

MEDICAL STAFF NEWS

A monthly newsletter for the Medical Staff of Swedish Medical Center

Swedish Bylaws | Swedish Rules and Regulations | Swedish Organization and Functions Policy
 New & Revised Clinical Standards | Access System Library Services & Resources
 Edmonds Bylaws | Edmonds Rules and Regulations | Edmonds Organization and Functions Policy

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Labor Strike

7:00am, Tuesday, January 28 - 7:30am, Friday, January 31

SEIU 1199NW has given Swedish a strike notice. The 3-day strike will start at 7am on January 28 and continue until 7:30am on January 31. Replacement workers will be working at Swedish for 5 days, starting at 7am on January 28, and ending at 7am on February 2. [Click here](#) for a FAQ on the strike. [Click here](#) to see how clinical services will be adjusted. [Click here](#) to read the letter to patients and visitors. For more information, please contact your campus CMO, campus COS, or Department Chief.

Unified Medical Staff Elections

February 3, 2020 - February 17, 2020

Since the Fall 2019 elections, 3 System Medical Staff leadership positions have opened: System Chief of Acute Care Medicine, System Chief of Neurosciences, and System Chief of Staff-Elect. The 2 System Department Chief vacancies were created by the Medical Staff's recent approval of the reorganization to the System departments in our Bylaws. The System Chief of Staff-Elect vacancy is due to a recent notice of resignation. The following Medical Staff members have been appointed to fill these vacancies: Dr. Shane O'Mahony for System Chief of the new Acute Care Medicine department; Dr. Michael Elliott for System Chief of the new Neurosciences department; and Dr. Mark Lowdermilk for Acting System Chief of Staff-Elect. The elections to ratify these appointments will be held in February: Electronic ballots will be emailed to voting members on February 3, and voting will remain open until 5pm on February 17. Elections for Campus Department Chiefs of the 2 new departments will be held later in the first quarter.

Caring Reliably: Training Dates - Register Here

March 3, 2020: 5:00pm - 7:00pm, Edmonds Campus

April 23, 2020: 8:00am - 10:00am, First Hill Campus

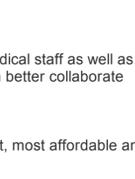
September 22, 2020: 5:00pm - 7:00pm, Edmonds Campus

SWEDISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Message from Jennifer Spence, MD,

2020 - 2021 System Chief of Staff

My name is Jennifer Spence and I am the Swedish System Chief of Staff. I took over this role from Peggy Hutchison, MD as of January 1, 2020. I am a family doctor by training and my previous leadership roles have included medical directorship in primary care and Chief of Staff in Issaquah. My leadership philosophy is based on my core values of fostering an environment of safety and ethics, practicing compassion and always improving the value of the care we provide. The key areas of focus during my time as chief over the next 2 years will be:



Improving communication

I want to work to improve communication between administrators and medical staff as well as create an environment where different groups within the medical staff can better collaborate and coordinate to improve the quality of care we provide;

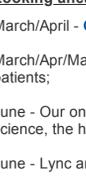
Improving value in healthcare

I will work to improve the value of healthcare so that we provide the safest, most affordable and highest quality health care to our patients;

Making every provider feel valued by our institution

I want every provider to feel like they are supported and valued by Swedish and that their role is an integral part of our operation which enables us to operate at the highest level of safety and reliability.

I am excited to take on this challenge and ready to work with everyone. I look forward to the journey ahead.



MAJOR PROJECTS FOR 2020

By Brett Daniel, MD, Chief Medical Informatics Officer

As we move through the challenges of January with the work stoppage and the Wuhan coronavirus, I wanted to give all of you a glimpse ahead towards some of our major projects for 2020 as we continue to modernize our workspace, simplify Epic and move towards our digitally connected future of Health 2.0. As we near each of these projects, we will be sharing more details and plans. We need to find better ways to communicate changes to our 25,000 physicians, 38,000 nurses and over 119,000 caregivers in Providence St. Joseph Health as a whole, and my hope is that we begin to lay some of that foundation in 2020 as well. If you have thoughts on ways we can better call-out impactful changes, please drop me a line.

