

Premier Pulse

News for Premier Health Physicians

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Healing Moments and Memories

By Marc Belcastro, DO, chief medical officer, Premier Health Southern Region



There is no denying that the practice of medicine continues to challenge physicians with declining reimbursements, increased regulation, electronic medical records, rapid change, and work force shortages. It is not difficult to find literature on physician burnout, resiliency, and wellness. While we are working on some broader initiatives to address physician well-being and morale, you still have to wake up each day, head to hospitals, and care for patients. How can

you find small moments of meaning in your work?

As I pondered this question, I reflected on what helped sustain me after 30 years of neonatal intensive care, where profound joy is often followed the next moment by profound tragedy. I call them healing moments and memories.

In the last month, I received three different messages from previous patients that led to this article. The first was a photograph that came to my phone. The photo was an 8-year-old girl seated on a horse in full equestrian gear. After a few moments, I recalled sitting in the room with her family eight years ago as they held her twin brother in the last few moments of his life. I distinctly remember her father's sobs. I only sat with them, saying no words. This was a healing moment for them and they have never forgotten the memory of me silently sitting with them.

Next was a notification through messenger, via Facebook. I am not "friends" with this mother on Facebook; however, she saw my name as a friend of a friend. Her message was that 11 and 13 years ago, I was able to reassure them through terrifying times with both of their children who were born prematurely. It is not my medical decisions she recalls, but, in her words, sitting down for a moment and speaking with calm and kindness. I did not recall this family; however, this is the healing moment that she remembers.

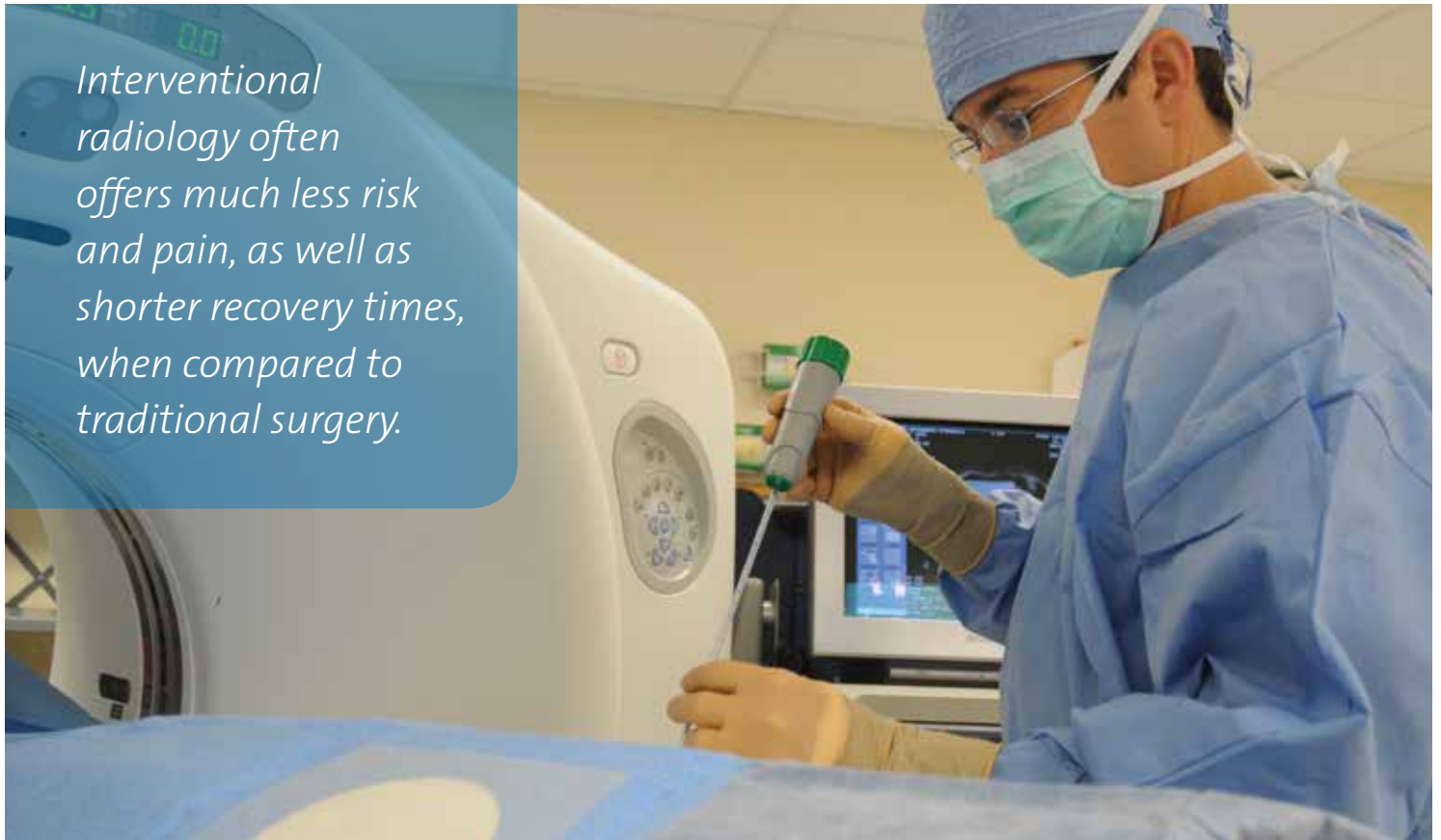
The final message came from the family of a young lady who has grown up with tremendous physical challenges. She recently turned 30 and completed a master's degree program. They also thanked me via Facebook. Their memory was of me encouraging them to stay in the fight despite the challenges they faced as their dreams were altered by NICU complications.

