

PROGRESS NOTES HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 2018

| FROM THE PRESIDENT |



BIAS IN HEALTH CARE: A PROBLEM

A few weeks ago I received an email from one of my past residents with the subject heading "Bias in Medicine." To preface, this was one of the finest residents we have trained and is currently in her second year of fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital.

She wrote: "As a young Afghan female, not a week goes by without a patient commenting on my age, sex, or supposed ethnic and religious background, and whether that makes me a capable physician. This has been true as a medical student in New York, as a resident in Pennsylvania and now as a fellow in Massachusetts"

As a middle-aged, white male, I have to admit the topic is not one I deal with often. However, this trainee's admission regarding her experience as a resident at Lehigh Valley Health Network got my attention. It also begs the question how endemic is the issue of bias and prejudice against all of our caregivers?

In 2017, WebMD issued the results of an online survey of more than 2,000 doctors, other health care providers and patients focusing on the topic of bias and prejudice in medicine. Fifty-nine percent of providers described being discriminated and biased against based on derogatory or offensive remarks from patients. This percentile was similar for other team members.

Joseph E. Patruno, MD
Medical Staff President

[MORE ONLINE](#)



► Go to LVHN.org/progressnotes for complete articles.

| BEGINS MARCH 3 |

MEDICAL STAFF BIENNIAL REAPPOINTMENT

In accordance with the regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Medical Staff and Hospital bylaws, the standards of The Joint Commission and Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program, each member of the hospital's Medical Staff must be reappointed a minimum of once every two years.

On March 3, this year's biennial reappointment process will be put into motion when reappointment applications will be deployed online for approximately 1,500 members of the Medical Staff.

As a convenience, the application will be prepopulated with information previously provided to Medical Staff Services. It is of paramount importance that all the information be reviewed, changes made where necessary and missing data completed.

[MORE ONLINE](#)

| ANNUAL REQUIREMENT |

CONFLICT OF INTEREST/COMMITMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

As stipulated in the Medical Staff bylaws, all members of the Medical Staff are required to complete the Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) Conflict of Interest/Commitment Questionnaire on an annual basis.

For Fiscal Year 2018, in conjunction with the Medical Staff biennial reappointment, you will be required to complete the questionnaire by April 2. In January, you received an email via your LVHN email account that included your personalized link to access the new online questionnaire. Deadline for completion is April 2.

[MORE ONLINE](#)

| ANNOUNCEMENTS |

FOR PRACTITIONERS WITH MODERATE SEDATION PRIVILEGES

All Medical Staff members with adult, children and/or infant moderate sedation privileges at Lehigh Valley Health Network are required to successfully complete The Learning Curve adult and/or pediatric moderate sedation module and examination by April 2. This requirement is mandatory for continuation and maintenance of these privileges and for your 2018 Medical Staff biennial reappointment.

In addition, current life support certification (NRP, ARLS/BLS, ACLS, PALS or ATLS as appropriate for patient practice population) is also required to maintain these privileges. If your life support certification will expire before June 30, please make arrangements for renewal by registering with the Emergency Medicine Institute using the following link:

gem-emi.content.lvh.com.

[MORE ONLINE](#)

FOR EMERGENCY MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS WITH DEEP SEDATION PRIVILEGES

All emergency medicine Medical Staff members with deep sedation privileges at Lehigh Valley Health Network are required to successfully complete The Learning Curve deep sedation module and examination by April 2. This requirement is mandatory for continuation and maintenance of these privileges and for your 2018 Medical Staff biennial reappointment.

In addition, current ACLS life support certification is also required to maintain deep sedation privileges. If your ACLS life support certification will expire before June 30, please make arrangements for renewal by registering with the Emergency Medicine Institute using the following link:

gem-emi.content.lvh.com.

[MORE ONLINE](#)

| SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS |

Department of Education Conferences

Feb. 21-22; 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. each day.

Where: Richard Fleming Educational Conference Center inside Medical Imaging of Lehigh Valley, Conference Rooms 6, 7 and 8, 1200 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown.

Questions? Call 610-402-2277, option 1, or visit go.activecalendar.com/LVHN-DOE.

