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Calendar Highlights:

AUGUST 13

ER Grand Rounds, noon, Family Health Center

SEPTEMBER 13

American Heart Association Heart Walk, Trinity Trails

SEPTEMBER 26

Psychiatric Grand Rounds, noon, Trinity Springs Pavilion

OCTOBER 2

HOT Topics, noon, Family Health Center

Complete calendar on page 9.

For more information on calendar items, contact Leslie Herman at 817-927-3940. Calendar items are subject to change.



da Vinci: One Year Later

The face of minimally invasive gynecologic surgery at JPS Health Network has changed over the past year. The new “star” in the operating room – besides our talented surgeons - is the da Vinci S Surgical System, which provides minimally invasive robotic-assisted surgery. JPS was the first in Tarrant County to purchase two systems which are at John Peter Smith Hospital and JPS Diagnostic & Surgery Hospital of Arlington.

Salvatore LoCoco, MD, was instrumental in getting JPS to acquire the cutting edge technology and he, along with several colleagues, has been carefully studying the impact and outcomes of using robotics for a variety of gynecological surgeries.

LoCoco, in conjunction with Kollier Hinkle, MD, Misty Herod, MD, Joseph Pallone, MD, and Paul Singh, MD, has conducted a retrospective study by chart review of all eligible gynecologic procedures performed with the da Vinci robotic surgical platform from May 2007 through mid-January 2008. Their findings show that the da Vinci system was having an impact in just a short amount of time.

“It would be an understatement to say that the impact of the da Vinci system has been positive,” said LoCoco. “While there

is a learning curve, we are seeing patient outcomes improve and economic benefits.”

Economic Benefits

The system is expected, over time, to provide economic benefits to JPS including a reduction of system-wide costs through improved patient outcomes associated with minimally invasive surgery and by helping to minimize length of stay. In addition, robotic training will be integrated into the curriculum for residents and should the physicians stay in the area after graduation, their skills will be very valuable to patient care in the marketplace.

The economic benefit to the patient is also notable. Patients undergoing traditional surgery can sometimes be away from work for several weeks. With the da Vinci, patients often return after a few days.

More Options for Obese Patients

Kollier Hinkle, MD, noted that the da Vinci has allowed JPS to provide a safer surgical alternative to those who are obese and overweight.

Continued on Page 10

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To view The Catalyst online, visit http://www.jpshealthnet.org/education/physician_newsletter.asp

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Letter from the Chief Medical Officer

A Transformation of Culture and Accountability

John Peter Smith (JPS) has a long standing mission to take care of the healthcare needs of the underserved and to serve as the safety net hospital for Fort Worth and Tarrant County. We are excited with our new leadership and dedication to this commitment.

The care, skill and dedication of the physicians, nurses, and staff at JPS inspire us every day and really make a difference to those in need. As we expand into our new, high-tech, Patient Care Pavilion, we are also reminded of our mission of improving quality, ensuring patient safety, and expanding medical education.

We are building a better future by teaching our young caregivers the best methods of treatment and patient care as well as how to give comfort and hope in a complex system. We are now witnessing changes that mark the emergence of a much more influential and integrated medical staff with a unified voice of quality. We are placing focus on the innovations necessary to improve the service and kindness at the front line.

The transformation that we are now experiencing at JPS is the beginning of a new

culture of accountability, open communication and transparency. We all must be diligent and work together to identify and repair fundamental flaws and place better designs in structure and the process of health care.

Our system has emerged over the last 100 years and we need to use our creative ingenuity to find new solutions, constantly improve and adapt for the future so that we can better meet the growing demands of our patients and our community.

We are placing emphasis on improving our clinical data management so we can monitor performance rates and compare ourselves against a normative benchmark. In addition, we must continuously improve surveillance and measure our outcomes.

Our common goal is always the patient. Their experience matters most. Stay focused.

Jay Haynes, MD
Chief Medical Officer

Got Questions?

by Robert Earley

As your interim President and CEO, it is my quest to learn more about my fellow employees and find out how I can best serve you. We are a growing Network with many changes happening right now, and oftentimes with changes come questions. So, with this in mind, it is my intent to open a means of communication by which you can ask me questions about what's happening in and changing around the Network, and I'll answer your questions accordingly.

I want to hear about employees in your area who are exceeding expectations. If I've never met you, and you'd like for me to stop by some time and meet your group, please let me know so I can make arrangements.

I honestly don't know how many questions I'll receive. If there's a lot, it may take me a little time to respond. But, I will get back with you as soon as I can. If your question is not an area in which I normally deal, I will certainly do my due diligence to make sure the appropriate director or vice president sees your question so they can help you.

My goal is simply to make sure that I am visible and that you are heard. To contact me, please send your questions to ceo@jpshealth.org. I look forward to hearing from you!

In Memoriam -

Wayne Williams, MD

Feb. 22, 1947 - July 18, 2008

Williams was appointed to the JPS Board of Managers in November and formerly served as chairman of Community Medicine at JPS. He was also an associate professor at the University of North Texas Health Science Center.



In addition to his wife, Lynn, survivors include a son, Mat Williams, and a daughter, Alexis Williams. Donations in memory of Williams can be made to the American Cancer Society for prostate cancer research.

Academic Star

Victor Kosmopoulos, PhD, associate professor, department of Orthopedics, won best EuroSpine poster.

Kosmopoulos V, Stafylas K, McManus J, Schizas C, *Bias and Precision Errors in Cobbometer Total Disc Replacement Angle Measurements*, SpineWeek 2008. More than 600 posters were presented.

Physicians Recognized

Physician of the Month - May

Diana C. Benavides, DO, is an Associate Pathologist and has been at JPS since 2006. She was inspired to work at the hospital because of the service it provides to some of the most underserved in the community. Even though Benavides rarely gets to meet her patients, she sees every case that comes to her desk as an individual life that her diagnosis will affect.



Benavides attended medical school at the University of North Texas Health Science Center followed by a combined anatomic and clinical pathology residency at Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas.

When she is not in the lab, she enjoys spending time with her family, catching up on her reading and serving on the Infection Control and Medical

Practice committees at JPS. She is married to John Paul and has a 3-year-old son, James.

Physician of the Month - June

George Armstrong, Jr., MD, attended the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and completed his internship at Parkland Memorial Hospital prior to residency at the University of Texas Medical School in San Antonio.



