analyst I and Single Sign-On project lead.

A User ID and just one password will allow access to Meditech, Alpha Document Imaging, PICIS, GE Centricity Radiology, GE Centricity Cardiology, and GE Muse CWWeb. The new system is expected to go live this summer after physicians are registered and complete an easy 10-minute training session.

The system will feature Tap & Go, which allows doctors to log onto the system only once during the day. Doctors then can move from terminal to terminal and have access by simply tapping their ID badges on a small device attached to the terminals. ↪



ST. MARY HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY

Two Exciting DynaMed Features

The St. Mary Health Sciences Library received a very strong positive response about its new online point-of-care resource, DynaMed. With clinically organized summaries of more than 3,000 topics, DynaMed is the only evidence-based reference shown to answer most clinical questions during practice. The product is updated daily and monitors the content of more than 500 medical journals and systematic evidence-review databases.

A popular feature of DynaMed is the capability to download the entire product onto an iPhone or PDA. Many physicians already have taken advantage of this convenience to facilitate access to this evidence-based information at the point of care. Anyone interested should contact the library for an installation serial number and instructions.

DynaMed also offers point-of-care CME credit (AMA Category 1 and AAFP). Simply begin a search or topic review from your computer and select the "Get CME for this Search" link. A short form will pop up and ask you to describe your search in terms of a clinical question. Clicking "Submit" at the bottom of the form sends the data electronically to our CME Manager, **Valerie Frazier**, who then assigns the proper credit to your St. Mary CME transcript.

DynaMed can be accessed remotely via Athens, under the EBSCOHost Databases link. Within St. Mary, go to <http://search.ebscohost.com>. There is also a link on the "SMMC Links" page.

The Health Sciences Library offers timely document retrieval, literature searching, and individualized training on the use of our extensive online resources. For more information, please contact **Rita Haydar** at 215.710.2012 or rhaydar@stmaryhealthcare.org. ↪

PHYSICIAN RECOGNITION

Richard Cautilli Jr., MD, orthopedic surgeon, was invited to lecture at the international Patella Symposium this spring in New York. Cautilli participated in multiple roundtable discussions and spoke on surgical options for the non-arthritis patella, including proximal realignments.

Benjamin Chack, DO, ear, nose, and throat specialist, has been invited to speak in Washington, D.C., this summer at The Sinus Forum 2009, a national conference on minimally invasive alternatives for sinus surgery. Chack performs balloon sinuplasty, an advanced surgery to relieve symptoms of chronic sinus infections.

Todd Flannery, MD, radiation oncologist, was published in the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics. Flannery, a member of the American Society of Therapeutic Radiation Oncology, authored the article "Long-term Survival in Patients with Synchronous, Solitary Brain Metastasis from Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer Treated with Radiosurgery."

Daniel Haimowitz, MD, board-certified in geriatrics, was awarded the William Dodd Founder's Award for Distinguished Service from the American Medical Directors Association (AMDA). Haimowitz has held several officer positions for the AMDA and is a presenter at the AMDA annual symposiums. A member of the Bucks County Senior Task Force, he is on the editorial board of Caring for the Ages and Assisted Living Consult. Last year, he was recognized with the Better Life Award from the Pennsylvania Health Care Association.

Emil Matarese, MD, Director of the St. Mary Primary Stroke Center, received the Health and Education Award for Outstanding Doctor from the Legendary Blue Horizon in Philadelphia. In addition, his exemplary service to the community was recognized by the Chapel of Four Chaplains, which presented him the Legion of Honor Award. Matarese is national spokesperson for the American Stroke Association.

George Stollsteimer, MD, orthopedic surgeon, was a guest instructor last year at the Arthroscopy Association of North America in Illinois, where he lectured on advanced shoulder and knee surgery. He also is founding member and continuing participant in Dominican Dreams, a medical outreach mission serving those in need in the Dominican Republic.

Rheumatologist **James Udell, MD**, contributed to an article published in the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, titled "Treatment of Persistent Shoulder Pain with Sodium Hyaluronate: A Randomized, Controlled Trial." Udell, a fellow of the American College of Rheumatology, is on the board of the Philadelphia Rheumatism Society. ↪

In Touch seeks to recognize St. Mary physicians for their professional and academic achievements. Notable accomplishments include awards, national speaking engagements, publication in distinguished medical journals, appointment to boards, credentialing, and community service. Please e-mail your recent achievements to reed@stmaryhealthcare.org.



Health Broadcasts

Our St. Mary specialists often are asked to share their medical expertise in interviews with the media. Most recently, orthopedic surgeon **Stephen Cairone, DO**, and OB/GYN **David DeFilippis, MD**, were interviewed on health shows.

DeFilippis, pictured right, talked about women's health issues on WPHT 1210 AM's "The Doctor Show" on June 13. Cairone discussed therapies and interventions for spine pain on the KYW 1060 AM News Radio Health Report. The podcast can be heard at <http://kyw1060info.com/st-mary>. ↪



Frameless Stereotactic Radiosurgery Closer to Reality at St. Mary

A generous \$100,000 donation to the St. Mary Medical Center Foundation will support the Medical Center's acquisition of a frameless stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) system. The gift was presented to St. Mary in May by Princeton Brain & Spine Care.

"St. Mary is poised to be a neurosurgical leader in this region, and acquiring this technology is the next step along the way," says neurosurgeon and spine surgeon **Mark McLaughlin, MD**, of Princeton Brain & Spine Care. "SRS allows us to deliver a lethal dose of radiation to the tumor cells while preserving the normal brain structures in that vicinity and avoiding an open operation."