Pediatric Grand Rounds

Feb. 13, 20, 27; 8-9 a.m.

Where: LVH-Cedar Crest Kasych Family Pavilion ECC Room 6.

Questions? Contact Cari Cleffi in the Department of Pediatrics at 484-862-3131.

[MORE ONLINE](#)

RETIREMENT HONORS

John Hart, former Senior Vice President of Medical Operations at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN), smiles before addressing the crowd during a retirement reception held in his honor Jan. 4 in Kasych Family Pavilion at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest. Hart formally retired from LVHN on Jan. 7 after 33 years at the network.



[MORE ONLINE](#)

| WELLNESS CORNER |

'First Thursday' Physician Social Event

Starting in March, we would like to invite physicians to a monthly social event sponsored by the Medical Staff. On the first Thursday of each month, we will be hosting the event at various local restaurants. The gatherings will be from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and will include drinks, light food fare and, most importantly, the chance to connect and unwind away from the office or hospital.

All you need to do is sign up. You will be receiving an email on how to sign up in the coming month. We hope to see you there.

[MORE ONLINE](#)

| LIBRARY SERVICES |

Locate Drug Pricing Information in Lexicomp

Lexicomp provides drug-pricing information for drugs covered in their database. In order to find the prices, use the Jump to Section dropdown tool in Lexicomp online or in the Lexicomp app to quickly access a drug's average wholesale price (AWP).

Where can I find Lexicomp?

- A free mobile app is available on Android and iOS platforms.
- On intranet homepages at Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)-Hazleton, LVH-Schuylkill, LVH-Pocono, LVH-Cedar Crest/17th Street and LVH-Muhlenberg. [MORE ONLINE](#)

| ONLINE GUIDE |

Update Your 'Find A Doctor' Profile for LVHN.org

Each month, about 49,000 people use LVHN.org's "Find a Doctor" tool. It's the most visited section of our public website.

LVHN.org/Find_a_Doctor is where community members get to know more about their health care providers. When we created it, we asked prospective patients to tell us what they wanted to know about their providers. They told us that information about your personality and care philosophies helps them to make informed decisions about where to turn for care.

That's why keeping your Find a Doctor profile current is so important. To get started, please log in at LVHN.org/doclogin/login.php. [MORE ONLINE](#)

| LEADERSHIP NEWS |

New Chief of Neurology Joins LVHN

Steven Lewis, MD, a neurologist who spent the first 30 years of his career in Chicago in the roles of clinician, administrator, educator and writer/editor, is the new chief of the Division of Neurology at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN).

Lewis assumed this role in August 2017, following the retirement of John E. Castaldo, MD, who had been LVHN's neurology chair from 2001 until February 2017.

Lewis previously served as associate chair of the Department of Neurological Sciences at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, as well as Head of the Section of General Neurology and the Neurology Residency program director. At LVHN, he will provide leadership for the expansion of the Division of Neurology into a national referral center for clinical care, neurologic education and clinical research. [MORE ONLINE](#)

also ONLINE FEBRUARY 2018

Papers, Publications and Presentations

Your colleagues have been publishing and presenting

Who's New

Updates on Medical Staff and Allied Health Staff new appointments



Progress Notes is published monthly to inform the Medical Staff, Advanced Practice Clinicians and colleagues of LVHN about important issues.

► See the full version at LVHN.org/progressnotes.

Submissions

Email your materials to Rich Krisher at rkrisher@staywell.com by the 10th of each month.



Questions?

Contact Ashley Scheffler in marketing and public affairs at Ashley_L.Scheffler@LVHN.org.

| ON THE CALENDAR |

'Neurology for the Non-Neurologist' Event Scheduled

"Neurology for the Non-Neurologist: General Review and Update" will be held Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 21-22, at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest. The event will take place 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. each day.

[MORE ONLINE](#)

| FREE CME/CNE |

Upcoming APC Skills Workshop

The Department of Education is offering a free skills workshop for advanced practice clinicians: "Wound Healing and Excision of Skin Lesions," on Tuesday, March 6, 8 to 10 a.m.

For location and registration information, contact the Department of Education at 610-402-2277.

[MORE ONLINE](#)