After serving as a general medical officer in the United States Navy, Armstrong had a private practice for 30 years. He has been with JPS for four years because it has provided him a way to pass along, through teaching, his knowledge to physicians just beginning their careers.

He is a board-certified physician and fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. Armstrong chose the orthopedic specialty because it's a field that cares for everyone and includes both intellectual and procedural disciplines.

His hobbies include traveling, playing golf,

exercising and reading. Married to his wife, Pam, for 43 years, the couple has three children - Jill, Julie and Ryan - as well as three grandchildren.

Physician of the Month - July

Inspired to become a physician because he wanted to make a difference in his community, Alan G. Burton, MD, has proudly represented JPS for 17 years as a physician in the Emergency Department.



He attended medical school at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio followed by internship completion at John Peter Smith Hospital and emergency medicine residency completion at R.E. Thompson General Hospital in El Paso.

"I feel like the patients I treat deserve the best care available, and I strive to provide them with just that," said Burton.

Board certified in family medicine and emergency medicine, JPS is proud to have him on the emergency team.

Physician Honor Roll

Victor Kosmopoulos, PhD, was granted membership to the International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine (ISSLS). ISSLS was founded in 1974 and has a distinguished worldwide membership dedicated to advancing the knowledge of health and disease of the lumbar spine. Membership is truly an honor since it is awarded based on merit and limited to only 250 active members of which only 35 are engineers.

Sal LoCoco, MD, has been appointed Chair of the Texas Medical Association's (TMA) Committee on Cancer. The committee supervises activities of TMA related to cancer, and inaugurates and promotes education among physicians and the public for control of cancer.

Monte E. Troutman, DO, was installed as President of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association in June. Troutman has spent the last year as president-elect after serving on multiple committees and boards as a medical association representative over the past 20 years. This includes an 11 year stint as a board member of the Texas Medical Foundation, the state's QIO. He is most proud of his membership as a board member of the Texas Association for Patient Access (TAPA). This organization took the lead as the group representing all aspects of medicine to successfully champion the landmark 2003 tort reform bill and constitutional amendment upholding tort reform.

Troutman serves a one year term in what is stacking up to be a most eventful time in the medical professions history.

Stanley Cal, MD, medical director of the Healing Wings Clinic, received the Betty Youngman Award from the Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network (TCAIN) on June 3. It is awarded for outstanding service to the mission of TCAIN. Past recipients have included: Rev. Betty Youngman; Paul Geisel, Donald Terrell, Michael Kavanaugh and Jacqueline Plemons.

Elizabeth Carter, MD, and **Sal LoCoco, MD**, were honored by the *Dallas Business Journal* as 2008 Healthcare Heroes.

Several JPS physicians were honored for their years of service in the House of Delegates of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association. The physicians are: **Monte E. Troutman, DO**, medical director of gastroenterology; **Elizabeth A. Palmarozzi, DO**, chair of Community Medicine; **Robert C. Adams, DO**, practices in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology; and **Brent W. Sanderlin, DO**, practices in the Department of Family Medicine.

Travis Motley, DPM, was honored with the Young Practitioner of the Year award by the board of directors and members of the Texas Podiatric Medical Association meeting in June. The award is given to one physician each year for "grateful recognition and appreciation for dedicated and unselfish service to enhance the prestige, dignity and progress of the profession of podiatry in Texas."

New Resident Leadership

House Staff Officers

President: Terrance Hines, MD
Vice President: W. Eddy Furniss, MD
Secretary: Shelley Kohlleppele, MD
Treasurer: Youssein Aguirre, MD

Chiefs

<i>Family Medicine</i>	<i>Orthopedics</i>
Matt Stine, DO	Jason Kennedy, MD
Jason Mogonye, MD	F. Wade Krause, MD
	Ryan Reardon, MD

Transitional

Cameron Gates, DO	<i>Ob/Gyn</i>
	Joseph Pallone, MD

Podiatry

Jason Smith, DPM	<i>Psychiatry</i>
	Casey Green, MD
	Melissa

Radiology

Sridhar Naidu, DO	Pennington, DO
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Research Day Winners

Oral Presentation

1st Place – Patty Ann Hardt, MD
2nd Place – Richard Young, MD
3rd Place – Carla Morrow, MSN, RNC

Poster Presentation

1st Place – Tie - Joseph Pallone, MD & Kalieb Pourciau, DPM
2nd Place – Paul Singh, MD
3rd Place – Ruth Wiley, DO

Medical Humanitarian Poetry or Prose

Susie Amezcuita

Submit alumni news, updates and suggestions to thecatalyst@jpshealth.org

Doenges in Afghanistan

By Stephanie Doenges, MD

This past April I set out on what was probably the most interesting adventure of my life. Twenty four hours after leaving Dallas-Fort Worth, I pulled my head scarf into place and stepped into another world: Afghanistan.

My first glimpse of Kabul was of the beautiful snow-capped mountains that surrounded the city. There was quite a bit of new construction going on. I expected to see much more evidence of the destruction that has so devastated this country, but there has been progress in rebuilding the country. The pothole-filled dirt roads were littered with trash, lined with colorful produce stalls and open-air meat markets. At first glance, there was a strange absence of women; the first one I saw was shrouded in the blue burka that was once mandatory for all Afghan women.

My work days began with the 4:30 a.m. "call to prayer," a strange monotonal tune that awakens faithful Muslims for morning supplication. I rolled out of bed in time to catch an early shuttle to the hospital. CURE Kabul was established in 2005 and serves as a teaching hospital, preparing Afghan physicians to serve in the most remote areas of the country. Training programs include a residency in family medicine and fellowships in obstetrics, orthopedics, and general surgery.

Days started with 6:30 a.m. report. I joined faculty and post-call residents for naan and a cup of tea as we discussed the patients who were admitted during the night. Common diagnoses included stroke, heart failure and coronary artery disease, meningitis, and very strange presentations of tuberculosis. I was often impressed with the



Charles Lascano, MD and Stephanie Doenges, MD

knowledge and skill of the residents as they managed these difficult cases with limited resources. My responsibilities were to see patients in private clinic, make rounds with the pediatric and neonatal intensive care unit teams, and supervise residents in the obstetric and family medicine clinics.

