

Strategic Partners:

California Pacific Medical Center

Marin General Hospital

Novato Community Hospital

Sutter Medical Center of
Santa Rosa

Mills-Peninsula Health Services

**Sutter Pacific Heart
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Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Data Collection at Marin General Hospital

This year, Marin General Hospital introduced a new Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery. The program is unique in that it is multi-disciplinary, comprised of physicians from a number of subspecialties: vascular surgeons (Laura Pak, M.D., Melinda Aquino, M.D. and Kin Lai, M.D.), interventional cardiologist (Robert Sperling, M.D.), cardiovascular surgeon (Jim O'Dorsio, M.D.) and interventional radiologists (Chad Goodman, M.D., Ralph Koenker, M.D., and Jim DeMartini, M.D.). Currently endovascular procedures are being done in three different locations within the hospital: the Operating Room (OR), Interventional Radiology (IR) and the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory (CCL).

According to Laura Pak, M.D., Head of Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, one of the initial target goals of the Division was to create a system for data collection and review. Tracking program statistics presented a significant challenge because of the various physicians and locations for procedures. Since January, 2008 data generated by the collaboration of staff in the OR, IR and CCL has been entered into a local database that was developed by Dr. Richard Shaw, Director of Research, Quality and Education, Sutter Pacific Heart Centers. Pat Cefalu, R.N., Cardiovascular Data Specialist collects and presents the data monthly in the Division meeting and quarterly in the MGH Procedural Cardiology Division meeting. Ultimately, the database will assist in quality management, collection of statistics for clinical studies and link the coordinated delivery of high quality and excellence in treatment of cardiovascular and peripheral vascular disease.

In the first six months of 2008 a total of 274 peripheral endovascular procedures have been performed at Marin General Hospital. Of these 274 cases 75 procedures were done in the CCL, 96 procedures in IR and 103 in the OR. For more information, please contact Pat Cefalu, RN at (415) 925-7785.

**CPMC Named One of the Nation's Top 26 Hospitals for Quality & Safety
by 2008 Leapfrog Hospital Survey**

The Leapfrog Hospital Survey has named twenty-six hospitals and seven children's hospitals as the Nation's Top Hospitals for 2008. The survey is the premier patient safety evaluation tool and provides consumers and health care purchasers with up-to-date assessments of the 1,220 participating hospitals' quality and safety statistics at its website: www.leapfroggroup.org. Of particular interest, CPMC is only one of 5 hospitals (adult or children) in the nation to be included in this prestigious list for three consecutive years. This is a truly exceptional achievement and a well deserved recognition of CPMC's superb physicians, nurses and staff. Thanks to the dedication and skills of everyone on the CPMC Team, patients and our community can be confident that the care at CPMC is truly Beyond Medicine. Congratulations to all for what you do everyday to make CPMC a special place.

Dr. Michael Black Receives his MBA

Dr. Michael Black, Chief, Pediatric Cardiac Surgery, received his MBA from Berkeley's Haas School of Business in May. He was honored as their Turner Fellow of Entrepreneurship, as well as the class valedictorian. Congratulations to Dr. Black for this impressive achievement.

St. Luke's Hosts Successful Visiting Professorship in Pulmonary Hypertension

On Thursday and Friday, October 16 and 17, St. Luke's Hospital hosted Dr. Victor Tapson as a visiting professor in pulmonary hypertension. Dr. Tapson is Professor of Medicine at Duke University where he directs the pulmonary hypertension program. On Thursday morning, he visited the cardiac catheterization laboratory where he met with Dr. Charles Morris and the laboratory staff to review our diagnostic procedures during several actual cases. At noon, he delivered Grand Rounds on Pulmonary Embolization which was attended by 80 members of the medical and nursing staff. During the afternoon, a clinic with live case presentations of challenging cases was held with Dr. Ed Kersh, and was attended by CPMC Cardiology fellows and medical students. The day concluded with a dinner lecture and reception at Spruce Restaurant in San Francisco. Dr. Tapson spoke on the work up of secondary causes of pulmonary hypertension. The event drew 50 attendees and attracted several rheumatologists and pulmonologists. On Friday, the activities shifted to the Pacific Campus where Dr. Tapson gave a morning lecture to the CPMC Cardiology Division on the latest therapies and results in the treatment of pulmonary hypertension. This was followed by cases presentations by the Cardiology Fellows with case discussions by Dr. Tapson, Dr. Kersh and Dr. Ernie Hausslein. This 2 day event, which was sponsored by an unrestricted grant from Gilead Pharmaceuticals, was judged to be a great success in raising awareness about advances in the diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension.