We should never underestimate the power of our words or the power of the absence of words. We should embrace the healing that follows a kind or reassuring word, a hand on the shoulder, or a moment seated beside our patients and families. We may not remember them, but each patient will remember the healing moments and memories we give them. These then become healing moments and memories to ease the negative impact of our daily challenges and struggles. I hope that these small examples help you create a healing moment and memory today.



Interventional Radiology

Interventional radiology often offers much less risk and pain, as well as shorter recovery times, when compared to traditional surgery.



At Premier Health, few services may be as broadly utilized as those in the field of interventional radiology. The health system's team of interventional radiologists uses image-guided, minimally invasive procedures to deliver targeted treatments.

Interventional radiology often offers much less risk and pain, as well as shorter recovery times, when compared to traditional surgery. It includes both vascular and non-vascular intervention, and incorporates techniques with image guidance, using CT, fluoroscopy, ultrasound, or MRI for a variety of medical needs.

"As interventional radiologists, we are involved in helping to provide crucial guidance for everything from tissue sampling, pain palliation, cancer treatment, and emergent embolization to opening veins and arteries," said Shannon Kauffman, MD, Miami Valley Hospital department of medical imaging. "We are also essential for providing guidance for things such as abscess drains, tube insertions for feedings, biopsies, aggressive cancer treatment, and trauma. You name it, and interventional radiologists are likely involved in it."

Dr. Kauffman and the team at Miami Valley Hospital also work in a combined clinic setting with oncology specialists to help deliver life-saving treatment for patients battling a number of different cancers. For example, they utilize technology such as the Yttrium-90

(Y90) radioembolization for the treatment of liver cancer, as well as microwave ablation, radiofrequency ablation, and cryoablation for liver cancer, and cancers in other locations, such as kidneys, lungs, bone, and other soft tissues.

In addition, specialists are using an even newer technology called irreversible electroporation (IRE) that uses a non-thermal ablation technique to kill tumor cells in areas previously contraindicated for thermal ablation.

Cancer treatment is, of course, just one area in which advanced technology is being employed.

"We are one of the only facilities in the area that is offering vein ablation for patients who are suffering with vein reflux," said Freddy Katai, MD, Atrium Medical Center department of medical imaging. "We can really help patients with a wide range of symptoms that, if left untreated, can develop into ulcers on the leg or ankle. We can help by doing an outpatient procedure where we perform a radio frequency ablation that gives immediate relief."

No matter what a patient's needs might be, Premier Health's interventional radiologists are well equipped to assist in the diagnosis and treatment of a variety of disease entities.

Atrium Emergency Trauma Center Director Loves Adventure



Jill Aston, MD, is director of Atrium Medical Center's Level III Emergency Trauma Center and serves as medical director for the Middletown and Monroe fire and EMS departments.

