

# Premier Pulse

## News for Premier Health Physicians

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## Communication with Others

By Scott Kanagy, DO, chief medical officer, Premier Health Northern Region



Communication in a health care setting is one of the most important tools we have for providing great patient care and improving the patient experience.

Effective communication in the hospital is not only essential to providing high quality, safe patient care, but is also necessary to prevent many potential harmful events that could reach our patients. Ineffective communication between care team members is one factor that can be a cause

of workplace dissatisfaction, which could compromise the quality of patient care that the patient receives. It can lead to a care team member being called or paged multiple times, which affects that care team member's efficiency and work flow, as well as that of other care team members. This can cause dissatisfaction to the care team members, delayed care, and risk to the patient's care.

Communication between other care team members and physicians is arguably one of the most important links in the chain of patient care, but continues to present challenges in health care today. Effective communication between all care team members, as well as with the patient, is one

of the key components of safe and highly reliable patient care plans, along with a positive patient experience. Communication should be clear, direct, explicit, and respectful. It can boost the confidence and job satisfaction of care team members and reduce workplace stress. Working in health care is stressful enough independent of poor or ineffective communication with those with whom we interact.

Effective communication with patients is key in providing high quality care. Most patients remember less than half of the information given to them by care team members. This can contribute to

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# Next Steps for Good Samaritan Hospital Campus

Activity has recently increased on the Good Samaritan Hospital campus as steps are taken to prepare the property for reuse. Additionally, our goal is to ensure that at least 90 percent of the building materials from the hospital campus will be recycled or repurposed and will not be sent to a landfill.

Deconstruction is anticipated to begin in late April and continue into 2020. No explosives will be used; i.e. no buildings will be imploded. Neighborhood meetings are being held every other month for those who live in the immediate vicinity of the hospital campus to explain the decommissioning and demolition process.

Great care was taken to ensure that items from the hospital were handled in the most appropriate manner possible:

- Religious artifacts have been identified and have been appropriately dispersed to local Catholic parishes, schools, and other Catholic institutions with permission from the Sisters of Charity.

- Nursing school memorabilia such as photographs, alumni artifacts, bronze sculptures, awards, etc. have been preserved.
- Items from the gardens and courtyards are being preserved and relocated to other campuses, primarily Miami Valley Hospital North.
- Premier Health's hospital campuses and the Premier Health Center in downtown Dayton received several pieces of art from Good Samaritan Hospital's extensive art collection.
- The final disposition of the Chapel (contents and structural components) is undecided. All significant contents and structural components (wood work, carved doors, shell stone walls, stained glass windows) are being carefully dismantled, packed, and prepared for storage until a final decision is made.

Additionally, equipment valued at more than \$50,000 was donated to about 90

nonprofit organizations, all in either the Good Samaritan Hospital neighborhood or in the greater Dayton area. Beneficiaries have included local colleges and universities with clinician training programs; schools; soup kitchens and food pantries; social service organizations; churches and missions; arts organizations; senior centers; and nursing homes. Examples of donated items include skids of latex paint; lightly used or unused ceiling tiles; white boards; toilet paper; and hand sanitizer dispensers.

A vision for the reuse of the 13-acre site was finalized by the Phoenix Next Board in February. These recommendations will serve as a guide for future development, including potential proposals from private developers. This strategic vision will also help give direction to individuals and organizations involved in leveraging investments in the surrounding neighborhoods. Premier Health will contribute several million dollars to the redevelopment of the campus and/or the immediate vicinity.



*Continued from front*

## Communication with Others

poor patient compliance and potential suboptimal outcomes. A technique called "Teach-back," which involves the care team member having the patient repeat back in their own words the information that was shared with them, is a helpful tool when trying to improve the amount of information that a patient retains. Effective communication enhances the patient experience and reduces patient complaints. Highly effective physician

and patient communication is an integral part of clinical practice. Done well, it has a therapeutic effect on the patient. Patients who understand their care plan are more likely to acknowledge their health care problems, understand and comply with suggested treatment options, better accept the necessary behavioral changes needed to improve their health, and be compliant with medications.

