Family and Community Medicine Receives Exceptional Rating from National Center for Quality Assurance

The Department of Family and Community Medicine recently received word that its practice, Jefferson Family Medicine Associates, has achieved the highest recognition (Level 3) for Physician Practice Connections – Patient-Centered Medical Home (PPC-PCMH) from the National Center for Quality Assurance (NCQA). The NCQA is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of healthcare nationwide.

This NCQA recognition is widely accepted as an indicator that an organization is well-managed and delivers high-quality patient care and service. Fewer than 30 practices nationwide have received this NCQA designation, with approximately just half of those achieving a rating equivalent to Jefferson’s.

“Their dedication to primary care is extraordinary,” says Lee Brandes, PA-C, a Jefferson researcher who collaborated with Dr. M. John Broome, who led the study. “This is an outstanding achievement that demonstrates the level of care we strive to deliver to our patients.”

Nursing Excellence Acclaimed with MAGNET® Recognition

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Center City Campus, has been granted MAGNET® recognition for nursing excellence from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Regarded as the “gold” standard, the recognition assures consumers and patients that they can expect to receive a superior level of care. Less than five percent of hospitals in the nation have achieved this status. Pictured reacting to the great news are Tom Lewis, President and CEO, Jefferson Hospitals; David McQuaid, Executive VP and COO; Mary Ann McGinley PhD, RN, Sr. VP of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer; and Bob Aedelion, Esq., Chairman of the Board.

Physician Performs CPR, Saving Pilot on Center City Street

On February 24, David R. Nash, MD, PhD, was walking with his wife on 19th Street and saw a man sitting on a bench, somewhat slumped to the side. He asked the man if he needed help. “No sooner after my offer of assistance, the man on the bench essentially collapsed, turned cyanotic [blue] and pulseless,” said Dr. Nash.

Dr. Nash and his wife placed the man on the ground and started CPR. At that time, a nurse from Blue Cross who happened to pass by stopped to help, as well, and a passerby called 911. “Thank goodness, the man did actually regain consciousness and we passed him off to the EMT crew. He was later admitted to Jefferson where our cardiologists now believe he had a near fatal witnessed arrhythmia. I am so grateful that my wife, this nurse and I were able to help this man.”

JAMA Features Jefferson Team’s Cancer Research

The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) recently published a Thomas Jefferson University study reporting that an intestinal tumor-suppressing receptor in the lymph nodes may better reveal the chance of metastatic colorectal cancer. The Jefferson researchers studied 257 people with pN0 colorectal cancer and found that GUCY2C (the receptor also known as guanylyl cyclase C) “appeared to be an independent prognostic marker of risk.”

As a result of the JAMA article, many news outlets across the country, including US News & World Report, Reuters, as well as the Yahoo News, MSNBC and ABC news sites, published news stories about the research. In addition, The Philadelphia Inquirer featured Scott Waldman, MD, PhD, lead author of the study, on the front page.

More Than 50 Jefferson Physicians Make “Top Doctors” List

The annual “Top Doctors” issue of Philadelphia magazine hit newstands in April, listing more than 50 Jefferson physicians with this high distinction. In addition to the magazine’s list of recommended doctors in a wide variety of specialties, the issue also includes Jefferson physicians on its new “Best Physicians Age 40 and Under” list.

Physicians who made the Top Doctors list include those in the following specialty areas:

- Addiction Psychiatry
- Adolescent Medicine
- Allergy and Immunology
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Colon and Rectal Surgery
- Dermatology
- Diagnostic Radiology
- Family Medicine
- Gastroenterology
- Geriatric Medicine
- Geriatric Psychiatry
- Gynecologic Oncology
- Hand Surgery
- Internal Medicine
- Maternal and Fetal Medicine
- Medical Oncology
- Neurological Surgery
- Neurology
- Neuoradiology
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Plastic Surgery
- Psychiatry
- Radiation Oncology
- Surgery
- Thoracic Surgery
- Urology
- Vascular
- Intervventional Radiology

Jefferson “Best Physicians Age 40 and Under” are from the areas of Family Medicine, Orthopedic Surgery, Neurological Surgery, and Ophthalmology.

