

Premier Pulse

News for Premier Health Physicians

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COVID-19 and History

By Marc Belcastro, DO, system chief medical officer, Premier Health



Premier Health recently joined health care systems and hospitals across the country and state with a vaccine requirement

for COVID-19. I want to highlight the importance of vaccines by briefly considering the outbreaks of two deadly infectious diseases from recent history, particularly as the COVID-19 pandemic bears similarities to them.

The 33rd World Health Assembly declared the world free of smallpox on May 8, 1980. This was considered one of the greatest public health achievements in history. Smallpox was a very contagious and deadly disease, not unlike SARS-CoV-2. North America and Europe eliminated this disease in 1952-1953, but it persisted in other parts of the world. In 1959, the World Health Organization announced an eradication campaign that was slow to gain momentum until 1967. Through mass vaccination, this scourge was finally defeated, but it took more

than two decades. Estimates indicate smallpox claimed more than 300 million lives in the 20th century alone.

There were many frightening childhood diseases in the early 20th century, but polio likely topped this list. It struck mainly in summer months leading to periodic epidemics, paralyzing or killing thousands of children. With widespread vaccination, polio was virtually eliminated from the western hemisphere in 1994. I remember going to gymnasiums with my mother to drink the liquid vaccine.

We are again confronted with a highly contagious disease, which given time and people to infect, has the capacity to mutate and become more dangerous. We have science, technology, and the commitment of private industry that labored 24/7 to bring us highly effective and safe vaccines. We benefit from widespread access to the internet, which places inexhaustible information at our fingertips. But it is also a vehicle for misinformation, anecdotes, and personal agendas. Despite the volumes of confusing information, what is clear is

that vaccines prevent disease and death. Chicken pox, measles, mumps, rubella, pertussis, meningitis, and diphtheria – these are but some of the diseases we vaccinate our children against.

A balanced perspective must acknowledge that unknowns always remain, but it's also important to identify what we do know. We know that while vaccinated individuals can still develop COVID-19, vaccines reduce the risk of infection astronomically, as well as reducing the risk of severe disease. We know the vaccines have rare side effects, but they pale in comparison to the death, disability, and devastation caused by COVID-19. We know that when unvaccinated individuals get infected, the disease's effects virtually always occur with much greater frequency and severity than the side effects of the vaccines.

We know it's possible the next variant could be more deadly to our children who don't yet have a vaccine available. And, most importantly, we know this virus will not be stopped until we are vaccinated.

Premier Health Calls for All Providers and Employees to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19

By Mary Boosalis, president and CEO, Premier Health; and Marc Belcastro, DO, system chief medical officer, Premier Health



In response to the Ohio Hospital Association's recommendation, Premier Health and its medical staff will adopt policies requiring all medical staff and employees to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by December 1, 2021.

"At Premier Health, our commitment to safeguarding the health of our

patients, visitors, providers and staff is always our highest priority," said Mary Boosalis, president and CEO of Premier Health. "Vaccination against COVID-19 is our best tool to prevent spread of the disease and ensure the health and well-being of our hospital workforce and the communities we serve."

The scientific evidence and real-world experience show COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. Requiring the vaccine demonstrates Premier Health's commitment to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and to protect patients and staff from infection.

"With the highly infectious Delta variant and cases on the rise in Ohio and across the nation, this is an important step to help ensure the safety and well-being of everyone in our facilities and sites of care," said Marc Belcastro, DO, chief medical officer for Premier Health. "It's the right thing to do."

Premier Health, along with other hospitals in the region, already require vaccinations for other highly communicable diseases, such as influenza, as a condition of employment. This important measure is one of multiple infection controls used to prevent outbreaks.



COVID-19 Pfizer Vaccines Now Available at CompuNet Locations

CompuNet Clinical Laboratories began offering the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at five patient service center locations on July 26. The vaccine is available for adults and minors, ages 12 and older. A parent or guardian will be required to be present and sign a consent form for patients ages 12 to 17.

Appointments can be scheduled at CompuNet's website, compuNetlab.com, or on Premier Health's vaccine clinic page. Patients can also request the vaccine while they are visiting one of the five locations for lab services and, if a slot is available, CompuNet staff will be able to fulfill their vaccine request. To receive the vaccine, individuals are not required to be a CompuNet or Premier Health patient.