Looking ahead to 2020:

March/April - [Office 365 migration](#) for all at Swedish (Outlook, Teams, OneNote, etc...);

March/Apr/May - Nursing gets the mobile [Rover](#) app and [MyChart Bedside](#) rolls out for patients;

June - Our only Epic upgrade for 2020. Notable standard Epic change based upon usability science, the header in chart will move to the left side of the chart;

June - Lync and Skype sunset as we move all meetings to Microsoft Teams;

June - [Cost transparency](#) visible next to options when ordering medicines or procedures for inpatient providers to help create awareness of cost for patient/system;

June/July - 1Call go-live planned;

September/October - Electronic prescribing for controlled substances and potentially single sign-on all go-live across Swedish. Pharmacies will require outpatient medications to be e-prescribed by 1/1/2021. Swedish providers already using this in their clinic are already signed up;

October - Our St. Joseph partners in southern California go-live onto the Providence Epic system (were on Meditech and AllScripts).

[Click here to read about additional upcoming projects.](#)

MORE NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Swedish Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee

PHARMACIST DRIVEN MRSA PCR ORDERING

The [MRSA PCR protocol](#) allows pharmacists to order, track assay results, and notify physicians of results to facilitate streamlining of targeted antibiotics. Appropriate and timely ordering of MRSA NAAT tests upon initial vancomycin per pharmacy consultation could decrease the number of days patients are in contact isolation and vancomycin treatment duration. Information for nurses regarding specimen collection for MRSA tests can be accessed on the Infection Prevention [Microbiology Information](#) intranet page (located to Swedish Intranet required). Pilot implementation started at First Hill 1/1/20 and is expected to expand across all campuses pending data collection.

ANTI-Xa MONITORING to REPLACE aPTT for HEPARIN INFUSION

Heparin infusions managed by pharmacy will use anti-Xa monitoring instead of aPTT for the standard of care starting Feb 27th, 2020. Monitoring intravenous unfractionated heparin infusions with anti-Xa, compared to PTT, achieves therapeutic anticoagulation more rapidly, maintains the values within the goal range for a longer time, and requires fewer adjustments in dosage and repeat tests. [Click here](#) for a summary of practice change update for providers effective 2/27/20.

SWEDISH P&T DECISIONS

Remifentanyl has been approved for use by anesthesia in thoracic mediastinal mass reduction and rigid bronchoscopy procedures in addition to intracranial cases at Cherry Hill and First Hill. 1 mg vials are available. Dispenses for First Hill will be supplied by the main pharmacy upon a medical order. Additional formulary changes and policy updates for January can be viewed [here](#).

Palliative Care Team Initiatives

[Click here](#) to learn about upcoming Palliative Care team initiatives, including triggers for requesting Palliative Care consults, comfort care carts, and newly designed Palliative Care brochures for patients and families.

Office 365 Migration and Mobile Email

THIS INFORMATION IS ONLY RELEVANT TO OFFICE 365 USERS (The majority of Medical Staff providers have not migrated to Office 365 and will not do so until March/April 2020.) For current Office 365 users only: On **February 5, 2020**, Swedish/PSJH will discontinue support for all mobile email applications other than Microsoft Outlook. This means that other email applications, such as Apple Mail or Android Mail, will no longer function with your email account. This change is happening because Microsoft Outlook provides the best data security protections over other platforms. Follow these instructions to set up Microsoft Outlook on your cell phone: [iPhone](#) | [Android](#).

If you have not yet migrated to Office 365, there is no action required.

OTHER NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

Novel Coronavirus Information for Swedish Providers | [SBAR](#) | [Epic Workflow for Coronavirus Screening](#) | [FAQ for Caregivers](#) | [FAQ for Patients](#)

Caring Reliably Tool of the Month: ICARE - Tones of Respect

[Click here to learn more](#)



Free & Confidential Mental Health Resources for Swedish Medical Staff and Their Families | [Click here to learn about the resources available](#)

Compassion Networking Calls

Noting an increasing desire for caregivers to learn more about compassion, burnout and resilience, we collaborate with multiple partners exploring the importance and impact of compassion and see how it touches our caregivers, teams and organization. The purpose of these calls is two-fold: to develop our shared knowledge around these topics and to create connection across the system so that we can learn more from each other.

Compassion Networking Calls are held monthly, every 2nd Wednesday 7:30 am – 8:30 am Pacific. The next call will take place on February 12th. To attend, dial 1-855-747-5962, and use Conference ID: 493341. Email PHS.CompassionProgram@providence.org to learn more.