As a day came to close, I would catch a ride to home sweet home where I shared a room with a nurse from Canada. Houses in Kabul have no

central heat, so we kept warm by piling blankets on the bed or lighting a propane space heater. The water pressure was barely enough to wash out the shampoo in our hair. The instructions on our washing machine were in Russian, so washing clothes was always a comedy. Electricity was sporadic, coming on for only four hours every other night. These challenges definitely made me appreciate the luxuries of living in the United States!

Looking back, it is hard to believe that I traveled to Afghanistan. It seems like a dream, but very real because it made a forever impression on my heart. Afghanistan is a country that has been broken by years of war. Access to medical care is inadequate; women and children are dying at rates higher than almost any where in the world. But there are signs of hope for the future. New buildings are being constructed and trees and flowers are being planted. The doctors being trained at CURE Kabul may be the hope for health in Afghanistan. I thank God for the opportunity to be a part of that for a time.

Editor's note: Stephanie Doenges, MD, completed her residency in family medicine at JPS and worked as a staff physician in several areas of the hospital. She left JPS at the end of July to move to Papua New Guinea and work full-time at Kudjip Nazarene Hospital. In 2007, the hospital worked from a \$750,000 budget and had 45,000 outpatient visits, more than 6,000 admissions, delivered more than 1,000 babies and performed surgery on more than 700 people. The hospital is staffed by five physicians from the United States.

Physician Wall of Excellence

A new wall is being constructed to honor JPS physicians, past and present, who have contributed something extraordinary to the Tarrant County community or to the medical field as a whole.

The wall will be installed in the lobby of the Patient Care Pavilion and honorees will rotate on a monthly to quarterly basis. The wall is expected to be finished by the end of the year.

JPS has many physicians worthy of being

honored. To suggest an honoree, email thecatalyst@jpshealth.org and provide a detailed description of why the physician deserves to be honored.



The design above is for layout purposes only. Nominations for honorees are being accepted.

JPS Physician Alumni Association

Are you on Facebook? Join the John Peter Smith Hospital Alumni group. Contact thecatalyst@jpshealth.org for more information.

If you know of an outstanding JPS alumni, have an idea for an alumni story or would like to submit information about a recent move, marriage or other important change, send information to thecatalyst@jpshealth.org.

Clinical Pastoral Education Residency

The JPS Health Network Board of Managers approved a proposal to establish, through a collaborative arrangement with the Huguley Memorial Medical Center, a clinical pastoral education (CPE) residency placement at John Peter Smith Hospital.

The Directors of Pastoral Care at both institutions will select chaplain residents and coordinate rotations. Chaplains Dann Baker, Director, and David Slee, Manager of Pastoral Care and Ethics at JPS, will oversee the student placement for JPS.

The CPE program is an interfaith, professional education for ministry. It brings theological students, qualified laypersons, and ministers of all faiths into supervised encounters with persons in crisis. Students of the CPE program will visit patients and families in designated clinical areas under the supervision of a certified CPE Supervisor.

JPS now has chaplain in-house coverage 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Health care chaplains require extensive training in addition to earning their Master of Divinity degrees, including handling complex medical situations and how to assist families in making difficult ethical decisions.

Moves & Additions

Healing Wings Relocates

Healing Wings Outpatient Center now has a permanent place to call home since taking up residency in the JPS Professional Office Complex. The center sees approximately 40 patients per day. The center is staffed by Stanley Cal, MD, and a nurse practitioner.

JPS School-Based Health Center – Haltom City

The new 1,800 square foot school-based health center opened in May is expected to see approximately 3,000 students per year and is a joint collaboration between Fort Worth ISD and Birdville ISD. It is located at 2807 Layton Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76117.

Gertrude Tarpley JPS Health Center at Watauga

The new facility, located at 6601 Watauga Road in Watauga, has three staff physicians specializing in family medicine and internal medicine, including medical director for the facility, Rajbir Sandhu, M.D., as well as an OB/Gyn nurse practitioner. The health center opened in late July.

JPS to open school-based health center at Chapel Hill Academy

Students at Chapel Hill Academy, operated by the Lena Pope Home, in South Fort Worth will start the new school year with a school-based health center. It is expected to open this fall.

Board Notes

The JPS Board of Managers meets monthly. In an effort to keep physicians informed, updates are printed in *The Catalyst*.

- It was noted the Medicare/Medicaid Cost Cap Rule Moratorium is still in process; the bill is important to JPS, as the Network stands to potentially lose \$70 million in revenue.
- Kristin Jenkins, Sr. Vice President, presented plans for the Grand Prairie health center. The city of Grand Prairie has offered to pay \$500,000 for renovations and initial capital, and will support the lease payment for the first three years and possibly longer.
- The board voted to discontinue JPS' contract with Crothall Services effective Oct. 1, 2008 when the new fiscal year begins. The new environmental services (EVS) vendor will be Sodexo.
- The process for appointing a search committee for vetting out a permanent CEO is coming together. Montgomery and board members Rev. Ralph Waldo Emerson, Dan Serna, Scott Fisher and Gary Floyd, MD, will serve on the search committee, as well as community members, including Charles Webber, MD. A national recruiting firm will be selected in an effort to cast a broad net to find the best candidate.
- The board approved plans to remodel Towers 6 and 7 at a projected cost of \$740,000 each to make them more accessible and updated to the

current standards. Each floor will be remodeled all at once for efficiency purposes. The expected timeline is six months for each tower.

- Robert Earley, Interim President and CEO, announced discussions by the board for a pilot program in the JPS school-based health centers to provide mental and behavioral health services. Earley said the group is discussing the possibility with Alan Podawiltz, DO, psychiatric administration, and local school districts.
- Earley also noted JPS' involvement in a secret shopper program, to be headed by Petrina Bonnick, planning/marketing coordinator, and Charles Williams, assistant administrator. He said the program will help JPS find out what things are going right and what things need to be worked on. The company enlisted was chosen due to their extensive experience in the health care industry.
- Board member Rev. Ralph Waldo Emerson and Truevine Missionary Baptist Church pastor, Jack Crane, have been charged with forming a pastoral council to reach out to the community. Leaders will be brought to JPS to foster inroads into the community.
- It was announced that after two years of working with Blue Cross Blue Shield on contract negotiations, an agreement has not been met and, as a result, the contract with the company was terminated on July 15, 2008.