The COVID-19 vaccine will be administered by a nurse and the patient will be asked to wait for a period of time after the shot so that staff can monitor for any adverse reactions. CompuNet will schedule the follow up second vaccine dose while the patient is waiting.

Vaccine Documentation

The patient's vaccination record will be directly interfaced into EPIC. If the patient uses Premier Health MyChart®, the patient's vaccine documentation will be available in their MyChart account. Vaccine cards will also be provided to patients. Additionally, patients can access their records at CompuNet's My Labs Now portal for vaccinations provided through CompuNet.

CompuNet Vaccine Locations

- **BEAVERCREEK**
Beavercreek Lakeview Patient Service Center
2400 Lakeview Drive, Ste. 110
Available on Mondays,
1:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- **DAYTON**
Miami Valley Hospital
One Wyoming St.
CompuNet Patient Service Center in Berry Building
Available on Thursdays,
9:15 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- **ENGLEWOOD**
Miami Valley Hospital North
9000 N. Main St.
CompuNet Patient Service Center, Ste. 303
Available on Wednesdays,
9:15 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
and Saturdays
9:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
- **MIDDLETOWN**
Atrium Medical Center
One Medical Center Drive
CompuNet Patient Service Center, 1st floor
(inside hospital – first floor, *not* COVID Drive-Through location)
Available on Fridays,
1:45 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- **TROY**
Upper Valley Medical Center
3130 N. County Road 25A
CompuNet Patient Service Center, 1st floor
(inside hospital, *not* COVID Drive-Through location)
Available on Tuesdays,
9:15 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.



Cardiac Catheterization Lab at Miami Valley Hospital South Now Level II



The cardiac catheterization lab, or cath lab, at Miami Valley Hospital South now can provide advanced cardiac care for patients experiencing a heart attack. The lab, which features a dedicated intensive care unit (ICU), meets all Ohio Department of Health regulations for a Level II designation, which allows heart interventions to be performed.

The Miami Valley Hospital South cath lab will provide emergency care around the clock, as well as offer inpatient and outpatient elective cardiac procedures.

Previously, as a diagnostic cath lab, patients in need of treatment for a heart attack had to receive that care at Miami Valley Hospital's main campus in Dayton. With Miami Valley Hospital South's new designation and expansion, local residents will be able to stay closer to home and family members. In addition, EMS will be able to return to service more quickly.

Cath labs are equipped with specialized imaging technology that enables a board-certified interventional cardiologist to see how well blood is flowing to and from the heart. If a blockage or narrowing of the arteries is identified, treatment can be provided to improve blood flow and prevent permanent damage to the heart.

Treatments for cardiac events include medications, supportive measures, and taking patients to the cath lab to open a closed artery as soon as possible. These life-saving treatments are available at Atrium Medical Center, Miami Valley Hospital, Miami Valley Hospital South, and Upper Valley Medical Center.



Otolaryngologist Enjoys Sports and Family Time



**Stewart Adam, MD,
otolaryngologist**

What is your clinical specialty?

Otolaryngology, head and neck surgery – (ENT)

Where did you go to school?

Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire (majored in history and philosophy); University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, medical school; Yale-New Haven Hospital for my surgery intern year and residency training

What brought you to Premier Health?

The opportunity to create a full-service otolaryngology-head and neck surgery practice based in a positive culture and being able to serve the people of the Miami Valley in partnership with the best health care system in the region.

Who are the people who influenced and/or mentored you?

My parents and family; coaches; teachers; excellent professors; friends during medical training; and my awesome wife.

What is one thing most people don't know about you?

I have not been on social media for almost 10 years.

Where is your hometown?

I have identified with many places as home, but Dayton, Ohio takes the distinction of hometown.

What, if any, sports team(s) do you cheer for?

I am a big college basketball and football fan. Love the University of Michigan Wolverines, and of course, the University of Dayton Flyers. I enjoy following a number of other sports more peripherally, such as pro tennis.

What is the last book you read?

Read "Cougar Crossing" to my kids last night; seem to be piling up the children's literature books on a nightly basis. I recently re-explored Dostoevsky's "The Idiot," and my favorite absurd conclusion of all time, "beauty will save the world."

What is your favorite song in your playlist?

Not a clear frontrunner, no playlist. I love independent music, currently enjoying Jungle (electronic music) and Andy Shauf (indie folk rock/pop).

What is your favorite food?