What is your clinical specialty?

Emergency Medicine

Where did you go to school?

Ohio University, University of Colorado – undergrad; Wright State University – medical school

What brought you to Premier Health?

The Emergency Department at Atrium Medical Center

Why did you choose medicine as a career?

I initially thought I wanted to be a veterinarian, but after 9/11 it became very clear to me that I needed to be a people doctor!

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

So many – my mother, who was the hardest working person I know; my father, who never takes life too seriously; and my husband, Scott, who has always encouraged me to follow my dreams.

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

I have driven to all corners of the United States, traveled to all 50 states, and even drove all 1,400 miles of the Alaska Highway through some of the most remote parts of British Columbia and the Yukon in Canada.

Where is your hometown?

Fairfield, Ohio

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

Cincinnati Reds and any team my kids play on!

What is the last book you read?

"When Breath Becomes Air" by Paul Kalanithi

What is your favorite song in your playlist?

"Ho Hey" by the Lumineers

What is your favorite food?

Tacos!

What is your favorite hobby?

Travel/adventure and skiing

What is your favorite animal, and why?

Cats, the ultimate chill creature

Where is your favorite vacation spot, and why?

Jackson Hole, Wyoming – the Tetons are one of the most gorgeous accessible places in the world. The vibe there is simple and easy-going, and I leave feeling refreshed!

Describe something for which you are especially thankful:

Always has to be my husband and three children – they make all of life worthwhile!

Pick a Side

iPhone or Android?

iPhone

Early bird or night owl?

Night owl, BIG TIME

Beach bum or mountain hiker?

Mountain hiker

Dress shoes or tennis shoes?

A little of both

Paperback or e-reader?

Both, although I still prefer the weight of a book

Coffee or tea?

Coffee, every day

Cooking or baking?

Cooking, only when I have to

Sweet or salty?

SWEET!



(Above) Dr. Aston with her family.

Clinical Neuroscience Institute Puts Focus on Telemedicine, Neurosurgical Oncology, Epilepsy

By Jason Merritt, vice president of Premier Physician Network specialty services – neurosciences



Premier Health's Clinical Neuroscience Institute (CNSI) led by Bryan Ludwig, MD, continues to advocate for the highest level of neurological care for patients in Southwest Ohio by

improving access, quality, and service. Three of the initiatives we are currently focusing on are telemedicine, neurosurgical oncology, and epilepsy.

In partnership with Premier Health's telemedicine program, the Neurosciences Institute has expanded telehealth service offerings to increase access to our highly trained specialists and treat patients in their home communities. NEUROne is a teleneurology program that increases access to inpatient neurology care provided by a remote CNSI neurologist in conjunction

with a bedside advanced practice provider for patients who require non-emergent consultations for general neurological conditions. This program will be launched at internal Premier Health facilities in the fourth quarter of 2018, with a goal to expand to outside regional hospitals in 2019. We are also welcoming Joint Township District Memorial Hospital in St. Marys, Ohio to our renowned Premier Health TeleStroke Network beginning Nov. 1, 2018. For more information regarding our telehealth programs, please reach out to Alex Pohlman, director of telehealth, at aspohlman@premierpealth.com; or Michelle Post, telehealth program manager, at mmpost@premierhealth.com.

Premier Health's neuro oncology program consists of a multidisciplinary team of MD Anderson Cancer Center-certified physicians. Ania Pollack, MD, neurosurgeon with CNSI, is our surgical lead for this team. Physicians meet weekly to discuss cases to ensure that patients are receiving the best care. Patients

are followed from pre-diagnosis through all phases of treatment. There is a designated clinic providing exclusive consultation to the neuro oncology patients. All patients receive individualized treatment plans based on the most up-to-date research and evidence-based care available.

Additionally, CNSI is actively involved in the development of the Comprehensive Epilepsy Center. The goal of the center is to coordinate the complex care that is required to assist epilepsy patients through the treatment pathway from diagnosis to surgery if required. The center, under the direction of Barb Phillips, MD, includes the specialties of neurology, functional neurosurgery, neuropsychology, neuroradiology, and clinic staff. Coordinating the efforts of these teams into one center will improve access and efficiency for our patients. The center also partners with the inpatient nursing team for education, protocol development, and Epilepsy Monitoring Unit algorithms.