I ask that we all take some time to think about how we communicate with others and how we all could do a better job of communicating with those we come in contact with during our day. It is such a vital aspect of what we all do every day. High quality, safe patient care should be everyone's goal, and improving how we communicate with each other and our patients is an important aspect in providing this to every patient, every day.

## SPOTLIGHT

# Fidelity Health Care Simplifies Treatment for Patients and Providers

Fidelity Health Care is not only the largest health care agency in Montgomery County; it is the only one that has earned a 5-star rating from Home Health Compare, a ratings system operated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

The ranking provides a tremendous sense of confidence to physicians. Franklin-based family practice physician Joshua Ordway, MD, agrees. “I know my patients will get the best possible care,” he says. “I have seen really good results and successes, and my patients are seen quickly.”

Fidelity’s 5-star rating – which the home health care agency has attained every quarter since July 2018 – places the agency among the top 6 percent of home health care agencies nationwide and among the top 3 percent in Ohio. The rating signifies that Fidelity excels in such quality measures as managing daily activities; managing pain and treating symptoms; preventing harm; preventing unplanned hospital care; and payment and value of care.

“We make every visit count,” says Mary Walters, Fidelity vice president and chief nursing officer. “We are able to provide quality excellent care at a lower cost than the national average, and that’s a big deal; it’s a very hard thing to do.”

Fidelity Health Care, which serves 17 counties in Ohio, focuses on patient-centered goals, Walters says. Patients receive training on how to manage daily living skills, including how to manage their oral medications, from proper dosage to side effects.

“We work in tandem with the patient to keep them independent in their homes,” Walters says. “I receive so many letters and phone calls thanking our clinicians for everything they do to help patients to achieve their goals, such as attending their daughter’s wedding.”

Fidelity offers a wide variety of specialists, including cardiac care, orthopedics, physical therapy, palliative care, and IV-certified



nurses. Medical equipment is available to meet nearly every patient need, from walking aids to wheelchairs; from CPAP and BiPAP machines to portable oxygen tanks; and from bathroom equipment to bedside commodes.

“We are the one-stop shop; we can do it all,” says Cheryl White, executive director of customer service and medical equipment for Fidelity. “We work closely with physicians to provide equipment that enables patients to remain in the comfort of their home, yet safely. It’s very gratifying to see patients who are able to get out to church or the grocery store, travel, or attend their children’s events.”

As a locally owned and operated agency, Fidelity Health Care works closely with hospitals and providers to expedite equipment delivery. “We partner with our physicians and their staff to support the needs of the patient,” White says. “These are invaluable relationships.”

Infusion services also make it possible for patients to remain at home, including IV antibiotics, intravenous feeding (TPN),

chemotherapy, hydration, immune globulin therapy, and enteral feedings.

“When somebody isn’t feeling well, they don’t want to pack up and head into a facility to receive therapy,” says Eric Napier, director of outpatient pharmacy service for Fidelity. “We are coming to their home, and they are already sitting in their recliner waiting for us.”

As a Premier Health-owned entity, Fidelity can streamline the process for providers as well. “They write an order, and we are going to take it from there, instead of using an outside company that would require a million phone calls to set it up,” Napier says.

Dr. Ordway appreciates the ease of signing electronic orders instead of faxing mountains of paperwork.

“My first and really only choice when it comes to home care is Fidelity,” Dr. Ordway says, “because they provide high quality, low cost care. It is obvious that the Fidelity staff are passionate about their jobs.”

# Mammogram Scheduling Simplified; Operational Excellence Team Launches; MIGS CME Survey

By Lori Scalise, vice president of Premier Physician Network specialty services, service line vice president women's health, oncology



## Easy Mammogram Scheduling for Patients

We encourage our primary care physicians and OB/GYNs to advise women about scheduling their mammograms. Premier Health now has three easy options for scheduling:

Women can request a mammogram appointment at any of our convenient locations by filling out an online form that prompts a member of our scheduling team to call the patient within one business day. That form can be found here:

[premierhealth.com/requestmammo](http://premierhealth.com/requestmammo).