CPMC Receives Accreditation in Transthoracic Echocardiography

Through the commendable leadership of Dr. Andrew Rosenblatt and the excellent commitment of Guadalupe Miranda, lead sonographer of CPMC Echo Lab, The Kanbar Cardiac Center has earned a full accreditation in transthoracic echocardiography until March 31, 2011 from the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL). At CPMC, we are committed to providing excellent patient care not only by consistently adhering to the high standard set forth by ICAEL but also by setting new standards that may surpass current requirements.

Nursing Leadership Role Changes at CPMC

- Kathi Barnes, MD, RN, CNS has moved from Director of Critical Care to Director of Professional Development and Nursing Research.
- Nanette Hinojales, BSN, RN has moved from Manager of Critical Care at Pacific Campus to Manager of Critical Care and Telemetry at St. Luke's
- Jamal Brewster, RN, BSN has moved from Unit Supervisor MSICU/CCU to Cardiac Surgery Data Reporting Analyst
- Chris Hanks, RN, MSN, PhD is newly hired as Director of Critical Care.
- James Silkensen, RN, BSN, MA is starting orientation on October 27th as the new Manager of MSICU/CCU
- Samareh Rad, RN, BSN was previously the night shift charge nurse of CCU but has now become the Unit Supervisor of MSICU/CCU

New Director of Cardiovascular and Neurovascular Services at Marin General Hospital

Marin General Hospital welcomes Louis Manila as the new Director of Cardiovascular and Neurovascular Services - responsible for integrating, growth and business development of CV and NV programs at MGH. His previous position was the Director of the San Francisco Heart and Vascular Institute at Seton Medical Center in Daly City. He is a registered nurse and a radiological technologist by background with over 21 years of experience in the CV and NV arena; with the last 10 years in progressive management roles and responsibilities. Louis works for the Marin Heart Institute and can be reached at (415) 925-7793.

ACC/AHA ACTION Silver Performance Award

CPMC was awarded the Silver Performance Award from the American College of Cardiology (ACC) and the American Heart Association (AHA) for outcomes achieved in the ACTION national registry for acute coronary syndrome patients. The award recognizes that CPMC has sustained at least an 85% compliance rate for overall adherence to guideline-based therapy in this patient cohort for 12 consecutive months. The most recent quarter results showed that CPMC ranked first in the country in appropriate use of acute and discharge beta-blocker therapy, 100% of patients were discharged on lipid lowering medications, and the rate of risk-adjusted mortality was lower than the national benchmarks for both ST-elevation and non-ST-elevation myocardial infarction patients. The Silver Performance Award was given at the American Heart Association Annual Scientific Session held in New Orleans on November 10th, 2008. This award reflects our commitment to a team approach in treating these patients and physician leadership from both Drs. Peter Hui and Sung Choi. With our STEMI and NSTEMI performance improvement teams led by Evelyn Taverna and Bing Tschai and utilizing the ACTION data, we have been able to make significant improvements in our treatment of these patients.