New Board Members

Trent Petty has been appointed to the JPS Board of Managers by Tarrant County Commissioner Gary Fickes. Petty is currently president of Petty & Associates, Inc. He is also credited as a co-founder and past chief executive officer of Westlake Academy, an open enrollment charter school. Prior to this, Petty was town manager of Westlake from 1997 to 1999, and served as city manager of Grapevine from 1992 to 1997.



Trent Petty

Petty has served as chairman of the board for Baylor Regional Medical Center (BRMC) in Grapevine from 2006 until earlier this year. He currently serves as a member to the board of directors for Peoples Bank. Prior to this, Petty served as chairman to the boards of the Emergency Department Task Force at BRMC, the finance committee at BRMC, the Northeast Leadership Forum, Metroport Cities Partnership and Faith Christian School.

Petty and his wife, Mary, have five children - Cori, Casie, Carly, Tell and Taggon.

The Tarrant County Commissioners Court has also appointed Karen Van Wagner, PhD, to serve on the JPS Board of Managers. Van Wagner was nominated by County Judge Glen Whitley.



Karen Van Wagner

Van Wagner joins the board with a great deal of health care management. She is currently the executive director of North Texas Specialty Physicians (NTSP), a nonprofit group of approximately 600 doctors, nearly all of which practice in Tarrant County. She has successfully directed and managed NTSP from a start-up organization to a major physician organization that serves 15,000 patients a day.

Prior to this, Van Wagner served as senior vice president for Harris Methodist System, where she was employed for 16 years. She also founded and operated a midwife company that provides obstetrical care to low-income mothers and their babies. She has served as director of planning and marketing at Los Angeles Children's Hospital, as well as director of planning and data management at Oklahoma Health Systems Agency.

Van Wagner replaces Ronnie Coulson, who resigned in May, and is expected to begin her board service at the August meeting.

The Power of the Vitamin: Folic Acid

By Josephine R. Fowler, MD MSc FAAFP

Folic acid is widely viewed as a vitamin with many benefits. The suspected benefits of Folic acid span from prevention of neural tube defects (NTDs) to prevention of cancer. Although many studies are yet inconclusive in regards to heart attack prevention, Alzheimer's prevention, cancer prevention, and other genetic diseases, the role of folic acid in prevention of neural tube defect is well studied and supported with sound scientific evidence.

As infant mortality month approaches in September, providers should be reminded of the most recognized value of folic acid and prevention of NTDs. Most multivitamins in the United States now have adequate folic acid, 400ug. The average cost of multivitamins range from \$5-8. The emotional cost of knowing your child has a neural tube defect or losing a child can be surmountable. The cost for healthcare, education, and lost productivity for a child with spina bifida can cost more than \$600,000. Taking folic acid before pregnancy can markedly reduce the prevalence of NTDs by 50 to 70 percent.

Who should take multivitamins or folic acid? All women of reproductive age should take folic acid. Begin early. Fifty percent of pregnancies are unplanned. Folic acid is most effective when



taken before pregnancy and in early pregnancy. Vitamins should be continued throughout the reproductive period.

Why is it so important?

Folic Acid has been shown to prevent birth defects. Texas has more than 14,000 babies born with birth defects annually. Birth defects are the second leading cause of infant deaths in Texas. More than 1,157 babies were born with NTDs in Texas from 1999-2003. If every women of reproductive age took folic acid before pregnancy, the number of infants with neural tube defects could be decreased to 578 or less.

As a provider, how can I make an impact on infant mortality?

- Instruct patients on how to maintain a diet high in folic acid. Such foods include fortified breakfast cereals, dried beans, leafy green vegetables and orange juice. Recommend a vitamin with at least 400ug of folic acid daily to all women of reproductive age.
- Screen all patients before pregnancy for their risk of genetic defects. Counsel them on associated risk and benefits of preconception intervention.

• Purchase multivitamins, folic acid, or prenatal vitamins as a gift of love for someone you know in the reproductive age group.

How much folic acid is recommended?

400ug daily is recommended for low risk individuals. Women with family history of NTDs in a first degree relative or prior infant with NTDs and women with diabetes should take 4,000ug (4mg) daily.

Reduce neural tube defects, recommend folic acid!

SBAR method (situation, background, assessment, recommendation) of communicating

- Fewer codes and lower mortality rate
- Enhanced culture of safety for the patient (improvement opportunities, enhanced clinical skills, earlier detection and response to deteriorating patients)

Myths:

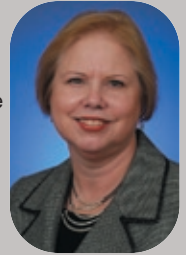
• A MET is not intended to take the place of immediate consultation with the patient's physician if needed. The intention is to help patients in the time window of clinical instability and not to replace physician involvement in that process. Care should be taken to include the attending physician in the MET event.

The MET will enhance the JPS culture of safety and align us with the IHI, 5 Million Lives Campaign Initiative as well as compliance with the new 2008 National Patient Safety Goal that states that the organization selects a suitable method that enables health care staff members to directly request additional assistance from a specially trained individual(s) when the patient's condition appears to be worsening.

New Dictation Report Type

By Nancy Sorensen

A new pre-operative history and physical dictation report type has been created to facilitate rapid transcription. The Work Type Code will be 411 for Pre-Op H&Ps at the Diagnostic & Surgery Hospital of Arlington and 11 for Pre-Op H&Ps at all other locations. Please key in the medical record number and clearly state the patient's name, the date of service, and account number, if available, to assist in the correct ADT match. The turn around time for Pre-Op H&Ps is two hours or less.



Nancy Sorensen

For more information or assistance with this new report, contact medical records at 817-927-1580.

Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP)

By Bill Devine, DMD

VAP is the most commonly occurring nosocomial infection developing among patients with endotracheal tubes. It occurs in patients who are on mechanical ventilators for longer than 48 hours and can become a costly and life-threatening problem.

Many patients requiring ventilators are critically ill. Their dental care is usually not accomplished very easily. The American Association of Critical Care Nurses procedure manual for critical care patients includes the following procedures: brush teeth with a soft brush twice daily; use oral swabs and apply mouth moisturizer to the oral mucosa and lips every two to four hours; and suction the oral cavity and pharynx frequently, changing oral suction equipment and tubing every 24 hours.

A supply of small or pedo toothbrushes should be available for the nurses. The use of cotton swabs for brushing in this situation is not recommended. One study found that VAP rates were decreased by more than 50 percent by implementing a positive dental prevention program.