If a patient would like to schedule a screening mammogram without waiting for a call back, they can use their Premier Health MyChart account to immediately schedule a mammogram online at any time at [premiermychart.com](http://premiermychart.com).

Patients can also call **855-887-7364** to talk with a member of our scheduling team Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., or Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Women without insurance coverage might be eligible for a free mammogram or other women's health services. Funds are available through the Breast and Cervical Cancer Project (BCCP), as well as through the Premier Health foundations. Patients can call **866-838-8973** to see if they qualify.

## Operational Excellence Team Launched for the Women's Health Service Line

The Women's Health Institute recently launched its system-wide Operational Excellence (OE) team that will provide operational support to the service line to ensure alignment and execution of strategic initiatives and volume growth

goals while maintaining high levels of quality, safety, regulatory compliance, and patient experience.

The women's OE team will be co-chaired by Melissa Merritt, MSN, RN, NE-BC, associate chief nursing officer, and Beth Heyse, MS, RN, CNOR, director of surgery. The co-chairs will be responsible for leading the work of the teams, providing regular reporting to executive sponsors, communicating with key stakeholders, and partnering with service line executive Lori Scalise and institute chair Bill Rettig, MD.

## Minimally Invasive Gynecological Surgery Continuing Medical Education

The Women's Health Institute will be emailing a 10-question survey to all Gynecological and Gynecological Oncology surgeons to assess the needs and interest to attend a Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery (MIGS) CME Program and/or an Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) CME Program sponsored by Wright State University and Premier Health.

The survey will assess options in learning areas such as basic MIGS principles and skills; specific MIGS skills and challenges; specific (straight stick) procedure training; and vaginal and robotic surgery. Depending on the interest level and demand, workshops could be offered as half day, full day, or multi-day and held in the Brethen Center for Surgical Advancement in Robotics and Minimally Invasive Surgery. If you have interest in participating on the planning committee, please contact Jerry Yaklic, MD, chair of the Wright State Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, at [jerome.yaklic@wright.edu](mailto:jerome.yaklic@wright.edu).



## COMING SOON

*Physician offices will soon receive  
“Schedule your Mammogram”  
collateral for distribution to their  
patients.*





## Provider Praise

Last month, Premier Health launched a webpage to publish “Thank You” messages in recognition of National Doctors’ Day on March 30. About 750 messages have been submitted by Premier Health employees, as well as many grateful patients, and can be viewed online at [premierhealth.com/ThankADoctor](http://premierhealth.com/ThankADoctor).

Here is a random sampling of appreciation received:

**Dr. Stewart Adam III**, thank you for making our days worth coming in. I have learned so much since joining your team! You always make us laugh, and it makes the days better.

**Dr. Afful** does a great job identifying patient needs. She recognized a patient’s concern with finances and called After Hours Social Work for assistance. Thank you for being a collaborative team player!

**Dr. Akbar** is an amazing asset to our organization. He is helpful, thoughtful, great with patients, great with staff, gentle, and not to mention incredibly intelligent. Dr. Akbar is always quick to make a call and let the medical imaging staff know when they have done a good job. He is also great about teaching us and helping us learn so that we can grow as technologists. We count Dr. Akbar as a blessing and hope he knows how much we appreciate him as part of our team.

**Dr. Barre** is absolutely wonderful! He is always very approachable with any question that you have and is always kind. His knowledge and skill set are just absolutely amazing.

**Dr. Bethel** is truly a great, amazing doctor. Thank you for all you do!

**Dr. Conn**, you are a proud example of a physician who makes a difference in the lives of your patients! Your kindness, sincere caring and compassion is demonstrated in the care you provide. Thank you for your dedication.