CAMPUS UPDATES

Ballard

Cherry Hill

Edmonds

First Hill

Issaquah

Congratulations to Issaquah's 2020-2021 Department Chiefs

Anesthesiology: Harry Joshi, MD | **Emergency Medicine:** Jody Bockrath, MD

Family Medicine: Kathryn Tonder, MD | **OB/GYN:** Christopher Schwartzburg, MD

Orthopedics: Grant Lohse, MD | **Pediatrics:** David Ege, MD | **Radiology:** Ronald Loch, MD

Surgery Chief: Aileen Hwang, MD | **Urology Chief:** Steven Han, MD

DEPARTMENT UPDATES (no link means no update for this month)

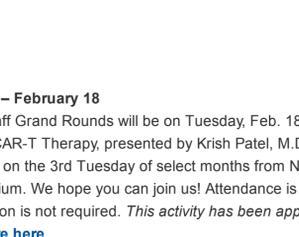
Acute Care Medicine | Anesthesiology | Cardiovascular Services

Emergency Medicine | Family Medicine | Medicine | Neurosciences | Obstetrics & Gynecology

Orthopedics | [Pathology](#) | Pediatrics | Radiology | Surgery | Urology

Welcome New Medical Staff Members!

[Click Here](#) to see who joined the Swedish Medical Staff in December!



CME

2020 Swedish Medical Staff Grand Rounds – February 18

The first 2020 session for Swedish Medical Staff Grand Rounds will be on Tuesday, Feb. 18, Noon-1PM in Glaser Auditorium. The topic is CAR-T Therapy, presented by Krish Patel, M.D. There will be a total of 6 sessions in 2020 held on the 3rd Tuesday of select months from Noon-1:00 p.m. at Swedish First Hill - Glaser Auditorium. We hope you can join us! Attendance is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Advance registration is not required. *This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.* [Learn more here.](#)

5th Annual Cancer Control Symposium: Personalizing the Approach in Cancer Prevention & Screening to Improve Health - March 13

The SCI's Annual Cancer Control Symposium will feature didactic lectures and discussions about the factors that impact efforts to find increasingly more personalized approach to cancer prevention & screening. Expert faculty will review the most current research and evidence-based interventions, to help guide our community in efforts to increase screening rates, and to lessen the impact of risk-factors for cancer. [Click here](#) for more information and to register. *This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.*

High-Risk Obstetrics for the Family Physician – March 27

This course will combine didactic lectures, case discussions, and the latest information on the diagnosis and management of challenging high-risk obstetrics patients. Featuring new data from clinical trials and evidence-based updates, this integrated program will address essential learning for all members of the obstetrics care team. Panel discussions and Q&A sessions will allow time for interaction with the faculty members to address audience questions and barriers to optimal patient care. [Read more here.](#) *This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.*

Focusing on the "I" in LGBTQI+: An Introduction to Intersex Healthcare – April 10

Swedish Medical Center's Fourth Annual LGBTQI+ Health Symposium will focus on the care for the Intersex population. Variations of sex development are very common, yet are not very well known or understood in the medical community. This conference will review the natural human variations in sex development within the Intersex community and enhance the ability for providers to provide appropriate medical care. For more information and to register, [click here.](#) *This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.*

9th Annual Pacific Northwest Head and Neck Cancer Symposium: Thyroid Disorders - Guidelines, Guidance, and Common Sense – April 17

Join your colleagues at this educational program as expert faculty will present contemporary clinical and scientific information to clinicians involved in the care of patients with both benign and malignant thyroid disease. This course is presented through a partnership with UW Medical and Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. This conference is designed for providers in otolaryngology, head and neck surgery, endocrinology, general surgery, primary-care, family medicine, residents, fellows and allied health professionals in the Pacific Northwest. [View more information about the course here.](#) *This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.*

Visit the [Swedish CME Calendar](#) to view and register for additional upcoming CME events. Swedish Medical Center is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

[Give Us Your Feedback](#)

Medical Staff News is a monthly newsletter published for Swedish Medical Staff. Want to contribute? Submit an announcement, journal publication, or other newsworthy item by emailing medicalstaffnews@swedish.org. The newsletter is published on the 4th Monday of each month. All contributions must be submitted by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the newsletter.

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