By raising awareness about VAP and its association with poor oral hygiene, we can decrease mortality rates and medical costs associated with VAP.

Medical Emergency Team (MET)

By Michelle Rutherford, RN, MSN

General Information:

Sept. 1, 2008, JPS will implement pilot testing of the Medical Emergency Team (MET). The MET is a physician lead by a multi-disciplinary team of individuals who are consulted for early recognition and response to acute medical changes in the inpatient areas of JPS. Team members will include: Senior Family Practice Resident or designee, ICU RN, and Respiratory Therapy, and additional personnel at discretion of team members. The MET is for utilization of the in-patient nursing areas/units only located on the main campus. All other areas will continue to utilize the STAT team for emergency situations, including the Diagnostic & Surgery Hospital of Arlington.

Benefits:

- Fast and accurate critical patient assessment 24/7
- Clear and concise communication using the

Diabetes Services Overview

By Vicki Hall, RN, Arlene Knight, Linda Pugh, April Ciccarello and Lesa Watley, RN MPH

What does a patient do once they get a diagnosis of diabetes mellitus? This overview ties together the work of two departments and one physician to build awareness of diabetes resources available for physicians and patients at JPS.

Health Promotions Diabetic Classes

Patients need help understanding the disease, and JPS Health Network's Health Promotions Department offers this education. Diabetic classes are offered in English and Spanish at several JPS health centers. The class helps them begin to grasp the management of diabetes by learning what the disease is, how to control it with meal planning, exercise and medication. Our classes are focused on what a person with diabetes can do, rather than what they cannot do. We offer gestational diabetes classes, personal glucometer and insulin classes. The Health Promotions Department also provides diabetic outreach programs in the community.

To refer patients to the Health Promotions programs you may fill out a Health Education Referral Form, via the intranet, or schedule a class under Resource Scheduling via Net Access or contact Health Promotions Department at 817-920-7300.

Additionally JPS, through membership in Healthy Tarrant County Collaboration (HTCC), is working in the Como area to deliver diabetes education, such as the Como Kids' Summer Camp to provide education for children.

In another neighborhood, the JPS Health Center – Stop Six/Walter B. Barbour has been the location of HTCC's Stop Six health outreach. More than 100 churches participate in this educational effort, which encourages pastors and lay health ministers to provide diabetes education to their congregations and to encourage their members to lead healthy lifestyles. The pilot diabetic support group at Stop Six is another collaborative activity.

Comprehensive Diabetes Case Management

JPS has a Comprehensive Diabetes Case Management Program designed to coordinate diabetic patients' clinical care, provide diabetes self-management education including glucose monitoring, nutrition, exercise and medications.

The diabetic case manager will assist patients with obtaining glucose monitoring equipment and pharmaceutical supplies when there is an identified need for additional assistance. A social worker is available to help the patient and family with psychosocial needs.

Currently diabetic patients receive intensive case management at eight community health centers (Viola Pitts, Arlington-Sanford, Diamond Hill,

Family Health Center, Northeast, Stop Six, South Campus and Poly).

Health care providers can refer patients to diabetes case management by completing a Community Case Management referral form on the intranet. All referrals are retrieved by the program manager and assigned to a diabetes case manager according to the patient's home health center.

Once a patient has been admitted to case management, contact with patients will occur at least once a month or more as indicated. Case management will continue for at least six months or until A1C is seven or less for two consecutive months. If the A1C begins to increase the next level of case management begins. This will include collaboration with primary care physician or diabetologist to make medication adjustments as needed.

JPS Health Centers - Viola M. Pitts/Como, Stop Six/Walter B. Barbour, Northeast and Diamond Hill have currently instituted a modified Cooperative Health Care Center (CHCC) Group Visit Model that provides an interactive process of care delivery to diabetic patients. The group visit is an extended doctor's office visit where the patients' physical, medical, educational, social and psychosocial concerns are addressed.

Participants will be seen by a designated physician for that clinic or the Diabetologist. This is an appointment and clinic fees are required. Patient privacy is maintained during physical assessments and the environment is conducive to support group interactions.

Community Diabetes Project

The JPS Health Center – Viola M. Pitts/Como is the site of the Department of State Health Services Community Diabetes Project. This grant offers diabetes case management, worksite wellness, and community outreach activities targeting the Como community including community centers, churches, and schools. The diabetes group visits at this site and the other community health centers are lead by a dietician and RN case manager. A diabetologist is available at Viola Pitts for medication adjustments and consultations.

Lastly, any Tarrant County resident interested in seeking detailed information about the Community Diabetes Grant and case management can access the United Way of Tarrant County Web site www.tarrantcounty211.org.

For more information please contact Lesa Watley, RN MPH, Diabetes Program Coordinator, 817-920-7366 or lwatley@jpshealth.org.

Referrals for Uncontrolled Diabetes Mellitus Consultations

Omayra Quijano, MD, is available to provide individual consultations for uncontrolled diabetes mellitus. Quijano is an internist with a subspecialty in endocrinology/diabetes and she is fluent in both English and Spanish. She primarily works at JPS Health Center – Viola M. Pitts/Como.



Omayra Quijano, MD

1. Service Provided:
• Individual consultations for evaluation of poorly controlled diabetes mellitus.
• Evaluates patients >18y/o as a consultant, for adjustment of glycemic control regimen to improve patient's control.

2. When/Location:
• Individual Consultations are done at the JPS Health Center – Viola M. Pitts/Como on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, 8 a.m. to noon.
• If a patient needs to be seen at another day or time, contact Quijano's nurse, Linda Cavasos.

3. Referral Process:
• A referral from the PCP needs to include:
• White/Red consultation form (filled out)
• The last two progress notes (encounters)
• The problem list
• Up-dated medication profile from the patient's chart
• Let the patient know why Quijano will be evaluating them.
• Call Linda Cavasos to book an appointment for the patient. You will need to let the patient know when their appointment is. Put all documents in place and fax over to Linda Cavasos. Documents need to be faxed prior to the appointment.