I have to go with Uncrustables (thank you to Premier Health Food Services for introducing us a few years ago).

What is your favorite hobby?

Spinning bike ride every morning.

What is your favorite animal, and why?

My three dogs, Bender, Loveday, and Efa

Where is your favorite vacation spot, and why?

We have not traveled much the last few years, but we just took a trip to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina and my family loved it - alligators and dolphins and easy beach days.

Describe something (a thing, person, place, experience, etc.) for which you are especially thankful:

My wife, Althea, for being the greatest support of all time and an amazing mother to our five kids and bringing that sixth kid along so well. She is due in October.

Pick a side

iPhone or Android

iPhone (just upgraded my iPhone 4 to the new one)

Early bird or night owl

Early bird

Beach bum or mountain hiker?

Mountain hiker

Dress shoes or tennis shoes?

Tennis shoes (all black, can pass as dress shoes)

Paperback or e-reader?

Paperback

Coffee or tea?

Coffee (although bcca amino pre-work out beverages are a nice substitute)

Cooking or baking?

Cooking (does reheating count as cooking?)

Sweet or salty?

Sweet



Miami Valley Hospital, Atrium Medical Center Honored by U.S. News & World Report



Miami Valley Hospital ranked eighth among all Ohio hospitals in the latest annual rankings released by U.S. News & World Report. The hospital, which is part of Premier Health, again had the best performance among all hospitals in the Dayton region.

The distinction includes Miami Valley Hospital North in Englewood and Miami Valley Hospital South in Centerville.

The hospital received a “high-performing” designation in 12 additional areas of care: orthopedics; pulmonology and lung surgery; urology; heart failure; heart attack; colon cancer surgery; hip replacement; knee replacement; kidney failure; pneumonia; diabetes; and stroke.

In addition, Atrium Medical Center’s rehabilitation services ranked 43rd in the nation, and areas of care receiving a “high-performing” designation include heart attack, heart failure, and kidney failure. Upper Valley Medical Center received a “high performing” designation for treatment of kidney failure.

Miami Valley Hospital



Atrium Medical Center



CompuNet Launches In-House Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

Recently, CompuNet Clinical Laboratories began offering a comprehensive prescription drug monitoring program as another option to urine drug testing. Prescription drug monitoring tests, previously sent to Quest Diagnostics, are now available through CompuNet’s expanded toxicology department.

CompuNet’s prescription drug monitoring program will offer improved turnaround times for test results since both screening and confirmations will be performed in-house at the Sandridge core lab. The program offers an ala carte menu of individual tests for screens, screens with reflex to confirmation, and confirmations.

Additionally, CompuNet offers four prescription drug monitoring screen-only panels and five screen with confirmation panels.

The Premier Health Prescription Drug Screen panel will continue to be available in EPIC. The Premier Health panel tests for 12 drugs and includes confirmatory testing and specimen validity testing. Drugs tested include: amphetamines, barbiturates, fentanyl, benzodiazepines, cocaine metabolite, marijuana metabolite, methadone and metabolite (EDDP), opiates, oxycodone, heroin metabolites, and MDMA/MDA.

If your practice utilizes point-of-care testing off a drug screen cup, CompuNet can provide confirmations for drugs tested. Confirmation codes are also available within EPIC.



For information about the new test options and how to order, please contact your CompuNet account representative. CompuNet’s Toxicology Account Executive, Pam Moore, is also available for information and can be reached at pjmoore@compunetlab.com or (937) 903-4865 (mobile).

Services Offered by Neuroscience Surgical Specialties



The Clinical Neuroscience Institute's board-certified neurosurgeons are skilled across multiple surgical specialties, including spine, tumor, epilepsy, movement, neuro-oncology and functional neurosurgery. In addition, our neurosurgeons are backed by the resources of a Level I Trauma Center, advanced and innovative technologies, neuro-intensive care unit, and specially trained staff to care for even the most complex cases.

Our neurosurgeons and neuro-oncologists use the expertise of the Midwest's first brain mapping center to prepare a highly individualized plan prior to surgery. This allows for greater precision and a delicate surgical approach, ensuring that no vital areas of the brain are compromised.