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. Gaker is the BEST.

My husband and I were very pleased with **Dr. Krishnamani's** courtesy and knowledge of my husband's problem!

Dr. Malarkey did the surgery on my broken wrist after I went to UVMC ER. I saw him over three months for new casts, X-rays, and checkups. His office set up physical therapy for me also. They were all wonderful to work with through a difficult, stressful ordeal.

Love the office. The desk staff are so welcoming and kind. **Dr. Palmisano** and **Dr. Wood** have never made me feel rushed. They listen and treat me with respect. I drive over an hour to see them because I love the office so much. I've referred my sister-in-law as well, who is having her first baby in a few months. Keep up the great work!

We have been in **Dr. Robbe's** care since 1989, and I dread the day he retires!

Dr. Silk is helping me with my diabetes, and I'm grateful for that. He works with me.

Dr. Swanson is one of the best, most caring physicians I have ever had the privilege of knowing! He is very thorough; he actually listens to any concerns I may have, and he

addresses them at that moment. I would recommend him to anyone looking for a physician. Premier Health should be honored that he is a part of their network!

Dr. Thompson and her staff treat me like family. I receive optimal care from a very caring physician and her team.

It was necessary to find another family physician after our long-time friend retired from practice. Very thankful that **Dr. Washington** has been able to take over so well. Very pleased.

New Cellphone App Connects Community to Opioid Abuse Services

A smart phone application has been developed to connect those suffering from opioid abuse to addiction and mental health support services.

Patients, as well as providers, law enforcement, and Emergency Medical Services are all encouraged to utilize the free “GetHelpNow Montgomery County” app to quickly identify treatment options. The app is available for download from the iPhone Apple App Store or Google Play for Android, or by visiting gethelpnowmc.com/.

The easy-to-use app presents an extensive directory of local addiction-related services, complete with directions from the user’s current location, contact information and direct call ability, a description of the types of services offered, and information about types of payment accepted (if applicable) – all searchable by ZIP code. Services listed in the app are presented in four categories: 24/7 urgent services, such as hospitals; treatment services; support services; and housing services.

The app was developed for Montgomery County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services by Ascend Innovations, a medical technology venture formed and supported by the Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association, of which Premier Health is a member.

For more information, visit mccadamhs.org/.



Premier Health Announces Premier Physician Network Primary and Specialty Care Hubs

Premier Health is taking steps to expand convenient access to its primary and specialty care services across the region.

The health system plans to operate two 45,000-square-foot primary and specialty care hubs in Vandalia and Beavercreek that will open in October 2019, as well as two smaller “spoke” sites under construction in Liberty Twp. (13,000 square feet) and Monroe (18,000 square feet) that are scheduled to open late this year.

The properties are located at 600 Aviator Court in Vandalia; near North Fairfield Road and Lakeview Drive (behind Chick-fil-A) in Beavercreek; 6615 Cin-Day Road in Liberty Twp.; and 35 Overbrook Blvd in Monroe.

The locations will offer services such as primary care, orthopedic services, cardiology, endocrinology, rheumatology, multispecialty, and other ancillary services, as well as CompuNet laboratory services.



The Beavercreek location also will include obstetrics services. And for the first time, Premier Health patients will be able to enjoy the convenience of checking in for appointments online.

The four locations, which represent a \$25 million investment, will employ about 150 people, about 25 percent of whom will be in newly created roles.

The new offices will consolidate some smaller practices near the proposed larger hub offices, and make it easier for providers to cover for one another when they are out of the office, said Diane Pleiman, president of Premier Physician Network. Patients also will be able to go to one familiar location for the majority of their care, she said.

Premier Physician Network is the largest physician group practice in the Dayton area.

SAVE THE DATE

Breast Cancer, Melanoma CME Event this Fall

Premier Health is holding a half-day event at the Dayton Masonic Center in downtown Dayton focusing on innovations in immunotherapy regarding treatment of melanoma. The event, which runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on October 27, will feature a guest speaker from MD Anderson Cancer Center and is intended to benefit primary care physicians; physician specialists, including surgeons, oncologists, and radiologists; medical residents, fellows and medical students; registered nurses, and advanced practice providers.

