

Hallmark Health labs gain CAP accreditation

The laboratories at MWH, LMH and the Hallmark Health Hematology and Oncology Center all received accreditation from the College of American Pathologists (CAP). During the two-day accreditation process in May, CAP inspectors examined the lab's records and quality control procedures over the last two years. They also assessed staff qualifications, equipment, facilities, safety programs and the overall management of the laboratories. This inspection was also coordinated with a required inspection of the Blood Banks at both hospitals by the American Association of Blood Banks (AABB).

According to **Carol Gamble**, System Director of Laboratory Services, "It was a very thorough review and examination and we are very pleased that all of our labs passed the survey with flying colors."

According to Gamble, the Hallmark Health labs perform more than 2.2 million tests annually. CAP congratulated Hallmark Health on this national recognition and praised "the excellence of the services being provided."

CDC editor to keynote

Joseph Cremona Lecture, Sept. 30

Polyxeni Potter, MA, ELS, Managing Editor of *Infectious Disease* from the Centers for Disease Control, will be the guest speaker at the 11th **Joseph C. Cremona, Jr.**, MD, Memorial Lecture on Tuesday, Sept. 30, 8 a.m., at the Lawrence Memorial/Regis College School of Nursing.

Her topic for the lecture will be "The Panoramic Landscape of Human Suffering."

The lecture is presented annually as a tribute to Dr. Cremona for his many years of service to LMH and to the local community.

President appointed for Ell Pond Medical Associates

Robert Elston-Pollock, currently the Chief Administrative Officer of the Department of Medicine at UMass Memorial Medical Center/UMass Medical School, will be joining our organization as President of Ell Pond Medical Associates, Inc., our employed physician practice organization.

Rob has more than 25 years of diverse healthcare leadership experience in hospital, physician practice, community health and home service provider organizations. As Chief Administrative Officer of the Department of Medicine at UMass Memorial, Rob was responsible for the oversight of 20 divisions with a total of more than 200 faculty members and 232 non-physician employees.

Rob will report to **Jim Nania**, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer and be responsible for the oversight and management of all system-employed physician

practices. He will have broad responsibilities for all administrative functions including strategic and business planning and development, operations, marketing, performance improvement and other physician support services. He will also be working with our physician team to develop clinical leadership and medical direction for Ell Pond.

Rob has also served as Senior Administrator for the Department of Primary Care at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Director of Patient Financial Services for the Affiliated Physicians Group at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Rob received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Boston University and a Master of Business Administration from Suffolk University.

We all look forward to working with Rob as we take our physician practice organization to the next level.

Rob will be joining us on Oct. 1.

Hallmark Health Holds MRI Open House, on Oct. 1

Hallmark Health System will hold an Open House for the medical staff to view and celebrate the addition of a new GE HDx 1.5T MRI Scanner and a GE VCT CT 64 Slice Scanner at the Imaging Department on the second floor of Melrose-Wakefield Hospital.

The Open House will be held on Wednesday evening, Oct. 1, from 6 to 8 p.m. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

The new high-definition Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) system is one the most advanced diagnostic systems available. It helps physicians reach confident diagnoses for their patients delivering highly detailed images with increased speed, better resolution and unique applications. The addition of this advanced MR technology should mean shorter

exams and greater comfort for patients undergoing MRI's at MWH.

Another advantage of this MRI Scanner is that it can accommodate patients who present with special challenges and have had difficulty in the past undergoing conventional MRI exams. The technology of this new scanner allows for easier imaging and diagnoses.

The 64 Slice CT scanner delivers high quality images of the brain and heart with improved resolution and lower doses of radiation.

For more information about these new diagnostic services and the open house, please contact **John Seccareccio**, Manager of Imaging Services and CHEM MRI at (781) 279-2213.

Computerized physician order entry (CPOE) goes live at Melrose-Wakefield Hospital

CPOE is now live at MWH on Med 3 and in the Medical Intensive Care Unit.

The CPOE team has responded to the concerns raised by physicians and nurses. They have added more computers and phones to the floors to expedite data entry. They have also provided 24-7 technical support to answer any questions.

Many physicians are now using CPOE throughout Hallmark Health and training is still available for physicians and physician offices.

Recently, the MWH Medical

Executive Committee passed a resolution encouraging all physicians to utilize this technology.

CPOE allows direct entry of medical

National Healthcare Quality Week coming Oct. 19 - 25

Hallmark Health will recognize National Healthcare Quality Week that occurs Oct. 19 - 25. The week recognizes the efforts a health care system utilizes to improve the quality of the processes, services and care it delivers. Hallmark Health will be celebrating this week with fairs and displays on both campuses.

orders and keeps an accurate record of medical orders that leads to greater patient safety, reduced medical errors and improved quality.

This year's events will be dedicated to the memory of **Christine Cameron**, RN, former Vice President for Quality Improvement.

For more information on the Quality Week, please contact **Maddie Pimenta**, RN, CPHQ, Interim Vice President for Quality, at (781) 979-3461.

WELCOME NEW PHYSICIANS

The following physicians have recently joined our medical staff.



Natalia Batt, MD
Internal Medicine
101 Main St.
Suite 116
Medford, MA 02155
(781) 391-2939

Medical School:
Kiev Medical School



Mara S. Gobovic, MD
Internal Medicine
Prompt Care LMH
170 Governors Ave
Medford, MA 02155
(781) 306-6180

Medical School:
University of Sydney



Christina Kim-Chan, MD
Family Medicine
Malden Family Health Center
178 Savin St.
Malden, MA 02176
(781) 338-7400

Medical School:
Tufts University
School of Medicine



David J. Lesnik, MD
Otolaryngology
Mass Eye and Ear
One Montvale Ave
Stoneham, MA 02180
(781) 279-0971

Medical School:
Drexel University,
College of Medicine

CODING TIP OF THE MONTH

October 1st brings the Annual ICD-9 (Diagnosis) Coding Changes

Fall is right around the corner and so are the 2009 ICD-9 Coding Changes.

For a complete list of New, Revised and Delete ICD-9 code (both for Diagnosis and Procedural) effective for dates of service 10/1/08 and after, please visit the web site: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd9.htm>

Questions? Contact Bill Galvin, CPC, Director of Physician Practice Coding at (781) 338-7505.

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