US Government Awards Jefferson Medals of Honor for Organ Donation

Congratulations to our Jefferson staff for being recognized for their invaluable role in saving lives by coordinating organ and tissue transplants. Efforts by staff members have led to important recognition by the US Department of Health and Human Services, resulting in a Silver Medal of Honor for Jefferson Hospital for Neuroscience (JHN) and a Bronze Medal for Thomas Jefferson University Hospital (TJUH). The medals were presented to 19 area hospitals and the Gift of Life program at the recent 7th National Learning Congress, recognizing successful donation and transplant outcomes. Learn about transplantation at www.jeffersonhospital.org.

Saving Lives on the Go: Jefferson Caregivers to the Rescue

A snapshot of some recent “off-duty” heroics…

Jefferson Physicians Fly to Aid of Fellow Passenger Aboard Airline

On a flight out to Denver, en route to a conference, three Jefferson anesthesiologists heard commotion in the cabin – a 71-year-old woman had fallen in the aisle and hit her head on the floor. Drs. Kishor Gandhi, Eric Schwenk and Benjamin Vaghari, jumped into action. They promptly initiated CPR on the unconscious woman. Drs. Schwenk and Gandhi alternated between chest compressions. They also asked for the plane’s emergency medical supplies and oxygen mask. After the woman regained consciousness, Dr. Vaghari then measured her blood pressure, which was stable at 90/60. “As the woman lay on the floor, we made sure she was neurologically intact – asking her a series of simple questions – before moving her,” added Dr. Gandhi.

State of PA Honors Jefferson Physician During Black History Month

Congratulations to Deborah Witt, MD, recognized by Governor Corbett as an “Everyday Hero” for her contributions to the Commonwealth. The honor was presented during Black History Month for her commitment and excellent service to the community. An assistant professor and family physician at Jefferson, Dr. Witt was one of two honorees from Philadelphia who was nominated and chosen for the recognition by members of the Governor’s Advisory Commission on African American Affairs. As CFO and Medical Director of Glory Unlimited Evangelistic Ministries International, she has organized volunteer medical teams to travel abroad and provide medical services to impoverished communities. Dr. Witt also serves on numerous boards and is a volunteer for the American Diabetes Association and the American Cancer Society.

TJUH Makes ‘100 Great Hospitals in America’ List

Becker’s Hospital Review has named Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals on its recently released list, 100 Great Hospitals in America. To develop this list, the Becker’s Hospital Review editorial team analyzed data from sources including U.S. News & World Report, Truven Health Analytics’ 100 Top Hospitals, HealthGrades, Magnet Recognition by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the Studer Group and the Baldridge Performance Excellence Program.

VITAL SIGNS: APRIL 2013

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Congratulations to the 75 Jefferson physicians who have been named to Philadelphia magazine’s annual list! See more info at www.phillymag.com.

In This Issue:

1. Jefferson Researchers Aim to Overcome Prostate Cancer Stigma in Ghana
2. Congratulations to our Award-Winning Nurses
3. Physician Assistant Program to Accept Applications in August

THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY AND HOSPITALS
Jefferson Researchers Aim to Overcome Prostate Cancer Stigma in Ghana and Improve Outcomes

Infectious diseases in Ghana tend to capture the most attention, but a quiet crisis may soon take over as the country's most threatening epidemic-cancer.

A new study published in January in the journal BMC Cancer, led by Kosj Yamoah, MD, PhD, a resident in the Department of Radiation Oncology at Thomas Jefferson University and Hospitals takes aim at the issue by investigating prostate cancer diagnoses and treatment delivery in black men living in the West African region, in order to devise research strategies to help improve health outcomes.

Overall, many men are diagnosed at a later stage, with more than half opting out of treatment, they found. The researchers point to stigmas about cancer as a root of the problem.

"Cancer could eclipse infectious diseases as an epidemic if more awareness and intervention doesn't come about," said Dr. Yamoah, who grew up in Ghana until age 20, when he came to the US. "Cancer can be very hush-hush because of cultural and financial issues and social stigmas associated with the disease. We need to bring awareness and address the needs of the population and barriers to care."

"Cancer is still perceived as a death sentence," he added. "People are scared to go to their doctor to find out if they have it, let alone to follow through with treatment."

In a retrospective analysis of 379 patients referred for treatment at the National Center for Radiotherapy and Nuclear Medicine at the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital (KBTH) from 2003 to 2009, the team found that 33 percent were diagnosed with metastatic disease and 70 percent had a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) score four times higher than men in the US or Europe at time of diagnosis.