4. What happens after the consultation:
• Quijano will dictate a consultation report, which can be retrieved on LCR, as part of the electronic medical record (under Dictated Reports/ Consultation reports), so that the PCP can print out the report directly from the computer.
• Quijano's team will be in contact on giving the patient a follow-up appointment with her, per her discretion.
• Otherwise, the patient needs to continue seeing the PCP for other routine medical problems.
• If she captures that the patient needs any refills on the patient's blood pressure medications and/or dyslipidemic agents, she will do a courtesy refill for the patient.

Contact Numbers:

Linda "L.J." Cavasos, Dr. Quijano's nurse
Direct line: 817-920-7476
Office: 817-920-7477.

This number is shared by different clinicians, so it's best to call L.J.'s direct line.
Fax: 817-920-7478

Please feel free to contact Linda Cavasos if you have any questions or if you would like to speak with Quijano directly.



Diabetes group class

Around the Network

Patient Care Pavilion Open House Operating Room - June 5



Gonzalo Lievano, MD, and Darlene Stover-Causey, RN

New Resident Events - June



Marla Ronk and Jon Thomas, MD

Resident Graduation - June 7

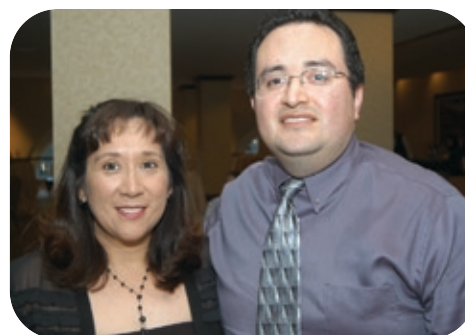


Jason Tinley, MD, Zachery Kelley, MD, and Stacey Kessinger, MD

JPS Night at the Ballpark Singing Contest - June 13



Doug Seegars, DO, Leslie Potter, DO, Mahdih Bodaghi, MD, Linda Asanti-Ackuau, MD and Walter Root, MD



Ophelia Nieves, RN, and Luis Nieves, MD



Johnny Gibbs, MD, Todd Cook, MD, Bradley Saunders, MD and Michael Yu, MD

Trauma Services Star-Telegram Insert Photo Shoot - July 1



(top) Fernando Garcia, MD, Geno Tellez, MD, Sara Forrest, RN, Mary Lee, RN, (bottom) Janet Rogers, MD and David McReynolds, MD



Bart Pate, MD, and Cathy Pate

Softball Game - June



Hetal Rana, MD

Louis J. Levy Symposium - June 20



George Armstrong, MD

All photos by Bill Carter, JPS Public Relations.

Heart Walk

Physicians are invited to join the JPS team for the 2008 American Heart Association Heart Walk, which will take place on September 13 on the Trinity Trails. Last year, JPS raised \$82,000 and was the No. 1 employee-based fund-raising team and top hospital in Tarrant County. This year, the bar has been set high with a goal of \$86,000. For more information or to join the team, contact Suzanne Suarez at 817-927-1622.

Research Roundtable Agenda 2008

John Peter Smith Hospital, Fourth floor conference room, noon

August 8, 2008

The Importance of Continuing Review in Research

Speakers: Karshena Valsin, JPS IRB Manager & Pat Myrick, UT Southwestern IRB

Objectives:

- The importance of the Continuing Review and why must it occur
- What occurs if there is a lapse in continuing review
- The regulatory requirements from FDA, OHRP and GCP

September 12, 2008

Children in Research

Speaker: Andrea Keane, Cook Children's Hospital IRB

Objectives:

- Overview of the special regulatory requirements (OHRP & FDA) that provide additional protection for the children who would be involved in the research
- Discussion of why IRB also must consider the potential benefits, risks, and discomforts of the research to children and assess the justification for their inclusion in the research
- Overview of the four categories of research involving children as subjects that the IRB must determine the research applies to.
- Outline steps of Informed Consent and additional safeguards for children in research

October 10, 2008

Research and the Law

Speaker: Jeff Layne, JD

Objectives:

- To describe the regulatory oversight of human subjects research,
- Role of the institution in maintaining regulations
- To describe the role of the Research team in maintaining regulations
- To facilitate understanding of the legal risk areas inherent to human subjects research audience how to find research funding in their specific areas

Physician Calendar

August 2008

- 01 Psychiatric Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Trinity Springs Pavilion
- 05 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 07 Trauma Q,I 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
- 08 Psychiatric Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Trinity Springs Pavilion
- Research Roundtable, noon - 1 p.m., Family Health Center

- 12 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 13 ER Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Family Health Center
- 14 Trauma Q,I 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
Pain Management, CME, noon - 1 p.m.
- 18 Trauma Talk 7 - 8 a.m., Family Health Center
- 19 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 21 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
- 22 Psychiatric Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Trinity Springs Pavilion
- 26 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 28 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab

September 2008

- 02 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 04 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
- 05 Psychiatric Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Trinity Springs Pavilion
- 09 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 10 ER Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Family Health Center
- 11 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
- Diabetes Management, noon - 1 p.m., Family Health Center
- 12 Psychiatric Grand Rounds, noon - 1p.m., Trinity Springs Pavilion
- Research Roundtable noon - 1 p.m., Family Health Center

- 13 American Heart Association Heart Walk, Trinity Trails
- 15 Trauma Talk, 7 - 8 a.m., Family Health Center
- 16 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 18 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
- 23 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 25 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
- 26 Psychiatric Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Trinity Springs Pavilion
- 30 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.

October 2008

- 02 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
- HOT Topics, noon - 1 p.m., Family Health Center
- 03 Psychiatric Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Trinity Springs Pavilion
- 07 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 08 ER Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Family Health Center
- 09 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
- 10 Psychiatric Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Trinity Springs Pavilion
- Research Roundtable, noon - 1 p.m., Family Health Center
- 14 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 16 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
- 20 Trauma Talk, 7 - 8 a.m., FHC
- 21 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 23 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab
- 24 Psychiatric Grand Rounds, noon - 1 p.m., Trinity Springs Pavilion
- 28 Oncology Multi-disciplinary Treatment & Planning, 7 - 8 a.m.
- 30 Trauma QI, 7 - 8 a.m., Skills Lab

Save the Date

Partners Classic Golf Tournament - Nov. 3, 2008
Research Day - June 5, 2009

New Billboard Campaign

JPS has launched a new billboard campaign highlighting the two areas for which we are proudly recognized, trauma and teaching. Two billboard designs highlighting trauma and two highlighting JPS' teaching program have been developed. The black-and-white photography with colorful letters offers a different back drop to the advertisements JPS has used in the past.