Through non-invasive imaging technology, brain mapping identifies areas of the brain that control speech, movement, senses, etc., guiding physicians during neurosurgery to avoid these critical areas and helping them determine the best surgical approach. Since the location of critical areas of the brain are not the same in every person, brain mapping allows for:

- Highly individualized planning before surgery
- Greater precision during surgery
- A clearer view of post-surgical changes to measure outcomes

Surgical treatments may include:

- Awake craniotomy. If a brain tumor sits near an area that controls an essential function such as language, this procedure may be performed to prevent damage.
- Minimally invasive techniques or procedures. Techniques such as endoscopic surgery decrease incision size, increase precision, and may reduce recovery time.
- Visualase™ MRI-guided laser ablation. Visualase™ provides a newer, minimally invasive surgical technique, enabling

surgeons to target and treat seizure-causing areas of the brain with precision.

- Neuro-navigation (GPS). A real-time, intra-operative guidance tool used during cranial and/or spinal surgery to enable accurate planning, targeting, and monitoring during neurosurgery.



For more information or to refer a patient

- Call toll-free **(844) 277-2894**. To refer a patient in EPIC, type "The Clinical Neuroscience Institute – Neurosurgery." Additionally, we welcome referrals from neurologists who need consultations for complex patient conditions.
- To learn more about neurosurgery and brain mapping services at the Clinical Neuroscience Institute, please visit clinicalneuroscienceinstitute.com.



Summer Internship Program Provides Real-World Medical Experience

By Matthew Kramer, MD, medical staff president, Miami Valley Hospital



The Summer Student Internship Program (MVH-SSIP) held its closing session on July 23 in Bieser Auditorium, capping a highly successful seven-week program. Ten college students, between their sophomore and junior years of study and with an expressed interest in medicine or surgery careers, attended the program and gained real-world medical

experience while shadowing physician preceptors at Miami Valley Hospital.

Students were selected by a committee of blinded evaluators, from a pool of more than two dozen highly qualified applicants with stellar academic records, volunteer involvement, and strong letters of reference. Applicants wrote essays indicating their areas of interest and were paired with physician preceptors with similar interests. Students had the opportunity to perform research with their preceptors, and several students wrote their research projects for publication.

On student Presentation Day, students reported on their experiences and research they performed at Miami Valley Hospital. Reports reflected many fields of medical and surgical care, with topics as widely varied as orthopedic fracture repair; trauma care; patient demographic research; intraoperative fluid management; the necessity of blood tests in psychiatric patients; and the humanistic aspects of hospitalist care. Students also offered testimonials related to their experience, including written statements such as:

“Through this internship program, I feel that I have gained not only medical knowledge, but also empathy and compassion for the patients that I will serve in the future. It was impactful to see so many

different physicians be genuinely invested in the health and well-being of the patients. I am greatly inspired to become a thorough and empathetic physician.”

“Being a premed intern gave me great opportunities to ask questions, build relationships, and gain a better understanding of the process to becoming a physician. I am very thankful for the time I was able to spend in the hospital and clinics, meeting and learning from so many health care workers.”

“The program gave me invaluable experiences and helped to guide me in my journey toward becoming a part of the medical field.”

Special thanks are due to the physician preceptors who donated their time and hard work to making the program a success, and to Mike Uhl, president of Miami Valley Hospital; Jennifer Hauler, DO, chief operating officer at Miami Valley Hospital; Marc Belcastro, DO, system chief medical officer at Premier Health; and Roberto Colòn, MD, chief medical officer at Miami Valley Hospital for their administrative support. Finally, a special thank you is due to Teresa Spanel, internship program administrator, for her tireless work on the program.

Learn More



For information on how to become a preceptor for 2022, how students may apply, or program specifics, contact the program’s director, Dr. Matt Kramer, at mgkramer@premierhealth.com, or the program administrator, Teresa Spanel at TASpanel@premierhealth.com.

Provider Praise

Premier Health patients submit thousands of comments each year acknowledging physicians across our health system for providing excellent care. Here is a random sampling of appreciation received in recent months.

Dr. Dixon is always pleasant. He listens carefully and always answers my questions in an easily understood manner.

I think **Dr. Sadhu** is a very knowledgeable and caring doctor.

Dr. Amy and her staff are fantastic!

Dr. Weber is awesome!

Dr. Robbe is an excellent physician.

Dr. Ordway is thorough, easy to understand, and enjoyable to talk to. He seems very genuine in his concern for my health needs.

Dr. Lasala is an amazing doctor! He listens and explain everything clearly. I highly recommend him to anyone looking for a family doctor.