Watch for more details in upcoming issues of In Touch and Spirit. ↪

Update to Alpha



Effective Tuesday, June 16, 2009, the Medical Record Face Sheet is cold-fed directly into Alpha and available online in real time. This will provide you and your office staff with immediate access to patient demographic and insurance information without a printed or copied page. ↪

Office Manager Sessions

St. Mary Medical Center plans to host informal lunch sessions for our physicians' office managers and schedulers in August. The informal sessions, which are conducted periodically through the year, cover quality of care, patient satisfaction, and reimbursement.

Designed to enhance collaboration between St. Mary colleagues and the physicians' office staffs, the sessions include discussions on clinical care, compliance, access, care management, medical records, coding, and other issues.

Invitations will be faxed to the physicians' offices. For more information, call 215.710.2213. ↪

Community Education

Community education programs help St. Mary Medical Center raise awareness of our advanced procedures and compassionate care. This spring, our orthopedic services were spotlighted in "Jog for Joints: Promoting Bone and Joint Health for a Lifetime" and Golf Information Night.

More than 250 people participated in "Jog for Joints," which included a 5K Run/Walk and Orthopedic Patient Reunion Walk in Core Creek Park, speaker presentations, and appearances by Philadelphia Eagles legends.

Golf Information Night at the Yardley Country Club drew more than 65 participants who learned how to reduce back pain through basic conditioning and proper swing mechanics.

The St. Mary Orthopedics Department helped to support these community awareness programs, which included educational presentations by **Stephen Cairone, DO**; **George Cautilli, MD**; and **George Stollsteimer, MD**. ↪



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

26. SEPTEMBER, 9 AM - 1:30 PM

**Imaging Update for the Clinician
CME Conference**

Middletown Country Club, 420 North Bellevue Avenue, Langhorne
Contact: 215.710.4612

**9. SEPTEMBER, 4:30 PM Sign-in; 5 PM Meeting begins promptly
Quarterly Medical Staff Meeting**

Location to be determined; light supper served after meeting
Contact: 215.710.2008

ST. MARY NEWS BRIEFS

- **Community Benefit Report** — “Planting the Seeds of Opportunity,” our recently published 2008 Community Benefit Annual Report, was distributed to physicians with our June Spirit newsletter. St. Mary provided nearly \$8.4 million in community benefit last year, including uncompensated medical care, financial assistance, community health education and screenings, charitable gifts, and in-kind donations.

Please contact **Valerie Reed** at 215.710.5839 for additional copies of the report.



- **Pressure Ulcer Research** — Nurses in our Cardiovascular Care Unit (CVCU) are conducting clinical bedside research on strategies to eliminate pressure ulcers, demonstrating St. Mary’s commitment to providing exceptional patient care. This research will help to address one of the most common adverse conditions with the goal of improving patient outcomes.

- **Companions for the Terminally Ill** — The Inpatient Oncology Unit at St. Mary Medical Center is piloting a new program for terminally ill patients. The program, known as No One Dies Alone (NODA), is designed to provide comfort, care, and companionship for patients; peace of mind for families; and support for colleagues who care for the dying.

St. Mary is the first hospital in the Bucks County region to implement such a program. For more information, please contact **Lil Schonewolf** at 215.710.2096.

Coming Soon

The St. Mary Colleague Pharmacy will expand to a consumer retail service and move to the ground floor of the St. Clare Medical Building as the St. Clare Pharmacy. Scheduled to open in fall 2009, the St. Clare Pharmacy will accommodate prescriptions and over-the-counter medications for patients, colleagues, and the community.

- **Medical Staff Reappointments** — To process reappointments in a timely manner, it is imperative that you please forward them to the Medical Staff Office by the reappointment due date listed on your packet. They require several months for an accurate and thorough review by the Department Chair, Chief Medical Officer, Credentials Committee, Medical Executive Committee, and the St. Mary Board of Directors.

If you require assistance, contact **Barbara Jankowski** at 215.710.4476. ↩

NEW ON STAFF

Alvise Bernabei, MD, Surgery
Dawn Calderon, DO, Internal Medicine
Arthur Castelbaum, MD, OB/GYN
Martin Freedman, MD, OB/GYN
Benjamin Gocial, MD, OB/GYN
Jacqueline Gutmann, MD, OB/GYN
Steven Herman, MD, Radiology
Syed Hussain, MD, Internal Medicine
Purvi Jethva, MD, Pediatrics

Shital Kalariya, MD, Emergency Medicine
David Kenny, DO, Radiology
Gregory Klisch, MD, PhD, Radiology
Kedar Kulkarni, MD, Radiology
Robert Rosenwasser, MD, Surgery
Tanmaya Shah, MD, Radiology
Javier Taboada, MD, Internal Medicine
Lynne Taus, MD, Radiology ↩

New Specialists in Pain Management

Lisa Nocera, MD, and **Laszlo Szollas, MD**, recently joined **Kevin Dolan, MD**, at the St. Mary Pain Management Center. Nocera and Szollas are fellowship-trained, board-certified physicians with expertise in advanced techniques such as fluoroscopy-guided procedures, spinal cord stimulation, and epidural steroid injections.

The physicians are located in Suite 102 of the Medical Office Building at St. Mary. Their phone number is 215.710.PAIN (215.710.7246). ↩



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