**Dr. Crouch**, YOU ARE AMAZING! You had the unfortunate task of telling me that I had ovarian cancer, and you did it with such compassion and dignity and impeccable bedside manner. So many people that I know go to you and agree that you are the best. I can tell that you love your job! I even referred my sister-in-law to you! THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!!!

**Dr. Diller**, you are the best PCP that I have ever had! You never rush and you make me feel like I am the only patient you have! If anyone ever needs a doc, I refer them to you! There are so many people I know that go to you and we all agree, YOU ARE THE BEST!!!

**Dr. Dunn**, Thank you very much for your competent and compassionate care during my breast cancer surgery in June 2017. I really appreciate the personal attention you gave me, especially your phone calls on two separate evenings. You are definitely a doctor who goes above and beyond!

**Dr. Elshoff**, I appreciate the compassionate care you provide to me and my family members. From the moment you walk into the door of the exam room, it is obvious you are truly invested in the “whole” me. I feel like I am respected as a person - not a diagnosis or disease. You sit down and

maintain eye contact with me throughout my appointment and exam, which reduces my stress and anxiety. You walk me through my results and treatment plan, and invite and encourage questions. You promote safety, trust, and encourage a healthy lifestyle. THANK YOU!!

**Dr. Glover** has been instrumental in working with the community in response to the opioid crisis and establishing protocols for opiate use disorder in the pregnant patient. She is an excellent mentor and attending physician to the OB residents. She has the ability to think fast on her feet when needed, yet a calm demeanor to lead in an emergency. She has a natural manner to put patients at ease and to explain diagnoses and treatment plans in terms they can understand. She is a wonderful physician.

**Dr. Harrington**, Thank you for all you do to make sure I stay healthy and keep on going with my life, so I can enjoy life, my grandchildren and my children.

**Dr. Hicks** performed my reconstructive surgery after my double bilateral mastectomy. He not only completed a marvelous reconstruction for a young, single woman, but he and his staff were always so informative, friendly, accommodating, and encouraging during such a sensitive process. I can't thank him enough for helping bring some "normalcy," positivity, and a brighter outlook after such a traumatic time. Thank you for your expertise, Dr. Hicks!

**Dr. James**, thank you so much for everything you have done not only for us here at Centerville High School, but also for our student athletes. We cannot thank you enough for your support and help along the way.

**Dr. Ljungren** is a great family practice physician. Thank you to Dr. Ljungren for your skill and caring nature. From residency on over the years, you have been an outstanding doctor! I have been very lucky to have his care and guidance over the many years I have been with his practice.

**Dr. Mikhaylov**, thank you for your leadership and clinical support in developing a one-of-a-kind NEUROne teleneurology program for patients within the communities we serve. Your compassionate demeanor toward patients and families, and unwavering commitment and dedication, has led to improved access to care that most people thought would not be possible. We are truly grateful to have you as part of our team and can't wait to see what the next year has in store for us.

**Dr. Myers**, you are more than a good doctor. I value the fact that you were a good listener. More than being just professionals, I value the fact that your staff's attitude was exceptional. Thank you.

**Dr. Northup** has been so helpful on my weight loss journey. He is empathetic, kind, and caring. I can't thank him enough.

**Dr. Ruff** and her staff are top notch! I truly appreciate her sense of humor, expertise and prompt response when I send her a MyChart message. Her staff is always courteous, professional and go above and beyond when scheduling or dealing with any issue.

**Dr. Simmons** goes above and beyond for his patients AND nurses. He answers all the patients' questions, then asks if we need anything as staff. He has gone out of his way to answer phone calls and give patients warm blankets when we are busy! You give amazing care, Dr. Simmons. Thank you for all you do for our community!!

**Dr. Swabb**, thank you so much for being such a great physician. Our patients on rehab are always complimentary of your care. You are approachable and always have the patients' best interest as top priority. It is a pleasure to work with you and we are so fortunate to have you.

**Dr. Thota** is consistently a positive spirit to work around. I appreciate being able to approach him with questions or concerns, knowing he will provide me with a rational response to support learning and teamwork! He is attentive and respectful to

his patients and families, which improves their stay and attitude during whatever difficult moments they are going through while sick or with a sick loved one. He exudes compassion and empathy towards his patients and peers, cultivating a culture of support, equality, and kindness.