Dr. Taylor is AMAZING! She is patient, kind, and makes you feel welcome. She took the time needed to discuss challenges with my child and did her best to offer guidance.



Premier Health Plans Expansion in Beaver Creek with Emergency Department

Premier Health plans to grow its presence in Beaver Creek with the addition of an emergency department at its existing medical office building at 2400 Lakeview Drive.

Once expanded, the site will offer the full capabilities of other Premier Health emergency departments and will be staffed by the same experienced team in place at all the health system's emergency departments.

Other project details include:

- 55 jobs
- enhanced capability to keep patients who require a less than 24-hour length of stay for observation.
- The expanded facility will have a community room similar to the free-standing emergency department at Austin Landing.

The expansion of Premier Health's services in Beaver Creek reflects the community's



growth – more than 131,000 people now live within a 10-mile radius of the proposed site of the emergency department. This growth has set the stage for an increasing demand for choice.

In 2020, Premier Health served more than 30,000 emergency department patients from the area.

In addition to physician offices, Premier Health also has an urgent care in Beaver Creek. This urgent care and the proposed emergency department would both be part of a coordinated spectrum

of care available to Beaver Creek residents without leaving town.

This will be the second time that Premier Health has added emergency department capabilities to an existing care site in Greene County, having done so in 2013 in Jamestown.

Premier Health is collaborating with the City of Beaver Creek in preparation for the expansion. An opening date is set for summer 2022.

Expanding Trauma Services Across Premier Health

By Candy Skidmore, vice president of service integration for emergency, trauma, CareFlight, and EMS Center of Excellence, Premier Health



Miami Valley Hospital as the most experienced Level I Trauma Center in the region and Atrium Medical Center as a level III Trauma Center have long been

recognized as delivering high quality trauma care within Premier Health and across the region. However, the Emergency and Trauma Institute has been working to expand trauma services across the areas we serve to improve our trauma network and access.

Miami Valley Hospital South became a Level III Trauma Center in 2019 and will be completing its final verification visit from the American College of Surgeons this October. This second survey represents the last step in a stringent process to become a designated Level III Trauma Center in the state. Miami Valley Hospital South now provides an access

point for the community and EMS providers to ensure patients needing trauma care have it available locally, but still allowing for patients with higher acuity trauma needs to be rapidly moved to Miami Valley Hospital via CareFlight or the MICU when needed. The response has been overwhelmingly positive from the community and EMS. Under the direction of Alyssa Gans, MD, MBA, FACS, trauma program medical director, and Beth Larson, RN, trauma program manager, the program continues to grow, ensuring outstanding care to trauma patients every day.

Additionally, Upper Valley Medical Center (UVMC) is currently in the process of becoming a Level III Trauma Center. Currently, there are no trauma centers in Miami, Darke, or Shelby counties. Under the direction of Prad George, DO, trauma program medical director, and Traci Knox, trauma program manager, UVMC just

completed their initial visit from the American College of Surgeons in July. While the results will not be known for a few weeks, the feedback from the surveyor team was extremely positive, noting the very well-developed system approach to trauma and emergency services, the high-level quality review process in place, and the strength of the trauma program and leadership team at UVMC! We anticipate UVMC will officially be a designated trauma center this fall, adding to our Premier Health Trauma Network.

Ohio is a legislated trauma state, meaning for a hospital to label itself as a trauma center, it must meet the American College of Surgeons standards for a trauma center through a series of two site surveys by the college, correct any deficiencies through action plans, and receive approval from the State of Ohio to then be designated as a trauma center.

Premier Health Center at Union Village Opens



Premier Health Center at Union Village, 580 N. St. Route 741, opened August 10 to provide health care services for Lebanon and surrounding communities.

Premier Health Center at Union Village features:

- Urgent Care, open daily, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., for all ages
- Primary care
- Orthopedic and cardiology services
- Medical imaging
- Occupational health
- Laboratory services
- Pulmonary and sleep care
- Connection to additional services at Atrium Medical Center in nearby Middletown

Top Rankings; Dayton Air Show; New Hospice Campus



Atrium Medical Center

Atrium Medical Center's rehabilitation services rank among the top 50 in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report. Atrium's ranking at No. 43 is based on analysis of hospital performance, including care of patients recovering from events such as stroke, traumatic brain injuries, and severe burns. Atrium's rehabilitation program was rated "excellent" in advanced technologies and patient services, and its scores in several categories were above the national average, including prevention of hospital readmissions during rehabilitation and discharging patients to home. Atrium

manages nearly 900 patients each year in its rehabilitation program. Atrium also received a "high-performing" designation in three additional areas of care in the U.S. News & World Report rankings: heart failure, heart attack, and kidney failure.