PSA screening rates in Ghana are low, the authors explain, and many men opt out of radiation therapy and other therapies after diagnosis. Out of the 251 patients eligible for radiation therapy, only 141 patients actually received external beam radiation therapy.

Learn more by reading the news release at www.jefferson.edu.

Jefferson Nurses Launch ‘Walk a Lot, Prevent a Clot’

During March, DVT Awareness Month, Jefferson nurses on Gibbon 7CNC and 7NNE, JHN 7S and 7N, and Methodist 6B and CUUS/CU head nurse Walk a Lot, Prevent a Clot – a campaign that encourages nurses walking regularly while in the hospital. Pictured is Diana Kacicovic, RN, BSN, walking with patient Brian McGuade, who recently underwent abdominal surgery. Photo: John Aquino

Jefferson Physicians Fly to Aid…

"At this point, an air marshal came forward and assisted us with moving the patient to a clear row at the back of the airplane."

With limited options and the long flight still ahead, the Jefferson team used the plane’s medical supplies, administering aspirin for cardiac prophylaxis, and glucose infusion with saline for hypoglycemia. She responded promptly to therapy and improved dramatically over the course of the flight.

After landing in Denver, the physicians also accompanied the passenger off the plane, transferring her care to the local emergency medical services technicians, who were waiting at the gate.

"I'm just glad we were able to help," said Dr. Gandhi.

Jefferson ED Nurse Revives High School Student on Track

While watching her daughter play field hockey at Villa Maria Academy High School in Malvern recently, Jennifer Meluskey, a nurse in Jefferson’s Emergency Department, witnessed a 16-year-old cross country runner collapse on the school’s track during practice. Jennifer raced over to find that the student athlete was not moving or breathing.

"It was the last thing I expected to see on a Thursday afternoon, especially with a person so young," Jennifer said. "Since my own daughter is similar in age, I couldn’t help but think that this was someone’s baby."

Jennifer began to perform CPR, and used the school’s automated external defibrillator (AED) to regulate her heart rhythm. In a matter of moments, the paramedics arrived.

After further evaluation, the teenager was diagnosed with having experienced sudden cardiac arrest causing a heart arrhythmia, and has since received a defibrillator.

Fortunately, the student athlete survived without any neurological deficits due to the quick and successful resuscitation by Jennifer.

"I felt like I was having a heart attack myself as it was happening. Fortunately, the school staff remained calm as we tried to aid this student, who has since returned to playing basketball, running track, and horseback riding. All in all, it was quite phenomenal," said Jennifer.

Lunchtime Rescue: Staffers, Residents and Interns Put Skills to the Test, On the Sidewalk, to Save Woman’s Life

On a recent lunchtime walk on Chestnut Street, an Internal Medicine intern, Jacqueline Kraft, MD, saw that a woman had collapsed on the sidewalk. She immediately initiated CPR and called for help. Assisting her were Internal Medicine residents Jhioan Ledesma, MD, and Hasan Bayat, MD. Next on the scene were two Infectious Disease Fellows – Drs. Chris Miller and Jay Sellers.

"Chris and I were walking down Chestnut street and saw [the others] performing CPR on the sidewalk," said Dr. Sellers.

"We went over to help and I grabbed the AED at the Gibbon Building guard desk. We attached it to the patient and delivered a shock on the scene."

After this, the woman regained a pulse, and then Jefferson arrived on the scene. The Jefferson staff assisted the Jefferson crew with putting her on a stretcher and into the ambulance.

After being taken to the Jefferson Emergency Department, and then being treated in the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CICU) and transferred to a regular room at Jefferson, the woman was eventually well enough to be discharged home.

"These house staff saved this woman’s life,” said Gregory Marhefka, MD, of Cardiology, who heads the CICU. “She was lucky that these physicians happened to be there."

“She was definitely in the right place at the right time,” said Dr. Sellers. "The team worked together quickly and efficiently, and our internal medicine and critical care training kicked in.”

Jefferson Student Gives Her All At the Gym - To Save A Man's Life

Doctors say that Officer Anthony Radice of the Radnor Township Police Department wouldn’t have survived had Amanda Beal, a third-year MS Occupational Therapy student at Jefferson, not given him CPR.

On a February Sunday afternoon at her gym in Delaware County, Amanda Beal was about to finish up her workout when she noticed a man sitting up against a wall inside the gym, struggling to breathe.