Employees will have an opportunity to see their co-workers larger than life thanks to the new billboard campaign. The latest marketing effort highlights JPS' advancements in trauma care and teaching. It features phrases such as, "The Leader in Treating Life-Threatening Trauma," "Teaching Today's Patients, Training Tomorrow's Doctors" and "When Every Second Counts — Count On Our Experience."

This is the Network's second phase for outdoor marketing. Last year the Public Relations Department posted 18 community billboards around JPS health centers encouraging enrollment in the JPS Connection program. The most recent effort provides information to the general public about JPS.

"JPS is a community hospital and it is important that the residents of Tarrant County know that they can depend on us to not only spend their tax dollars wisely, but also to provide quality healthcare to everyone if and when our services are needed," Interim President and CEO Robert Earley said.

The billboards have been hung at the following locations: I-20/820, Camp Bowie and Montgomery, I-30 and Forest Park, Hulen and Vickery, I-30 and Oakland, and the 5700 block of Airport Freeway (121).



When you're a teaching hospital, compassion is part of the curriculum.

JPS HEALTH NETWORK
Tarrant County's Largest Teaching Hospital



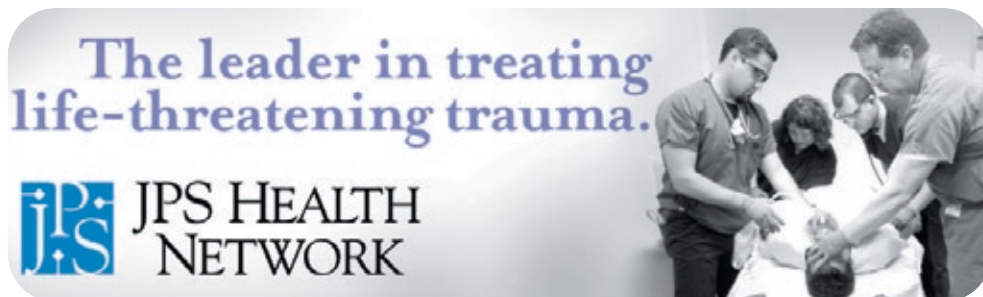
Treating today's patients, training tomorrow's doctors.

JPS HEALTH NETWORK
Tarrant County's Largest Teaching Hospital



When every second counts - count on our experience.

JPS HEALTH NETWORK
The Leader in Treating Life-Threatening Trauma



The leader in treating life-threatening trauma.

JPS HEALTH NETWORK

da Vinci from page 1

"We have patients who are obese who may not normally qualify for surgery because of the associated risks," said Hinkle. "The da Vinci reduces these risks and has allowed us to perform the surgery and in turn, provide a better quality of care for our patients."

The robotic approach allows the surgeon essentially to bypass the extra tissue that can limit access and impair visualization during open surgery. Instead of making a 6 inch-long incision through inches of abdominal fat, which must be held back with retractors, the robotic instruments and camera enter the abdomen through several small holes. Once the surgical tools are in place, the cavity around the area is inflated with carbon dioxide and the surgeon has an unobstructed view and room to maneuver.

The greatest impact has been with obese patients with uterine cancer who traditionally have had protracted recovery and 5-7 day hospital stays, wound infection rates are also reduced.

Summary of Chart Review

- Operative times initially were long for a given procedure, but were often reduced as efficiency in docking, preparing, and adapting the robot for a given procedure improved.
- Estimated blood loss for any given procedure was usually significantly reduced. Most cases with EBL < 100 ml.
- Rate of conversion to laparotomy low (three percent).
- Complication rates similar to conventional laparoscopy.
- Overall, morbidity seems low with the greatest reduction in morbidity seeming to be in those cases performed for the treatment or staging of gynecologic cancer.
- Feasibility is suggested based on this study despite the learning curve associated with adapting to the system.

Future Research

- Ongoing database accrual with regular interval assessments and reporting.
- Expand data analysis to outcome measures including quality of life analysis, surgical outcomes, and long term follow-up on cancer cases.
- Extensive cost analysis to demonstrate whether perceived savings in cost of care and patient morbidity is real.

Resident Training

- Current dialogue to collaborate on setting up a multispecialty standardized training module for integration of robotic surgery into residency curricula.
- Might participate in this pilot program with four to five other nationally recognized programs.

Institute for Robotics

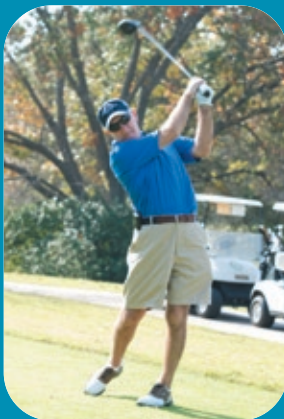
- Provide a leadership role in post graduate medical education.
- Physician retraining and proper implementation of new technology.
- Collaboration with other educational institutions benefits patient care.

Partners Classic Golf Tournament

By Janet Neff

Mark your calendars for the 6th Annual Partners Classic Golf Tournament, benefiting Partners Together For Health, the foundation for JPS Health Network. The event is Monday, Nov. 3 at the Ridglea Country Club with a pro golf clinic, golf ball grab (you know you're going to win something!), chance to enhance (a few mulligans for that 'oops' shot) and a box lunch, followed by 18 holes of golf. Wind up the day with dinner, prizes and much more.

You never know but we may have enough golfers to use Ridglea's north and south courses so register early if you have a preference. Of course, the awards dinner at 5 p.m. is where the hard-working players get rewarded with prizes. Spouses and guests are welcome to join in for dinner for \$25 per person.



Alan Byrd, MD

Registration includes green fees, carts, range balls, brunch, dinner, refreshments, awards/prizes, golf shirts, sports bags and more. Sponsorship packages range from \$1,500 to \$5,000 and have their names in various, conspicuous places to repay their generosity. Individuals play for \$250.

The event begins with 9 a.m. registration, but you can register online to secure your spot early. The event may sell out quickly so don't delay!

Monies raised from the golf tournament help Partners fund such efforts as patient programs, facilities, advanced technology, medical education and community wellness programs for JPS patients, most of whom are uninsured or underinsured.