**Dr. Tully**, thank you for always keeping me on my toes and always putting a smile on my face! I am lucky to work for a doctor that is so personable and grateful for all the help that's provided. Your patients love you, and your compassion for each of them is truly unlike anything else I have ever seen! You're amazing!

**Dr. Venanzi** is a very kind, caring and compassionate provider who I have the privilege of working with daily. Dr. Venanzi has 25 years of experience in the U.S. Air Force and has brought many of those talents with him to Premier Health. He is a very reliable provider who has a positive attitude and is an asset to Premier Health. It is a privilege to work with Dr. Venanzi. Thank you for your extraordinary service and dedication to your country, patients, staff, colleagues and profession.

**Dr. Wiegand** is a wonderful physician, who spends much time talking with patients, as well as listening to their concerns. She has excellent clinical skills and is a role model for the residents. She is truly inspiring to those who work with her and the patients appreciate her bedside manner and explanations (diagnoses, treatment options).

**Dr. Wolf** is just wonderful! He always takes the time to answer all of your questions fully and ensures that you understand what is being said. He is detail-oriented to ensure that you get the best care. Thank you for everything, Dr. Wolf!



# Science, Public Service Attracted Emergency Department Physician to Medicine



**April Anderson, MD**, sees patients at Miami Valley Hospital.

**What is your clinical specialty?**  
Emergency Medicine

**Where did you go to school?**

New York Medical College

## **What brought you to Premier Health?**

My husband and I came to Ohio for fellowship. He trained at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, and I did fellowship at Wright State University and got assigned to work my clinical shifts at Miami Valley Hospital. It felt like a great fit and reminded me of where I did residency; so when fellowship was complete, I signed on with the emergency department group here, Miami Valley Emergency Specialists.

## **Why did you choose medicine as a career?**

I loved science and was just fascinated by medicine from a young age. And my parents definitely encouraged me. My mom made me a construction paper human when I was in preschool. It had construction paper organs, and I would put them where they belonged and be very proud of myself!

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

Both of my parents have been a huge influence. I was super lucky to have wonderful mentors during residency, like Dr. Carol Barsky and Dr. Gail Donofrio. They are such amazing clinicians and care very deeply about their patients as individuals, while maintaining active research and quality improvement projects and being wives and mothers.

Since I have been here, I have had the good fortune to get to work with Dr. Darin Pangalangan and Dr. Keith Bricking. They are such forward thinkers and always have the interests of our patients front and center.

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

I spent six years working on an ambulance, first as an EMT and then as a paramedic. I was very interested in public service and took a police exam at the same time as the MCATs.

## **Where is your hometown?**

Pearl River, New York. But I was born in the Riverdale section of the Bronx.

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

Obviously the Bronx Bombers, and the New York Yankees

## **What is the last book you read?**

Anything by James Patterson! It's such a guilty pleasure; but once I start one of his books, I'm hooked until the end.

## **What is your favorite song in your playlist?**

I love anything by Blake Shelton or Zac Brown Band.

## **What is your favorite food?**

Martio's Pizza in Nanuet, New York

## **What is your favorite hobby?**

I spend my free time at the gym. My husband, Rich, got me hooked during residency. It was so great to have him there



to show me the ropes, and that became our favorite thing to do together when we were dating.

## **Where is your favorite vacation spot, and why?**

I love Key West because it's got the best parts of a city vacation and a beautiful beach vacation all in one.

## **Describe something for which you are especially thankful:**

I am so thankful for my husband and toddler son. I love seeing them together, and my son says that Dad is his best friend!

## **Pick a side**

### **iPhone or Android?**

iPhone! Those folks at Apple are geniuses, and you can't beat how seamlessly everything works together.

### **Early bird or night owl?**

I would have said night owl for sure before I became a mom, but now I'm in bed the minute my son goes to sleep!