Panel 1: Latest Treatment Guidelines for Melanoma

Dermatology – **Julie Schloemer, MD**
Nuclear Medicine – **Shane Smith, MD**
Medical Oncology – **Charles Bane, MD**

Panel 2: Standards of Care, Multiple Melanomas and Patient Follow-up

Surgical Oncology – **James Ouellette, DO**
Radiation Oncology – **Guy Savir, MD**
Supportive/Palliative Care – **Abi Katz, MD**

Keynote Speaker: **Michael K. Wong, MD, PhD**, MD Anderson Cancer Center

Innovations in Immunotherapy – Melanoma

WHEN: Saturday, October 27, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WHERE: Dayton Masonic Center

WHAT: Learn about the recent treatment guidelines and recommendations for the care of patients with melanoma.

Two August Evenings

By Patrick Larreategui, DO, FACOS, medical staff president, Upper Valley Medical Center



On Aug. 20, 2018, the Upper Valley Medical Center medical staff gathered together for their quarterly meeting. This meeting was very different from previous meetings, though.

There was no agenda or approval of minutes. There were no PowerPoint presentations. Even the location was different.

The farmhouse is one of the original structures on the UVMC campus. It is situated in a wooded area remote from the main hospital building and has a rich history. According to rumor, a former Ob-Gyn physician used to live there and would run across the campus to the hospital in the middle of the night to perform deliveries.

Our goal in planning for the summer staff meeting was to get out of the hospital and allow the medical staff to connect and relax in a different environment. Although the farmhouse is occasionally used for meetings, it was a new venue for many of our current medical staff. There was a tent set up outside with tables and chairs, as well as seating areas inside. Storms rolled through the area in the hour before the meeting, but the skies cleared just as the first guests began to arrive. There was an excellent turnout of physicians, APPs, and administrators. Physicians from outpatient sites also attended. There were even some retired physicians who came to reconnect for the evening. Having no agenda to discuss allowed everyone to interact without constraints.

Then on Aug. 30, the UVMC medical staff came together at the Piqua Country Club for our annual reception to welcome new

physicians. The evening was more formal than the previous week's gathering at the farmhouse. The theme was Hollywood glamour. The décor was old school Hollywood, and there was even a singer belting out showtunes. New physicians from various specialties were in attendance. Many administrators, both local and from the system, also attended.

Each of these evenings, though different in atmosphere, were great opportunities for the medical staff to network and get to know each other better outside of the hospital setting. Ultimately, we all share the same goal to deliver the absolute best quality care for our patients. We move forward feeling more connected and committed than ever to working together for the continued success of Upper Valley Medical Center and Premier Health.

CareFlight Receives Ninth Accreditation

CareFlight Air and Mobile Services recently received its ninth consecutive three-year accreditation from the Commission on the Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS). Premier Health's CareFlight, which celebrates 35 years of service this fall, has been continuously accredited by CAMTS since 1994 – one of the first programs in the United States to undergo a review by the commission.

Started in the early 1990s, CAMTS is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of patient care and safety of the transport environment for services providing rotor wing, fixed wing, and ground transport services, and is considered the gold standard for the industry.

CareFlight crews work closely with local emergency medical services and community hospitals to provide the fastest air medical transport in the region to more than 20 hospitals and more than 300 fire departments and police departments serving a multi-state, 150-mile radius. Helicopters are stationed at Miami Valley Hospital, the Warren County Airport, and Grimes Field in Urbana. Each can



carry a pilot, two flight nurses, and up to two patients traveling at a speed of 180 mph. Aviation services are provided by Air Methods Corporation.

Community Activities and A Visit from Ohio's Medicaid Director

Atrium Medical Center

More than 750 people attended a free community picnic at Atrium Medical Center on Aug. 4. The event incorporated the Highway to Help charity motorcycle ride and a safety fair featuring a CareFlight Air and Mobile Services helicopter. Tours of the hospital and health screenings also were offered, and the Atrium Medical Center mobile mammography coach was on hand. Appearances were made by several former Cincinnati Bengals players.