She approached the man – and seeing that he was turning blue, immediately called 911. Amanda monitored his pulse and applied a cool compress but when he suddenly lost consciousness and stopped breathing, she instantly began CPR and continued it until the paramedics arrived.

"Something inside of me switched into autopilot that day and even though I was surrounded by a gym packed with people watching me, it felt like it was just me and him and I was determined to give it my all," said Amanda. "I am CPR certified through school but never in a million years did I imagine I'd ever actually need to use it."

After a hard battle on life support in the hospital, Anthony is now home after having received a defibrillator and is on his way to recovery. Dana Tigg, Anthony’s sister, expressed her gratitude about Amanda’s lifesaving instincts.

"My brother Anthony is home safe and sound – thanks to Amanda Beal," said Dana. "Amanda came to our rescue. We can’t thank her enough for saving my brother’s life.”

After the incident, Amanda was honored by the Upper Darby Police Department and interviewed by KYW Newsradio.

See Jefferson Hospitals’ blog @Jeff for details on all these stories.

continued from page 1

Saving Lives on the Go: Jefferson Caregivers to the Rescue

Jefferson anesthesiologists Eric Schwenk, MD, Kishor Gandhi, MD, and Benjamin Vaghar, MD, saved a woman’s life aboard a plane bound for Denver.

Jefferson Nurses – Donation to Sandy Hook First Responders & Danbury Hospital ED

To recognize American Heart Month and support the American Heart Association, members of Jefferson’s Emergency Department (some of whom are pictured) sold decorated hearts and used them to adorn the ED lobby. They also took a portion of the proceeds to recognize the Sandy Hook and Danbury, CT, first responders. Thirty pizzas were bought and delivered to the police/fire rescue units and the Danbury Hospital Emergency Department, along with a giant card and framed Rocky picture which was engraved, “In the Real Ring of Life, You Are All Champions – Love, Your Philly Friends at Jefferson’s Emergency Department.”
Robert Brent, MD, PhD, was the subject of a recent feature story in *Health Physics News*, highlighting his role in pregnancy counseling with women and couples who have concerns about radiation exposure. For many years, Dr. Brent has been providing this type of scientific evaluation and counseling on a volunteer basis many times each week via the Health Physics Society (HPS) website. He is the Distinguished Louis and Bess Stein Professor of Pediatrics, Radiology, and Pathology and head of the Clinical and Environmental Teratology Laboratory at Jefferson Medical College and A.I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Delaware.

Geno Merli, MD, FACP, and Howard Weitz, MD, FACP, FACC, were recognized as Masters of the American College of Physicians at the group’s annual meeting in San Francisco. The “Master” designation is reserved for those physicians who are among the most outstanding internists and medical teachers of their day. Dr. Merli, an internist who has specialized in vascular medicine and is nationally recognized for his expertise in deep vein thrombosis, is Jefferson’s Chief Medical Officer and Co-director of the Jefferson Vascular Center. A cardiologist, Dr. Weitz is Director of both the Division of Cardiology and the Jefferson Heart Institute.

Jacqueline Tusman, MS, Senior Learning Consultant in the Department of Human Resources, presented a program on Working in a Multi-Generational Workforce at the GMIP TEA (Good Manufacturing Practices/Training Education Association) Mid-Atlantic Chapter Meeting in January. The interactive program highlighted the fact that this is the first time in history that four generations are working together in the workplace. The mission of the GMP TEA is to unite Life Science Training and Behavioral Education individuals in an effort to educate, collaborate and share best practices as we develop and prepare the workforce of the future.

A study by Rothman Institute at Jefferson suggests conventional thresholds for joint surgery inflammatory markers may need to be refined to improve their accuracy in diagnosing periarthroplasty joint infection (PJII). The study was presented at the American Association of Orthopedic Surgeons annual meeting in March.

Researchers at Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center have discovered new pathways that drive metastatic prostate cancer. A team found that Cyclin D1b, a variant of the cell cycle regulator Cyclin D1a, functions independently of the cell cycle to promote metastasis both early and late stage prostate cancer.

Researchers at the Rothman Institute at Jefferson participated in a multi-center randomized prospective study to evaluate the clinical value of platelet rich plasma (PRP) versus an active control group to determine its effectiveness in managing the pain and tenderness associated with tennis elbow. The study found that PRP therapy is safe and results in improvements in pain scores and local tenderness compared to an active control group.

