



ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL  
**msb**  
MEDICAL STAFF BRIEFS



A PUBLICATION FROM THE ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL MEDICAL STAFF OFFICE

## St. Joseph Hospital a “Top Performer”

St. Joseph Hospital has earned “Top Performer” ratings from QUEST, a voluntary, three-year project guiding future models of quality measurement and reimbursement. It began in 2008 involving 166 not-for-profit hospitals in 31 states. Using data from 7-1-2006 to 6-30-2007, QUEST’s newly released report lauds St. Joseph Hospital for evidence-based care and low mortality rates.

“As part of our ‘Perfect Care’ initiative, St. Joseph Hospital is committed to collaboration, data transparency and better practice sharing,” stated **Mary Ann Vincent, R.N., BSN, MBA**, Vice President of Performance Improvement. “Participation in QUEST will help us deliver the most efficient, effective and caring hospital experience for our patients and further our reputation as a healthcare leader.” **William Collins, M.D.**, former SJO chief of staff and a leader in the hospital’s quality movement for the past 10 years, called the accolade, “Another proof of our ongoing quality efforts bearing fruit.”

## Todos golfers play for the Center

The 24th Annual Todos Golf Tournament sponsored by Aramark will be held Monday, March 30, at the Coto de Caza Golf & Racquet Club (please note our earlier date). Steering Committee members **William Murphy, M.D.**, **G. Scott Smith, M.D.**, and **Frank Villalobos, M.D. (ret)**, remind you that involvement with this event is a great way to show your colleagues and other hospital benefactors how much physicians support The Center for Cancer Prevention and Treatment at St. Joseph Hospital.

Experience a fun-filled day with fellow physicians, friends and supporters that includes 18-holes of golf with golf cart, silent auction and opportunity drawing, merchandise store certificate, lunch and awards reception. Sponsorship, underwriting and item donation opportunities are available.

Your generosity enables the hospital to carry forth the mission that the Sister of St. Joseph of Orange established many years ago, and we hope to see you there. Please contact the Foundation at (714) 771-8211.

## Physicians invited to take LEAPS

An action-planning presentation and discussion on Life-threatening Events Associated with Pediatric Patients in Sports (LEAPS) will be held Saturday, February 21, from 8 am to 1:30 pm at the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Conference Center of the National Academies in Irvine. It is sponsored by CHOC, UC Irvine Institute for Clinical and Translational Science, the Irvine Unified School District, Orange County Department of Education and St. Joseph Hospital. **Farahouch Berdjis, M.D.**, Medical Director of the SJO Adult Congenital Heart Program, will serve on the panel of speakers. Seating is limited. To register or for details call (714) 456-2308 or email [mbrahimbh@uci.edu](mailto:mbrahimbh@uci.edu).

## Who ya gonna call?

Have you had trouble reaching the Executive Management Team (EMT)? Please let us know. Contact Executive Assistant **Michelle Jimenez** in the Medical Staff Office at (714) 771-8056. We want to open our lines of communication.

## Your direct ED line

A direct line is in place for Medical Staff members calling the Emergency Department to speak to an ED physician: (714) 744-8700.

## Got EMR?

Immediate access to patient information and test results is available using the Meditech EMR. Need Meditech access? Need training or a refresher? Stop by the Physician EMR Clinic being held February 2nd to March 31st, Mondays-Thursdays from 4-6 pm, and Fridays 7-9 am in the Sr. Francis Dunn building, 2nd floor, Classrooms 6A or 6B or eLearning Lab.

## Healthcare reform via AmeriCare

The reintroduced AmeriCare Health Care Act of 2009 (H.R. 193) from Rep. Pete Stark (D-CA), to assure the provision of health insurance coverage to all residents, appears to be gaining ground. The plan is modeled on a revised Medicare program. Visit [www.house.gov/stark/news/legislation.htm](http://www.house.gov/stark/news/legislation.htm) to learn more.

## When patients can't pay

Did you know that St. Joseph Hospital has a Financial Assistance Program (FAP) that helps PPO patients who can't pay their portion of their hospital bills? The FAP also helps patients without insurance who cannot pay.

If you have a patient with bill liability who is planning to be a patient at St. Joseph Hospital or is here now, please call (714) 568-5500.

## February educational opps

A “Revolutionary Approaches to Lung Cancer Treatment” Small Group Dinner will be held on Wednesday, February 18, from 6 - 8 p.m. at The Center for Cancer Prevention and Treatment.\* Featured speakers are **Drs. Raymond Casciari, Brian Palafox**, co-medical directors of the Thoracic Oncology Program, and **Dr. Tiberio Lindgren**, hematologist/oncologist. One CME credit is available and there is no fee to attend. Call 1 (866) 714-1777.

On Saturday, February 28 from 8 am to 12:30 p.m., a Colorectal Practicum will be held at The Center for Cancer Prevention and Treatment at St. Joseph Hospital.\* Topics include practice parameters for diverticulitis, incontinence, anal fistulas, anal fissures, anal cancers, condyloma and hemorrhoids. Presentations will be by Genetics Program Coordinator **Kimberly Banks, CGC**, Colorectal Surgeons and Colorectal Program Co-Medical Directors **Anita Gregory, M.D., Theodore Coutsoftides, M.D., George Moro, M.D.**, and Radiologist **Joseph Tison, M.D.** Registration is required. The registration fee for this 4-CME credit event is \$45. Call 1 (866) 714-1777.

\* Please note that programs previously presented off site have moved to the SJO campus so that the hospital is in compliance with new Stark rules.

## Library findings

Thank you to the 396 SJO and CHOC staff who completed our bi-annual library survey. Your responses are being analyzed and will be used to plan and support continuing and new library resources and services. An overall summary of the survey is posted on the library’s website under “Library resources”: <http://www.burlewmedicallibrary.org> (id=library passw=web). Highlights include:

Overall rating of library services, staff and resources: 79% rated us excellent; 20% rated us good. Overall excellent responses are up 3%.

Other services receiving top ratings are: Research services by library staff—83% excellent ratings; Photocopy and interlibrary loan services—63% excellent ratings.

Also notable: 76% of respondents indicated that the library contributed significantly to patient care. Additionally, respondents indicated that the library saved staff over 7,000 hours in staff time for an average savings of 30.6 hours per respondent. This staff time savings is valued at well over \$500,000 and demonstrates the cost effectiveness of the library.

If you aren’t already a library user, you owe it to yourself to discover out how we can help you find medical information that can impact patient care, research and your ability to do your job. Don’t hesitate to call us (714) 771-8291 or stop by the library. We are located on the ground level of the Sr. Frances Dunn building and are open weekdays 8:30 am – 5:00 pm. After hours access is available by checking out the library key from Security.

**Julie L. Smith, MLS, AHIP**

Library Manager

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