Learn more about how the list was determined and see the complete Top Doctors and “rising stars” lists. Visit the Philadelphia magazine website at www.phillymag.com.
Jefferson Forms Alliance with Delaware Institutions and Plans New Campus

Jefferson University President R. Jeffrey Barlow, MD, PhD, and three other institution presidents have announced the creation of the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance. The announcement was made at the “Stronger Health-Based Partnerships” conference held at the University of Delaware on March 24. The Delaware Health Sciences Alliance – a new partnership of Christiana Care Health System (Christiana Care), Nemours, Thomas Jefferson University (TJU) and the University of Delaware (UD) – combines the priorities and assets of these member institutions to provide leadership in the improvement of health and health services to all Delawareans, while also nurturing research and advanced technology development that will be key to Delaware’s economic future.

Building on years of cooperative efforts among the four institutions, the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance is dedicated to: providing the finest healthcare education for all health professionals; conducting interdisciplinary clinical and translational research that generates new knowledge to address today’s most pressing health concerns; and improving state and regional health and healthcare services.

Healthcare education is one of the Alliance’s top priorities, and a key component of this initiative will be the development of the Campus for Healthcare Education in Delaware. The campus will house classrooms, study halls and a new residential facility for up to 150 medical, pharmacy, nursing, occupational and physical therapy students. The new campus will expand offerings in family and community medicine, surgery and its sub-specialties, obstetrics and gynecology, internal medicine and pediatrics. It will allow Jefferson to provide clinical rotations and professional experience to its students in the many healthcare delivery sites within the state of Delaware.

In the area of research, the partners will expand on their individual successes by establishing an infrastructure for enhanced cooperation that will stimulate more rapid and comprehensive growth of research.

Centers for Voice and Swallowing and Facial Aesthetics Now Open in 925 Chestnut Building

The Jefferson Center for Voice and Swallowing and the Herbert Kean Center for Facial Aesthetics, now open on the renovated 7th Floor of 925 Chestnut, demonstrate Jefferson’s dedication to a team-based approach for a patient’s complete needs – from treating disease to restoring full function to enhancing appearance.

About the Jefferson Center for Voice and Swallowing

The Center was created in order to organize and promote Jefferson’s state-of-the-art, innovative care for patients with voice and swallowing problems. Here, Jefferson provides patients with a team approach to their care that includes physicians, nurses and speech-language pathologists – all dedicated specialists in voice and swallowing problems. The new facility offers on-site voice laboratory evaluation and voice therapy, as well as state-of-the-art endoscopy with digital imaging that allows the staff to provide a wide range of office-based procedures for patients, even some with very serious voice and/or swallowing problems.

About the Herbert Kean Center for Facial Aesthetics

As part of the Division of Plastic, Reconstructive and Reconstructive Surgery, the Center provides a comprehensive approach to facial rejuvenation. Physicians offer the latest in laser and minimally invasive technology, aesthetic services, and grade skin care products. In addition to traditional facelift techniques, the Center also offers “liquid” facelifts and DOT Therapy with the SmartXide DOT CO2 laser.

Other divisions of Otolaryngology available on the 6th Floor of 925 Chestnut include Head and Neck Oncology Surgery, Sinus and Skull Base Surgery, Hearing and Balance, Thyroid Surgery and General Otolaryngology.

Both the new Facial Aesthetics and Voice and Swallowing centers demonstrate Jefferson’s dedication to the “whole” patient, addressing their quality of life concerns and after other possibly difficult treatment regimens,” says William Keane, MD, Chair of Otolaryngology.

“We pride ourselves in our work with patients who have suffered cancer or trauma of the head and neck, helping to return them to a normal, fulfilling life,” adds Dr. Keane. “Whether it’s because of aging, accident, cancer or other serious illness, we offer our services to help our patients speak with confidence, sing with joy, eat what they want and always look their best.”

To make an appointment, call 955-6760 or 1-800-JEFF-NOW.

Patient Families Give High Scores for Top-Notch Care to the Intensive Care Nursery

During 2008, Jefferson’s Intensive Care Nursery (ICN) patient satisfaction scores went from a modest level to one of the best in the country. “This spectacular rise is due in large part to significant operational and safety measures put into force in the Intensive Care Nursery,” says Jay Greenspan, MD, Robert Brent Professor and Chairman of Pediatrics, Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals and Nemours.