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION: Konrad Meier, MD, PhD, has been selected as this year’s recipient of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology’s (EADV) Section of Research Excellence. This award is given to a young investigator in recognition of his/her outstanding scientific work. Dr. Meier is a dermatologist in private practice and is the director of the Department of Cutaneous Oncology at the University of Basel.

Congratulations to Our Nursing Awards Winners

Liz A. Gutwein-Guenther, BSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 3E/NE, has been named the 2013 winner of the Janet C. Hindson Award.

**Clinical Nurse Excellence Award**
- Med/Surg: Justine S. O’Connor, BSN, RN, OCN, Staff Nurse, 3 East
- Specialty: Ann Shober, BSN, RN, Staff Nurse, Pediatrics
- Critical Care: Christine M. Fletcher, BSN, RN, Clinical Charge Nurse, ISICU
- Preceptorship/Mentorship Award: Amy L. Edmonds, BSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 7 West
- Rising Star Award: Kevin T. Morgan, BSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 9 Center
- Career Achievement Award: Gabrielle Maruan, MSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 3 East
- Community Service Award: Kathleen Ashton, PhD, RN, Staff Nurse, 5 Center
- Eileen Kelly Critical Care Nursing Award: Jane D. Reiley, BSN, RN, CCRN, Clinical Charge Nurse, MICU
- Advancing and Leading the Profession: Suzanne Lagnier, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Nurse Manager, ICN

**2013 Nursing Spectrum Excellence Awards Finalists**
- Rising Star: Winner: Amy L. Edmonds, BSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 7 West
- Preceptorship/Mentorship: Winner: Justine S. O’Connor, BSN, RN, OCN, Staff Nurse, 3 East
- Clinical Nurse Excellence: Winner: Liz A. Gutwein-Guenther, BSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 3E/NE
- Preceptorship/Mentorship: Finalist: Amy L. Edmonds, BSN, RN, OCN, Staff Nurse, 7 West
- Rising Star: Finalist: Kevin T. Morgan, BSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 9 Center
- Critical Care: Finalist: Gabrielle Maruan, MSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 3 East
- Community Service: Finalist: Kathleen Ashton, PhD, RN, Staff Nurse, 5 Center
- Eileen Kelly: Finalist: Jane D. Reiley, BSN, RN, CCRN
- Advancing and Leading the Profession: Finalist: Suzanne Lagnier, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Nurse Manager, ICN

**Nursing Awards Winning Staff**

Winners of the 2013 Nursing Awards will be honored at the 2013 Annual Nursing Awards Ceremony. The ceremony will be held on Thursday, June 20, at 5 p.m., in the Second Floor Foyer of the Hospital.

**Excellence in Nurse Leadership Award:**
- Staff Nurse: Suzanne Lagner, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Staff Nurse, 9 Center
- Specialty: Christine M. Fletcher, BSN, RN, Clinical Charge Nurse, ISICU
- Critical Care: Gabrielle Maruan, MSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 3 East
- Community Service: Kathleen Ashton, PhD, RN, Staff Nurse, 5 Center
- Eileen Kelly Critical Care Nursing: Jane D. Reiley, BSN, RN, CCRN
- Clinical Charge Nurse: Kevin T. Morgan, BSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 9 Center
- Clinical Nurse Excellence: Liz A. Gutwein-Guenther, BSN, RN, Staff Nurse, 3E/NE

Learn more about Jefferson research and news developments at [www.jeffersonhospital.org/news](http://www.jeffersonhospital.org/news) and [www.jeffersonhospital.org/atjeff](http://www.jeffersonhospital.org/atjeff)
Jefferson PA Program to Accept Applications in August 2013

The Department of Physician Assistant Studies in Jefferson School of Health Professions at Thomas Jefferson University will begin accepting applications in August for the new Master of Science Program in Physician Assistant Studies (MS-PAS) program, which will begin in Pre-Fall 2014. “Future graduates have a bright horizon,” said Kathryn T. Janick, MSPAS, PA-C, the Department Chair. “Physician assistants have been named the fourth fastest growing profession in the country by the Bureau of Labor & Statistics, with an expected 39 percent increase in jobs by 2018. These are exciting and encouraging numbers.” Learn more at www.jefferson.edu/pa.

Bioscience Technologies students at Jefferson are serving as mentors to local high school students from Radnorborough and Lincoln High Schools, providing them with academic support and shadowing opportunities in research labs, all as part of a new WorkReady Philadelphia pilot program. The Quest program focuses on teaching science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills.