As Atrium Medical Center and the city of Monroe's Fire Department begin a pilot program to reduce hospital readmissions, patients who are discharged from Atrium and live in Monroe could now receive a follow-up call at home from a paramedic. Atrium and Atrium Medical Center Foundation are providing a \$37,500 grant to Monroe to expand the city's highly successful paramedicine program that has been in place since 2015. Target criteria for patients eligible for a paramedic home visit will include patients who are 65 and older, and those with conditions such as congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, pneumonia, hip replacement, knee replacement, and more.

"Atrium Medical Center staff are excited to partner on the innovative pilot program with the City of Monroe's Fire and EMS department. The goal is to prevent hospital patients from being readmitted to the hospital. In general, we expect patients with fewer hospital stays are healthier, have a better recovery, and have lower health care costs," said Michael Uhl, president of Atrium Medical Center.

Miami Valley Hospital

Nurse manager **Natasha Luster, MSN, RN, CNOR**, has been selected to receive the OR Manager "Emerging Leader Award" at the 2018 OR Manager Conference this month in Nashville. This award is given to a rising star in operating room management, as it was developed to recognize newer managers of the OR (five years or less experience) as they pave the way to the future of patient care and OR management. During her four years as nurse manager of the operating room, Natasha has helped increase NDNQI scores to above the 75th percentile; decrease the number of surgical site infections; increase the number of nurses who have achieved CNOR Certification by 40 percent; and reduce Miami Valley Hospital's turnover rate by 40 percent. According to Miami Valley Hospital's associate nurse manager of surgical services, Natasha has transformed the culture in the operating room into one of best practice, collaboration, and improved patient safety. She has shown team members how to partner with sterile instrumentation, anesthesia, and all perioperative areas to help improve the workflow in the operating room.



Phillip Terrell, practice leader with IBM Watson Health, and other company officials visited Miami Valley Hospital's August management forum to officially present the "100 Top Hospitals" award that the hospital received in March. The annual "Watson Health 100 Top Hospitals" study, formerly the Truven Health Analytics study, conducts an objective analysis of independent public data, risk-adjusted and peer-reviewed methodologies, and key performance metrics to highlight the best hospitals in the nation. Hospitals do not apply for consideration, and winners do not pay to market this honor.

Barbara Sears, director of the Ohio Department of Medicaid, selected Miami Valley Hospital as a stop on a tour she is leading across the state. She gave a presentation during a news conference at the hospital about a new report that highlights the value and benefits of Medicaid expansion. Also during her visit, she met with Premier Health leaders about Medicaid issues that affect the system, and toured the new 10th floor of the hospital's southeast tower, where a telemedicine demonstration took place; the NICU; and CareFlight Air and Medical Services. Miami Valley Hospital is one of the largest Medicaid providers in the state of Ohio.



Upper Valley Medical Center

Upper Valley Medical Center's 2018 Evening of Appreciation to welcome new medical staff and honor hospital supporters took place Aug. 30 at the Piqua Country Club. Nearly 200 physicians, board members, executives, and community leaders/friends of UVMC attended the annual event.

Upper Valley Medical Center in August received formal notice of accreditation for all services from the Joint Commission (TJC). The 3-year accreditation is the result of a highly successful TJC survey conducted in the spring.

UVMC Cardiopulmonary Rehab in August celebrated achieving three-year certification from the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR). AACVPR-certified programs are recognized as leaders in the field of cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation because they offer the most advanced practices available.

UVMC's SpringMeade Retirement Community in August opened the Marigold House residential care facility, which offers a new level of care for individuals who need more than what is provided in SpringMeade's independent living cottages but less than what SpringMeade Health Center offers. The five-suite house will offer residents assistance with activities of daily living, meal preparation, medications, and more.

UVMC had a major presence in the Tour de Donut cycling weekend hosted in downtown Troy Aug. 24 and 25, including a vendor booth at the Donut Jam celebration on Friday evening, an EMS tent throughout the bicycle race and 5k run on Saturday morning, and an additional booth at the farmer's market that morning. More than 300 individuals visited UVMC's booths during these events.

UVMC was a presenting sponsor for the 2018 Troy Chamber of Commerce Steak Fry and Auction held Aug. 23 at the Miami County Fairgrounds. More than 250 chamber members attended the event, which is an annual networking tradition and fundraiser for the chamber.