Atrium's 2021 volunteer initiative continues to reach out to the community. Most recently, employees organized a health care career panel for Middletown students in the R.I.S.E. program, which is organized through the Robert "Sonny" Hill Community Center and focuses on professional development for high school juniors and seniors. Andre Harris, MD, chief medical officer at Atrium, joined nurses

from Atrium's Level III Trauma Center to share information about clinical careers. Students also heard from representatives of several non-clinical departments, including IT, supply chain management, nutrition services, and marketing. Atrium's goal is to volunteer 2,021 hours as a hospital this year in the communities we serve.

Atrium has again been named a finalist in the Greater Cincinnati Nonprofit of the Year Awards. Atrium is nominated in the "Best Emergency Care" category. Atrium won this category in 2020. Voting began Aug. 14 at cincymagazine.com.

Atrium providers and leaders continue to serve as subject matter experts for our community about health-related topics:

- John Weske, MD, appeared on FOX19-TV (Cincinnati) to remind women of the importance of annual mammogram screenings and to promote Premier Health's mobile mammography unit.
- Jonathan Lazzara, MD, medical director of Atrium's Behavioral Health Unit, appeared on WDTN-TV (Dayton) and offered perspective on mental health concerns and anxiety individuals may experience as more communities "return to normal."
- Andre Harris, MD, chief medical officer of Atrium, appeared on WHIO-TV (Dayton) to discuss the Delta variant's rapid spread.
- Jeanna Severt, director of human resources at Atrium, discussed current hiring challenges in health care with WLWT-TV (Cincinnati) and Spectrum News One (Cincinnati). The interviews also promoted a job fair at Atrium.

The summer brought the return of community events that were canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic. Atrium was a sponsor of the Middletown Blast Fourth of July concert and fireworks, Middletown Safety Town for kindergartners, and the Ohio Challenge Hot Air Balloon Festival in Middletown. In addition, Atrium caregivers were invited to march as grand marshals in the Liberty Twp. Fourth of July parade.



Miami Valley Hospital Campuses

Miami Valley Hospital ranked eighth among all Ohio hospitals in the latest annual rankings released by U.S. News & World Report, and again had the best performance among all hospitals in the Dayton region. The distinction includes Miami Valley Hospital North and Miami Valley Hospital South. The hospital received a “high-performing” designation in 12 additional areas of care: orthopedics; pulmonology and lung surgery; urology; heart failure; heart attack; colon cancer surgery; hip replacement; knee replacement; kidney failure; pneumonia; diabetes; and stroke.

Premier Health was a sponsor of the CenterPoint Energy Dayton Air Show. CareFlight Air & Mobile Services was the official medical provider for the event. Employees from Miami Valley Hospital, Miami Valley Hospital North, and System Support represented Premier Health by walking in the airshow parade on July 9. Mary Garman participated in the booth, recognizing the grand marshals for the parade.

Miami Valley Hospital South held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Level II Cath Lab and ICU. Centerville elected officials and city leaders attended the

event, including Centerville Mayor Brooks Compton who presented COO Marquita Turner with a proclamation in honor of the opening.

A groundbreaking was held on July 29 to celebrate the addition of a Premier Health emergency department to the existing medical office building at 2400 Lakeview Drive. Once expanded, the site will offer the full capabilities of other Premier Health emergency departments and will be staffed by the same experienced

team in place at all the health system’s emergency departments. The project will include 55 jobs; enhanced capability to keep patients who require a less than 24-hour length of stay for observation; and a community room similar to the free-standing emergency department at Austin Landing. The new emergency department, together with the existing Premier Health Urgent Care in Beavercreek, will be part of a coordinated spectrum of care available to Beavercreek residents without leaving town.