### **Beach bum or mountain hiker?**

Beach for sure

### **Dress shoes or tennis shoes?**

Tennis shoes

### **Paperback or e-reader?**

E-readers are so awesome. I read on my phone most of the time, and it's incredible to have all those books in the palm of my hand!

### **Coffee or tea?**

Coffee. My mom got me a sign in med school that said something about having too much blood in my caffeine system, and that's pretty accurate!

### **Cooking or baking?**

Baking. My poor kid thinks dinner is ready when the microwave beeps.

### **Sweet or salty?**

Sweet

# Thoughtful Discussion on a Tough Topic

By Tarek M. Sabagh, MD, MHSA, medical staff president, Miami Valley Hospital



While disruptive physician behavior is not a widespread issue, its impact on patients and staff can be significant. As leaders of our health care teams, I believe the topic is vital for discussion and further reading.

Disruptive behavior is defined as any behavior that is disruptive to the operations of the hospital or could compromise the quality of patient care, either directly or by disrupting the ability of other professionals to provide quality patient care. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to, behavior that interferes with the provision of quality patient care; intimidates professional staff;

creates an environment of fear and distrust; or degrades teamwork, communication, or morale.

In a survey of 5,000 nurses and physicians (Rosenstein, A.H., 2008), 77 percent reported witnessing a disruptive behavior by a physician – typically a verbal abuse of staff; and 65 percent witnessed a disruptive behavior by nurses (Wachter, R.M. 2010).

Many researchers agree that disruptive behavior is confined to a small number of clinicians, comprising less than 5 percent of the total population of clinicians (Weber, 2004; Rosenstein & O’Daniel, 2005; Linney, 1997). However, the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) 2003 survey on intimidation raises the possibility that this problem is more widespread than previously thought. Subtle intimidation is more common than overt threatening behavior.

According to the ISMP survey, the following were the most common of the subtle intimidation behaviors: condescending language or intonation (88 percent), impatience with questions (87 percent), and reluctance or refusal to answer questions or phone calls (79 percent). Overt intimidation behaviors most frequently encountered were: strong verbal abuse (48 percent), threatening body language (43 percent), and physical abuse (4 percent).

In addition to its direct contribution to medical errors, disruptive behavior can undermine a culture of safety through its effect on teamwork and communication. Rosenstein and O’Daniel found a perception of a link between disruptive behavior and adverse events (66 percent), medical error (71 percent), poor quality of care (72 percent), mortality (25 percent), and poor staff satisfaction.

Creating a culture of teamwork in which opinions can be expressed freely throughout patient care – regardless of rank and without fear of retaliation – is what is needed (Crane, M 2010).

My goal is to spark a thoughtful discussion among our medical staff. Anyone with suggestions or inquiries is welcome to contact me at [tmsabagh@premierhealth.com](mailto:tmsabagh@premierhealth.com) or reach out to Matthew Kramer, MD, chair of the Miami Valley Hospital Medical Staff Wellness Committee, at [mgkramer@premierhealth.com](mailto:mgkramer@premierhealth.com).

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# Wound Center Awards, Employee Recognition, and Community Gifts



## Atrium Medical Center

Atrium Medical Center's Wound Care Center and Hyperbaric Services has been recognized with a national award for clinical excellence. The Robert A. Warriner III, M.D., Center of Excellence award was presented by Healogics, the nation's leading and largest wound care management company. The award recognizes outstanding clinical outcomes for at least two consecutive years, including patient satisfaction higher than 92 percent, and a wound healing rate of at least 91 percent in less than 30 median days. The award for the center, which opened in 2015, landed news coverage in the Journal-News and on WCPO-TV Channel 9 in Cincinnati.



Atrium managers interviewed prospective employees at a March 6 job fair for registered nurses, patient care technicians, medical assistants and respiratory therapists at the hospital. Prior to the event, news coverage of Atrium's hiring push, including how employees can advance from entry-level roles, was featured in Cincinnati and Dayton media markets.