Randall Culp, MD, of The Philadelphia Hand Center at Jefferson, has been awarded the 2013 Golden Apple Award from Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO). Dr. Culp has volunteered for many years with the Hondurans Hand Surgery program, performing surgeries and sharing his expertise in upper extremity surgery techniques. The Golden Apple Award is given annually to those who personally and have contributed extraordinarily to the agency’s commitment to curriculum development, teacher training, didactic or clinical training, or the enhancement of educational resources. Dr. Culp will be presented with his award at a ceremony later this year in Washington, DC.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jonathan Yewdell, an eminent scientist in the Cellular Biology and Viral Immunology Sections of the Laboratory of Viral Diseases within the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the NIH. Timeline: First oral presentation, 11:30 a.m., Connelly Aud., Hamilton, second oral presentation, 1 p.m., poster session, 2 to 4 p.m., Hamilton Lobby. Dr. Yewdell's keynote address, 4 p.m., Connelly Aud., Hamilton.

GRAND ROUNDS

Wednesday, May 29
• Pulmonary and Critical Care, Ricardo Restrepo, MD, TJUH, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., Pulmonary Conference Room, 884 Walnut St. For information, call 215-955-1671.
Also: June 5, Varad Agarwal, MD, TJUH, June 12, Rosal Summer, MD, TJUH, June 19, Nikhil Madan, MD, TJUH, June 26, Ritu Gresel, MD, TJUH.

Thursday, May 30
• Medicine, Vijd M. Rao, MD, David C. Levin Professor and Chair, Department of Radiology, TJUH. "The Overuse of Diagnostic Imaging." June 6: Morbidity & Mortality Conference; June 13: "Chief Residents’ Grand Rounds." Christopher Henry, MD, Tasja Kouranov, MD, Sanjay Linganna, MD, Michael Tobin, MD, noon, DePalma.

Parent Education

Wednesday, June 12
• Family and Community Medicine, Moderator: Robert Perkel, MD, Department of Family and Community Medicine. "Medical Jeopardy!" 7 to 9 a.m., Foerderer Aud.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday, June 5
• WXPN Musicians On Call plays for Jefferson patients. (Musicians also play through July and August.) Also, every Wednesday in June and July. • "Celebration of Life" event – Celebrating Cancer Survivors and the people that care about them. Patients, caregivers, survivors, families, physicians and staff are all welcome to attend this inspirational event, (3 p.m., Health Fair: 4:15-7 p.m., Art exhibit, fun activities, survivor’s stories and special guest speakers), Hamilton Building. Registration Info: Call 1-800-JEFF-NOW.

Thursday, June 6
• Nursing, Parent Education, "Infant and Child CPR for Family and Friends," Time 6 to 8 p.m., at Chestnut, Suite 920. Registration is necessary. Fee $55 (couples), $60. Call 1-800-JEFF-NOW to reserve your spot. Also, July 10.

Saturday, June 8
• Nursing, Parent Education, "Parenting Support Group," 2 to 4 p.m., at Glassboro, 10th Floor.

Wednesday, June 12
• JSPH, Craig Tano, MD, Chief Medical Officer, JenCare, "Managing Population Health in Low to Moderate Income Medicare Eligibles", 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., Curtis Building, 1015 Chestnut, Room 218, 2nd Floor.

Symposium

Monday, June 10
• "The Jefferson Postdoctoral Association (JPA) and the Jefferson Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences’ (IGSB) Office of Postdoctoral Affairs," 9th Annual Jefferson Postdoctoral Research Symposium (JPRS).

Babies Have a Safe Haven at Jefferson

Jefferson offers confidential protective shelter and medical care to abandoned newborn infants less than 28 days of age and offers and encourages the infants’ mothers to accept medical assessment and treatment. To learn more, please contact the Emergency Department at 215-955-6840, 24 hours a day.

Parent Education

Featuring:
• Getting Ready for Babies
• Childbirth Classes
• Maternity Ward Tours
• Breastfeeding Classes
• Breastfeeding “Drop-In” Center (including a lactation consultant)
• Breastfeeding and Pumping Mothers Group
• Infant and Child CPR for Family and Friends

Plus, classes and info sessions for siblings and grandparents www.jeffersonhospital.org/parenteducation 1-800-JEFF-NOW

Make a Difference in Healthcare – Become a Health Mentor at Jefferson

Jefferson Schools of Medicine, Nursing and Health Professions present "Make a Difference in Healthcare – Become a Health Mentor at Jefferson.”

For more information, please call 215-955-3757 or visit http://jeffline.tju.edu/jcipe/hmp/