Under the new leadership of Jan Larson, MD, Chief of Neonatology and Director of the ICN, attending neonatologists are now in-house 24 hours a day, giving parents around-the-clock access to the medical team caring for their infants. “Late night rounds allow our physicians to foster ongoing communication with parents,” explains Dr. Larson. “The entire multi-disciplinary team of doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists and other specialists focus on family-centered care and overall quality improvement.”

In addition to higher levels of patient satisfaction, safety scores in the ICN have improved as well, reaching 100 percent for hand washing – a key activity in reducing cross-contamination. Both safety and patient satisfaction scores were measured by Press Ganey Associates, the health industry’s most widely used resource for collecting patient, employee and physician perspectives in regard to performance and patient satisfaction.

Building on the ICN’s success, Dr. Larson has also initiated and supported several new improve- ment goals such as upgrading oral nutrition and decreasing incidences of various medical conditions. Jefferson’s Level III 40-bed, state-of-the-art nursery is regionally recognized for its expertise in treating neonatal brain injury, eye disease and abstinence syndrome (withdrawal from exposure to narcotics) as well as pioneering innovative respiratory and neurological therapies.

Jefferson and the Eagles Help the Philadelphia Area “Kick Heart Disease Together”

On March 24, University President Robert Barlow, MD, PhD (right), participated in a conference webcast (“Stronger Health-Based Partnerships”) at the University of Delaware. Also pictured are Patrick Harker, President, University of Delaware and Robert Laszewski, President and CEO, Christiana Care Health System. See the story on this page to learn more about Jefferson’s partnership with institutions in the state of Delaware and its new campus to be built there.

In February, staff members joined in a pep rally to support the Nursing Department as it prepared for the Magnet designation site visit. Special thanks to Shelley Chamberlain, Chuck Mullin and the staff of the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics for arranging a festive offering of refreshments. Pictured leading a cheer with Eagles mascot SWOOP are Matt Costello, Terri Schwartz, RN, Rachel Studing, RN, Barbara Joyner, RN, Jim Armstrong, RN, and Julie Bucci, RN. For more information, visit www.JeffersonNursing.org/Magnet.

Jefferson’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in March. Also pictured are her parents, Michael and Suzanne Lagner, RN, MSN, Nursing Care Coordinator, Intensive Care and Transitional Nurseries. The 2009 March of Dimes National Ambassador, Katelyn Marie Hall (third from left), visited Jefferson’s heart-health event on February 28 at the King of Prussia Mall. Paul Mather, MD, (left) and Philadelphia Eagles kicker David Akers joined in to teach the audience about being heart healthy. Look for healthy recipes on the Jefferson Hospital website. Visit http://cooking.jeffersonhospital.org.

The 2009 March of Dimes National Ambassador, Katelyn Marie Hall (third from left), visited Jefferson’s heart-health event on February 28 at the King of Prussia Mall. Paul Mather, MD, (left) and Philadelphia Eagles kicker David Akers joined in to teach the audience about being heart healthy. Look for healthy recipes on the Jefferson Hospital website. Visit http://cooking.jeffersonhospital.org.
Several staff members have been designated to lead five service lines at Jefferson:

**Cardiovascular Service Line**
- Medical Director: Howard Weitz, MD, Chief, Division of Cardiology
- Administrator: Rebecca O’Shea, Sr. VP, Clinical Services

**Neurosurgery Service Line**
- Medical Director: James Harrop, MD, Department of Neurosurgery
- Administrator: Pamela Kolb, VP, Clinical & Support Services

**Musculoskeletal Service Line**
- Medical Director: Matthew Ramsey, MD, Department of Orthopedics
- Administrator: Richard Webster, RN, VP, Clinical & Support Services

**Cancer Service Line**
- Medical Director: Matthew Carbasia, MD, CPA, MBA
- Department of Medical Oncology
- Administrator: Richard Haldeman, CPA, MBA, CFO, Kimmel Cancer Center

**GI/Transplant Service Line**
- Medical Director: Mitchell Conn, MD, Division of Gastroenterology
- Administrator: Brian Sweeney, RN, VP, Clinical & Support Services

David J. Axelrod, MD, and Susan M. Parks, MD, were recently certified in Hospice and Palliative Medicine by the American Board of Medical Specialties. Palliative Medicine is the medical discipline focused on the relief of suffering and the promotion of quality of life. Dr. Axelrod, from the Department of Internal Medicine and Dr. Parks, from the Division of Geriatric Medicine in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, are co-medical directors of Jefferson’s Palliative Care Service. Visit www.jeffersonhospital.org/palliative for more information.