During the March management forum, Atrium Medical Center President Keith Bricking, MD, launched the first Atrium Medical Center Hand Hygiene Challenge. All Atrium departments are creating videos as part of a friendly competition to reinforce Premier Health's "Are You Gelling?" message.

A special committee has also been formed to focus on efforts to improve hand hygiene among all Atrium employees.

Atrium participated in the inaugural #ThisIsWE Latino Night, an event that drew nearly 300 people to Middletown High School on March 6. Several Atrium representatives were on-hand to distribute information about hospital services in both English and Spanish.

## Miami Valley Hospital

Wound Care Center and Hyperbaric Services at Miami Valley Hospital South recently received the Center of Distinction Award, which was given by Healogics, the nation's largest provider of advanced wound care services. The Center achieved outstanding clinical outcomes for 12 consecutive months, including patient satisfaction higher than 92 percent, and a minimum wound healing rate of at least 91 percent within 30 median days to heal. There were 621 Centers eligible for the Center of Distinction award and 423 achieved the honor. Leading edge treatments at the Wound Care Center at Miami Valley Hospital South include negative pressure wound therapy, total contact casting, bio-engineered tissues, biosynthetic dressings and growth factor therapies. The center also offers hyperbaric oxygen therapy, which works by surrounding the patient with 100 percent oxygen to help heal the wound.





Premier Health hosted a Joint Pain Seminar at the Miami Valley Hospital Outpatient Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine in Springboro. The seminar included information on a variety of joint health topics, such as innovative surgical and nonsurgical treatment options to help restore mobility and reduce pain caused by arthritis

and other conditions. Presenting were **Michael Herbenick, MD**, orthopedic surgeon, and **John Horvat, MPT**, physical therapist.

The Samaritan North Surgery Center converted from an ambulatory surgery center to a hospital outpatient department of Miami Valley Hospital on April 1. Current services and providers will remain the same; in addition, new outpatient services will be added. At Miami Valley Hospital North, the Samaritan North Surgery Center location will be Surgery Center A (Main Street entrance), while the surgery center at the inpatient entrance will be Surgery Center B. New signage within the hospital will reflect these new references. All medical records from the Samaritan North Surgery Center will be transferred and maintained by Miami Valley Hospital in accordance with applicable law.

The latest employees honored with the “you are an inspiration” Trendsetter Award were

announced. This leadership recognition program honors employees who embody the hospital’s values and possess the ability to inspire people to reach great heights of performance and success through passion, purpose, listening, and meaning. The honorees were: Lisa Blevins, associate nurse manager, operating room; Justin Rowland, manager, consumer relations; and Matt Suber, associate nurse manager, nursing staffing pool.

Miami Valley Hospital’s chief operating officer, Mikki Clancy, was selected to speak at the 2019 Leadership Summit that took place in Philadelphia on March 14. Three event chairs were selected from the American Heart Association’s five state affiliates that were true examples of a “best practice” chair. Mikki was selected as the best practice chair for the Go Red for Women campaign. She was interviewed and asked several questions about her involvement with the Go Red campaign, what she has learned, and what advice she can offer. The video played before board presidents and board chairs at the conference in Philadelphia.

**Upper Valley Medical Center**

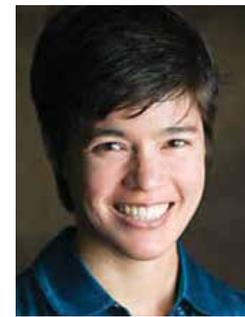
At the March 19 Piqua City Commission meeting, Upper Valley Medical Center presented the city’s Lock Nine Park Fund with a \$280,000 gift from the UVMC Board of Directors’ Community Benefit Fund. The project includes redevelopment on the city’s east/southeast side to remold the area into an economic and recreational hub designed to promote vitality with outdoor recreation and entertainment activities to enrich the lives of residents and visitors.