Launch of PA On-Call

It's our pleasure to announce the debut today of a new physician-to-physician tool across Premier Health, with an eye toward providing an additional layer of support for administrative and regulatory concerns that require physician action.

Through Physician Advisor (PA) On-Call, a team of physician advisors will now remotely support Premier Health physicians in determining, for example, whether a patient should be designated as an inpatient, observation, outpatient in a bed, etc. While physicians are responsible for making these determinations per Conditions of Participation with CMS, Premier Health also recognizes that these are complex medical judgments that often

benefit from readily available peer input. The advice, education and support provided by these physician advisors via phone should significantly reduce the number of follow-up phone calls that physicians receive to clarify their documentation, and we anticipate that these physician advisors will become familiar and trusted resources for our doctors in carrying out their review activities for integrative care management (ICM), Center for Status Integrity (CSI), and clinical documentation improvement (CDI).

The addition of the PA On-Call program does not replace CSI. It should, however, eventually reduce the need for CSI outreach to physicians. Over time, our goal is to move the program in-house, providing at least one

physician advisor at each Premier Health hospital and bringing this resource to the floors at the time of need.

This additional service is expected to have a positive effect on the patient experience, length of stay and denials while enhancing regulatory compliance.

The service will initially be available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays, as well as from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends if the need is time-sensitive. CSI will continue to be available around-the-clock.

Physicians may call the new PA On-Call service at **1 (844) 438-7262, x7485**, or **(937) 598-2954**.

Physician Advisor Program

What is a physician advisor (PA)?

A PA provides advice, education and support to processes related to the medical necessity of services as part of the ICM and Center for Status Integrity (CSI) review activities as well as CDI. Key elements include:

- Advising
- Consulting
- Teaching
- Analyzing

What specific types of support does a PA provide?

- Secondary concurrent chart reviews for medical necessity and status determination
- Concurrent denial management/peer-to-peer calls
- Assists in denials and appeals processing
- Clinical documentation improvement education
- Utilization management support (length of stay, resource use, patient flow)
- Regulatory expertise
- Compliance partner
- Quality improvement and patient safety efforts
- Patient experience efforts
- Patient financial assistance programs

- Medical staff, administration liaison and education efforts
- Liaison to payers and their medical directors, often building close working relationships

How would a PA interact with me on a day-to-day basis?

A PA will likely interact with you through ICM, CSI, or a direct peer-to-peer phone call. A PA should be able to assist you with these activities:

- Case management support
- Unit huddles
- Discharge planning
 - patient/family care conferences
 - readmissions
 - patient flow/transfer

Why are we creating this program?

- Quality benefits
 - Dedicated clinical input at the physician level to make process improvement efforts more effective
 - Enhanced standard of care through “lessons learned” education (from audit and denial lessons)
 - Reduced length of stay and readmissions

- Additional operational benefits
 - Appropriate medical necessity and status determinations
 - Reduction of uninsured cases
 - Reduced concurrent inpatient denials
 - Reduced pre-payment, RAC and other recovery audit denials
 - Appropriate severity of illness, mortality, and case mix index
 - Improved resource utilization
 - Improved HCAHPS and other value based reimbursement model metrics
 - Improved physician support
- Reduce Physician burnout

Will PAs only be available by phone, or will they be physically present in the hospitals as well?

Over time, we expect to have at least one PA in person at each facility. This will mean “boots on the ground” in your huddles.

When does the PA On-Call Service begin?

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018

New Brain Mapping Center at Premier Health

The first brain mapping center in the Midwest is now part of Premier Health Clinical Neuroscience Institute (CNSI). The Brain Mapping Center (BMC) brings together surgeons, neuropsychologists, neurologists, and radiologists for a comprehensive, multidisciplinary team of specialists dedicated to care of neurological health issues, such as:

- Brain tumors
- Epilepsy
- Movement disorders
- Multiple sclerosis

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; and a clearer view of post-surgical changes to measure outcomes. This level of accuracy can help set realistic expectations and reduce a patient's anxiety about recovery.