The Miami Valley Hospital Foundation’s Valley Classic took place July 26 at NCR Country Club. The tournament was a sellout with more than 150 golfers, 45 sponsors and in-kind contributors, and dozens more raffle and auction donors. Proceeds from the tournament go to enhance diabetes education for inpatients and outpatients provided by certified diabetes educators at the Bull Family Diabetes Center. Educators completed 1,380 inpatient visits in 2020. In addition, the foundation helped fund outpatient diabetes education for individuals who are uninsured or underinsured. Since its inception in 1990, the Valley Classic has raised more than \$4 million for programs throughout Miami Valley Hospital.



Continued on next page



Two other foundation grant awards and a generous donation were received in July: the Iddings Family Foundation awarded \$25,000 to the Promise to Hope program, which provides compassionate treatment for pregnant women with substance abuse disorders. Good Samaritan Foundation-Dayton received a \$15,000 award for Mothers Empowered, which offers a group approach to prenatal care for expectant mothers. The Good Samaritan Foundation-Dayton also received a major gift from Dr. Soma and Veni Avva for the Michael Sawdey Samaritan Clinic for Women and Families serving homeless women and children.

In partnership with ProMedica, Premier Health received a nearly \$2 million grant from the Ohio Department of Health to treat emergency department patients struggling with substance abuse and connecting them with the help they need. Funding will be directed to the emergency departments at Atrium Medical Center, Miami Valley Hospital, and Miami Valley Hospital North through their respective hospital foundations.

Upper Valley Medical Center

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) completed a Level III Trauma Center consultative review at Upper Valley Medical Center on July 13 with very positive results. ACS reviewers expressed that they were impressed with the performance improvement process surrounding trauma and recommended that UVMC proceed with applying for verification through ACS. They were also impressed with the system approach to trauma and the collaboration between the trauma program managers and trauma medical directors.

A UVMC Foundation Inaugural Golf Classic was hosted June 28 at the Piqua Country Club. This successful fundraising event was filled and raised more than \$21,000 to support the upgrade/renovation of UVMC's Level II Special Care Nursery. In addition to members of the UVMC leadership team, pediatrician Paul Weber, MD, and his team attended. Dr. Weber spoke about the nursery project at the dinner that evening.

Scott Kanagy, DO, MBA, chief medical officer at UVMC, was interviewed July 19 for the Troy WTJN 107.1 and Piqua WPTW 98.1 radio morning shows. His topic was skin cancer prevention, detection, and treatment.

UVMC leaders attended a ribbon-cutting for the new Ohio's Hospice of Miami County facility now open on the UVMC campus. The ribbon-cutting held July 22 was followed by an open house for health care staff on July 30 and community open house events on July 31 and Aug. 1.

UVMC hosted a booth at the Piqua Farmers Market on July 1 in downtown Piqua. Tracy Schneider, diabetic educator; and Lisa Pitcairn, advance practice nurse, provided education specific to diabetes, nutrition, heart CT, and cardiac health as well as information about the services available at the Piqua Urgent Care at Outpatient Care Center North. In other community engagement/outreach, UVMC sponsored the 12th Annual Bob Mikolajewski Memorial 5K Run/Walk held July 10 at the Piqua High School stadium and the Edison State Community College Drive for Scholarships held July 30 at the Piqua Country Club.

UVMC Public Safety was recognized with Department of the Quarter honors for the summer quarter. This recognition is

designed to highlight outstanding quality service and educate fellow teams about the scope of work performed by the recipient department.

Premier Physician Network

CNSI offers the latest treatments for unruptured intracranial aneurysms (UIA). The advancement of imaging technology and techniques has led to higher detection rates and less invasive treatment options for UIA. CNSI's neurointerventional team provides the latest in cerebral vascular imaging, surgical devices, and endovascular techniques to ensure better outcomes when repairing UIAs.

PPN now offers patients an additional colon cancer screening option. Although colonoscopy is the best option when it comes to colon cancer screening, many patients avoid getting one. Patients looking for an alternative, less invasive test that can be performed at home may want to discuss a Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) with their provider. It detects hidden blood in the stool, which can be an early sign of colon cancer. The launch of this important initiative was financially supported by Premier Health's hospital foundations, which fully embrace our shared mission to improve the health of the communities we serve.

Premier Orthopedics provides skilled shoulder and elbow care. The specialists at Premier Orthopedics offer the skilled expertise to manage your patient's shoulder and elbow issues from simple wear and tear to complex injury and diseases such as arthritis. We carefully evaluate the condition of the patient's joint and range of motion to recommend a personalized care plan. In many cases, non-surgical therapies can help your patients achieve their goals.