Also in March, UVMC was recognized for funding instructional lab equipment for Edison State Community College’s medical laboratory technician and clinical laboratory

assistant programs. The equipment, a chemistry analyzer system, was made possible via a \$24,000 grant from the UVMC Board of Directors’ Community Benefit Fund.

UVMC executives and Premier Health government affairs leaders met with State Representative Jenna Powell of Ohio House District 80 and her aide on March 14 at the hospital. The meeting included an overview of UVMC, discussion of local health care issues, and a hospital highlights tour.

UVMC’s SpringMeade Health Center joined with Ohio’s Hospice of Miami County to honor veterans with an American Pride flag and pinning ceremony March 29 at SpringMeade for patients, residents and staff who have served in the armed forces. The ceremony and continuing programs at SpringMeade earn the health center the designation as an American Pride Veteran Centric facility, indicating their commitment to education and engagements geared toward recognizing and thanking veterans



UVMC’s Koester Pavilion long term care center presented a program entitled “Enhancing the Quality of Life of Individuals with Lung Disease” on March 13 featuring **Emily Speelmon, MD**, of Pulmonary and Critical Care Consultants. The program was part of Pulmonary Rehabilitation Week in March.

The UVMC Sleep Center presented a National Sleep Awareness Month program on common sleep disorders March 6 at the hospital. The event, attended by approximately 40 people, featured a presentation by M. Mazen Dallal, MD, medical director for sleep services at Miami Valley Hospital. The presentation was followed by a Q&A session and tour of the UVMC Sleep Center. Also as part of Sleep Awareness Month, Travis Grasley, director of the UVMC Sleep Center, presented a program on sleep disorders and the impact of sleep on overall health March 28 at the Piqua YWCA.

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SAVE THE DATE

# Registration Open for African American Wellness Walk

The 19th annual African American Wellness Walk is set to take place Saturday, June 8, at the University of Dayton River Campus – Daniel J. Curran Place, 1700 S. Patterson Blvd. in Dayton. Check-in will start at 8 a.m.

The African American Wellness Walk is a free community event that provides health information and health screenings and promotes physical activity and healthy lifestyle choices through a Wellness Village that includes a variety of vendors covering topics such as heart disease, diabetes, obesity, cancer, and more.

We encourage all Premier Health employees to attend to help kick-start, continue, or recommit to health and wellness. You will be eligible for 50 Healthy Living points with proof of participation.

Registration, volunteer sign up, and event details are available online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Dayton/AAWW2019>.

For volunteer questions, contact Britany Johnson at (937) 499-9014 or [bdjohnson@premierhealth.com](mailto:bdjohnson@premierhealth.com).

For general questions, contact Shaun Hamilton at (937) 499-1006 or [sbhamilton@PremierHealth.com](mailto:sbhamilton@PremierHealth.com) or Matt Fisher at [mmfisher@premierhealth.com](mailto:mmfisher@premierhealth.com).



RE MINDER :

## UVMC 5K Run/Walk to End Hunger May 4

Registration is still open for Upper Valley Medical Center's first-ever 5K Run/Walk to End Hunger to be held on campus Saturday, May 4, at 9 a.m. The event will feature a free one-mile fun run for children beginning at 8:30 a.m., as well as a free community wellness fair that will be open to the public from 8 to 11 a.m. Proceeds will benefit the Bethany Center Food Pantry in Piqua; Needy Basket of Southern Miami County in Tipp City; New Path Outreach in Miami County; and St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen/Hobart Community Kitchen in Troy.

To register, visit [speedy-feet.com/races.php](http://speedy-feet.com/races.php). No pets are allowed; however, strollers, wagons, and wheelchairs are welcome. Premier Health employees are eligible for 50 Healthy Living points with proof of participation.

Door prize winners will be announced, and an award ceremony will take place following the race. Awards will be for: overall winner; top three male and female finishers; the winner of each age category; the oldest participant; the largest team; and the winner pushing a stroller.



**Editorial Board:** Dr. Marc Belcastro, Dr. Jennifer Hauler, Dr. Scott Kanagy, Dr. Matthew Reeves

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