As you can see, there are a lot of needs to be met. Please make plans now to join us for this worthwhile event. Register online at www.partnerstogetherforhealth.org or contact Partners Together For Health to obtain a form. For more information, please call 817-920-7310 or e-mail partners@jpshealth.org.

Nature Center & Refuge Conference

By Pamela Lira

The Fort Worth Nature Center, one of the largest city-owned nature centers in the U.S., offers the opportunity to learn wilderness medicine in the unique forest, prairie and wetlands of Texas. An Advanced Wilderness Life Support Course will be held Aug. 21-23.

The course is being presented by the John Peter Smith Hospital Family Medicine Residency program. Lectures will be conducted at the Nature Center facilities with practical skills sessions held in the park where you will "learn the skills to prevent medical problems, reduce suffering and save lives in non-traditional medical settings."

- Learn the latest practical hands-on wilderness medical skills for patient assessment, stabilization and evacuation.
- Practice your skills in live scenarios.
- Work with our expert faculty.
- Earn your AWLS certification.
- Obtain up to 17.5 hours of CME or Fellowship credits from the Wilderness Medical Society*

The AWLS Program focuses on treatment of the most common injuries and illnesses encountered making the AWLS certification the standard in the medical industry for wilderness medicine. The conference is being held at the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge.

To register, contact Pamela Lira at 817-927-3940.

New Joint Commission Rule

The Joint Commission has issued a safety alert announcing new requirements for preventing intimidating behavior.

Intimidating and disruptive behaviors can foster medical errors, contribute to poor patient satisfaction and preventable adverse outcomes and increase the cost of care. Safety and quality of care are dependent on teamwork, communication, and a collaborative work environment. To assure quality and promote a culture of safety health care organizations must address the problem of behaviors that threaten the performance of the health care team.

The Joint Commission denotes in the medical staff chapter that we follow the six core competencies addressed in the credentialing process:

1. Patient care
2. Medical/clinical knowledge
3. Practice-based learning and improvement
4. Interpersonal and communication skills
5. Professionalism
6. Systems-based practice

Suggested actions are to implement policies and procedures/practices appropriate for the organization to address that promote "zero tolerance" for intimidating and/or disruptive behavior. Incorporate the "zero tolerance" policy into medical staff bylaws and employment agreements as well as administrative policies.

Not Much Time Left!

By Kimberly Britton

The new Patient Care Pavilion is complete, and donor recognition is in production to pay homage to the charitable gifts to the capital campaign for the building project. Partners Together For Health, the foundation for JPS, is providing two recognition features: One in the main lobby that lists all donors of \$1,000 or more and one in the sky bridge that shows appreciation for the donations provided by employees of \$100 or more. Employees giving \$1,000 or more will be included on both walls.

Each display is crafted of glass, stainless steel, wood and stone. The lobby feature is freestanding with names appearing on several glass columns that can be viewed 360 degrees. It will be placed in front of the public elevators and near the west waiting area. The employee wall has glass panels with rows of employee donor names, along with some "in memory of" or "in honor of" phrases.

The production is expected to take about 60 days and employees will be invited to celebrate the completion. There is still time if you have missed out on making your gift to the campaign and want to be listed. Contact Partners, 817-927-7310, for a pledge form or partners@jpshealth.org.

New Protocol

By James Barbee, MD

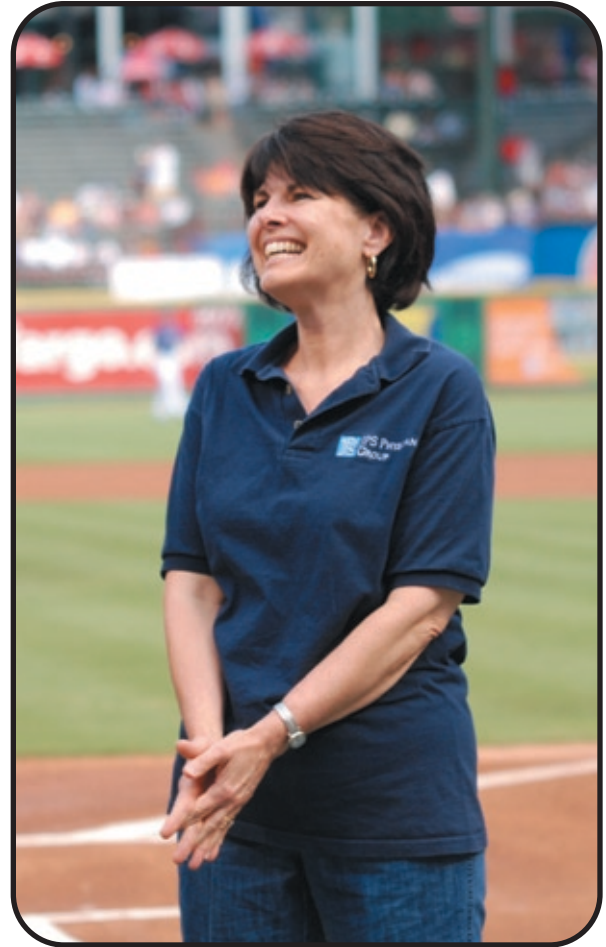
We have worked up new protocols to help primary care physician's vicosupplement their patients. Osteoarthritis is a common patient problem. There are multiple studies looking at the effectiveness of various treatments to reduce pain and promote maintenance of physical activity.

Since most physicians do not have access to expensive C-arm equipment, and since many physicians have office ultrasound equipment, we have co-authored a booklet describing the use of ultrasound-guided needle access to the suprapatellar pouch. Ultrasound is advantageous because of its real-time assessment and guidance. The possibility of single-injection protocols (currently used in Europe) makes this approach even more advantageous.

To access the booklet, visit the JPS intranet and look under the announcement section on the right side of the home page.

Last Look

ARLINGTON - On July 10, physician of the year Elizabeth Carter, MD, (right) was honored on-field during the pre-game activities for the Texas Rangers baseball game at the Ballpark in Arlington. Carter, along with Alicia Lang, RN, nurse manager of the year, Ann Rushing, JPS volunteer of the year, and Joel Sherwood, RN, nurse of the year, were honored as part of JPS Night at the Ballpark. More than 400 tickets were purchased by employees and physicians to attend the special night. The annual recognition event will be held again next summer.



**JPS HEALTH
NETWORK**

1500 S. Main Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76104

a creation of the JPS
Public Relations
department
All photography by Bill Carter.