University President, Robert Barchi, MD, PhD, served as Honorary Chairman of the 49th Annual Louis Braille Awards Ceremony in January, hosted by University President, Robert Barchi, MD, PhD, of Geriatric Medicine in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, are co-medical directors of Jefferson’s Palliative Care Service. Visit www.jeffersonhospital.org/palliative for more information.

Professor. Dr. Kumar was most recently an assistant professor of neurology at Jefferson Medical College and an associate professor of neurology and neurological sciences at Stanford University Medical Center.

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

**African-American patients with colorectal cancer were more likely to present with worse pathological features at diagnosis and to have a worse five-year survival rate compared to Caucasian patients, according to a study conducted by researchers at Thomas Jefferson University.**

In a clinical study of cardiac patients who suffered an allergic reaction to the widely-prescribed drug clopidogrel, also known as Plavix®. Jefferson physicians found that a combination of steroids and antihistamines can alleviate the allergic reaction symptoms, thereby allowing patients to remain on the drug.

Jeffery School recently placed five new critical care transport ambulances into service. These ambulances are state of the art, including the latest in both technology and safety.

Scientists at Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center discovered a key protein component involved in inflammation. The protein, AIM2 (absent in melanoma 2), is involved in a key protein component involved in inflammation. Scientists at Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center discovered a key protein component involved in inflammation. The protein, AIM2 (absent in melanoma 2), is involved in the detection and reaction to dangerous cytoplasmic DNA that is produced by infection with viral or microbial pathogens, or by tissue damage. AIM2 also appears to be a tumor suppressor, and its inactivation may play a role in the development of cancer.

Researchers from Department of Radiology suggest sonohysterography (SHG) improves the diagnostic capability of transvaginal ultrasound in detecting adenomyosis (a common benign condition of the uterus). SHG reveals a safe alternative to immediate hysterectomy for women treated with breast cancer at Jefferson. The team used the Kimmel Cancer Center Pink Ribbon Award for Outstanding Service, Commitment and Dedication to Breast Cancer Patients.

**Jefferson Celebrates Nurses Week**

May 4 - 8

Free Hearing Screenings at Jefferson May 6 and 20
Call (215) 955-6760 to make an appointment.

Want to learn more about news developments at Jefferson?
Visit us at www.jeffersonhospital.org/news.
Thursday, June 4
• Medicine, "Chief Residents," David Assis, MD, Tamarica Fiscaros, MD, Stephanie Molski, MD, noon, DePalma.
• Family and Community Medicine, Robert Perkel, MD, "surgery" to 8 a.m., 105/108 BLSB.

Wednesday, June 3
• Family and Community Medicine, Kathryn Goyer, MD, PGY2, Anne Hackman, MD, PGY2, "morbidly & mortality," 8 to 9 a.m., 105/108 BLSB.

Tuesday, May 26
• Rehabilitation Medicine, Spasmodic Dysphonia, meets the fourth Tuesday, 4 to 5 p.m., Outpatient Rehab Medicine Office, 215 5th St. Contact Andy Schultz, CCC-SLPIF at (215) 955-0122 or email: Adeline.Schultz@jeffersonhospital.org.
• Delaware Valley Stroke Council/TJUH, "Dr. Howard Mazer Memorial Strides for Stroke," 8 a.m./run/on to benefit stroke survivors and caregivers as well as region-wide stroke prevention educational events and screenings, West River Drive starting at the Art Museum Circle. Registration: 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Dr. Mazer was a Jefferson alumnus and a faculty member in Jefferson's Department of Urology. He suffered a ruptured brain stem aneurysm and achieved a great recovery thanks to the Jefferson acute stroke care team and Jefferson Department of Rehabilitation Medicine.

Thursday, May 5
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