CPMC Abstract Presented at AHA Annual Scientific Sessions in New Orleans

Dr. Mike Ren, a third-year Cardiology Fellow at CPMC, presented an abstract at the recent American Heart Association Annual Scientific Sessions in New Orleans on his research study titled "Percutaneous Coronary Intervention in Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection". With co-authors Drs. Marina Trilesskaya, Damon Kwan, Kim Nguyen, Richard Shaw and Peter Hui, Dr. Ren retrospectively examined 97 HIV patients and 97 matched non-HIV patients who were treated with either drug-eluting stents or bare-metal stents for coronary artery disease. Follow-up information was obtained from hospital and physician records. His analyses of outcomes 3 to 5 years after initial stent placement showed that drug-eluting stents were more effective than bare metal stents in reducing late complications and need for repeat revascularization procedures. This study provides important information for interventional cardiologists, confirming that drug-eluting stents are effective in treating coronary disease in HIV patients. Dr. Ren has submitted a manuscript on this experience for publication in a major medical journal.

CPMC Heart and Vascular Center and MGH Heart Institute 3rd Annual Physician Symposium Shows Optimistic & Favorable Trends

On November 1 & 2, 2008, the CPMC Heart and Vascular Center and MGH Heart Institute held their third annual physician symposium at the Ritz Carlton Half Moon Bay. The focus of our program was "Current Topics in Cardiovascular Medicine: Translating State of the Art Diagnosis and Treatment into Clinical Practice". Our faculty, which consisted primarily of Sutter Health Physicians and four invited speakers, offered a comprehensive, interdisciplinary approach on the topics list below.

- Imaging
- Cardiovascular Disease in the News
- Women and Heart Disease
- State of the Art in Electrophysiology

When comparing our programs in 2007 to 2008, there was a 8% overall increase in attendance.

Below is a small sample of the comments taken from the evaluation forms turned in by our audience:

- Excellent relevance to my practice
- Program was really well done...organized, timely, etc.
- I have been attending CPMC classes for the last two years
- Very much enjoyed the venue
- The topics presented were informative, enjoyed the wide range of experience and affiliation

We are very optimistic about the positive attendance trends and the very favorable comments and marks received on our evaluation forms and we look forward to offering this program again in 2009.

**Mark Your Calendars – February 24, 2009 -
CPMC Heart & Vascular Center 5th Annual Nursing Symposium Series
Cardiovascular Disease: Beyond Myocardium**

The CPMC Heart and Vascular Center is pleased to announce that we will be hosting our 5th annual Nursing Symposium on 2/24/09 at the Hotel Kabuki. Registered Nurses who attend this program will receive 7.8 contact hours of BRN credit and 6.5 hours of ANCC credit. The topics that will be addressed during this program are listed below.

- State of the Art Strategies for Managing Cerebral Vascular Disease
 - Stroke Assessment and Intervention
 - Hypothermia Therapy
- Management Strategies for Peripheral Vascular Disease
 - Endovascular Procedures
- Pharmacologic Therapies in Heart Disease
 - Cardiovascular Drug Update
- Adult Congenital Heart Disease: With You For Life
 - Common Congenital Heart Lesions
 - Management Pearls for Adult Congenital Heart Disease Patients
 - Follow-up recommendations and major late complications in adult congenital heart disease
- Advanced Strategies for Heart Failure
 - Bi Ventricular Pacing & ICD's
 - Peripheral Ultrafiltration Therapy
 - High Risk Intervention

For more information about this program and/or to receive a copy of our program brochure, please contact Paula Rowbury, Program Supervisor, via telephone at 415 600-5896 or via e-mail at rowburp@sutterhealth.org.

Future SPHC Newsletters Will Now Be Published On A Quarterly Basis

Please look for our next SPHC newsletter issue in January 2009. We encourage you to forward any topics or stories by 1/5/2009 that you wish to include in our newsletter to Jona Calitis at Calitij@sutterhealth.org.

The purpose of this quarterly newsletter is to bring you up to date on the new features, programs and other newsworthy information from the cardiovascular programs at Marin General Hospital, Novato Community Hospital and California Pacific Medical Center (including St. Luke's). We welcome your input and any newsworthy content you may have for this publication.