Testing has shown that brain mapping improves the understanding of the brain. For example, surgery on a brain tumor can be performed without compromising vital areas of the brain. The mapping reveals which area of the patient's brain affects language; if a lesion is in that area; how much of the lesion can be safely removed to treat the disease; and how much of the patient's language abilities can be returned to normal after surgery. Physician can also predict with extreme accuracy the long-term outcomes for patients with brain tumors, epilepsy, and movement disorders.

Patient Benefits

Patients can feel confident in the knowledge that the surgeon knows precisely where to perform surgery. The brain is mapped for the safest route before and during surgery for minimal deficits. Important life concerns can be addressed, such as length of time to return to work and independent living, functional and cognitive outcomes, and estimations of recovery up to two years after surgery. Patients can plan and prepare for post-operative services ahead of time and set realistic expectations for recovery, reducing the level of anxiety that comes with neurosurgery.

Physician Benefits

Premier Health's specialized team provides comprehensive care of neurologic conditions. They collaborate with specialists from the neuro-oncology tumor board and participate in case conferences with subspecialties to discuss cases and make recommendations to ensure patients receive personalized, effective, quality and compassionate care. The Brain Mapping Center provides highly specialized neurocognitive and neurological assessment services, such as tractography; the intracarotid sodium amobarbital procedure, or Wada; cortical brain mapping; and neurocognitive assessment.

Expert Care Close to Home



Fadi Tayim, PhD, clinical neuropsychologist and division chief of the brain mapping center at Premier Health Clinical Neuroscience Institute, specializes in the assessment of brain functioning and conducts diagnostic procedures, including neurocognitive evaluation, functional MRI (fMRI), intracarotid sodium amobarbital procedure (the Wada), and neuroanatomical brain mapping for neurosurgical patients. Dr. Tayim has

spearheaded the Brain Mapping Center's formation. He is one of only a few neuropsychologists with expertise in advanced neuroimaging and brain mapping techniques. He completed his residency and fellowship at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, and his PhD, doctoral research, and training in neuropsychology and neuroimaging at Stanford University and PGSP (Palo Alto, California).

For more information about BRAIN MAPPING

- For more information about the Brain Mapping Center or to refer a patient, call **(844) 277-2894**
- EPIC users can refer a patient by typing "Fadi Tayim"
- Referrals are welcome from neurologists who need consultations for complex patient conditions



REMINDER

Medical Marijuana Survey Open Until Sept. 30

By Jennifer Hauler, DO, system chief medical officer, Premier Health



In the August issue of Premier Pulse, I wrote about a medical marijuana survey planned for September. Premier Health is, for now, adopting a conservative approach that prohibits the use of medical marijuana

in inpatient settings. Physicians practicing in an outpatient setting who have obtained a certificate to recommend in accordance with Ohio law will be able to recommend the use of medical marijuana. Premier Health's stance will remain in place while we solicit input from key stakeholders.

While this subject is controversial, it is imperative that we understand your opinions and wishes to determine the right course for Premier Health.

You can access our medical marijuana survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PhysMedMar>.

I sincerely hope that you will take the time to respond. Please provide your feedback by Sept. 30.

Fidelity Health Care Receives 5-Star Quality Rating

Fidelity Health Care recently received a 5-Star rating for quality of patient care from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Home Health Compare ratings.

This 5-Star rating from Home Health Compare puts Fidelity Health Care in the top 6 percent of home health care service agencies across the country, and in the top 3 percent in Ohio. Star ratings range from 1 to 5 and are based on eight

measures of quality that give an overview of performance. A star rating higher than 3.5 means that an agency performed better than average compared to other agencies.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, created Home Health Compare to oversee home health care quality. Home Health Compare publishes information

about the quality of care provided by Medicare-certified home health agencies throughout the nation. Learn more at [medicare.gov/homehealthcompare](https://www.medicare.gov/homehealthcompare).



FIVE STAR RATING

Our New Physicians

New physicians routinely join the medical staff at each of Premier Health's hospitals. Are you interested in knowing who joined the medical staff at each facility?

You can find lists of new physicians here:

Atrium Medical Center go to atriummedcenter.org/ournewphysicians

Miami Valley Hospital go to miamivalleyhospital.com/ournewphysicians

Upper Valley Medical Center go to uvmc.com/ournewphysicians

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