

# Hospitalist Newsletter

*No. 6, July 2009*

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## **Dr. Amit Chitnis Joins the Hospitalist Team**

On July 7th, Dr. Chitnis will join our hospitalist group as our third nocturnist. He comes to us after receiving a Masters of Public Health degree from Columbia University, medical school at UCSD in San Diego, and finally completing his Internal Medicine training at the Medical College of Wisconsin and New York University School of Medicine.

His clinical interests include infectious disease, especially management of HIV, bacteremia, and sepsis. He has strong interests in epidemiology and evidence-based healthcare. We anticipate that he will have significant impact on our group's efforts to improve the care and outcomes we provide here at St. Mary's Hospital.



During his free time, he enjoys jogging, watching professional San Francisco sports, travelling to India, Central America, and Europe. Please help us welcome Dr. Chitnis to St. Mary's Hospital.

## **Hospitalist RN, Sandy Holman, to enhance Hospitalist Services**

Over the past few weeks, you may have noticed a new face working on the wards with the Hospitalist Service. This is Sandy Holman, RN who has joined our group as our first dedicated Hospitalist RN. As she is our first, the scope of her role will continue to evolve over time, however, we anticipate that she will initially help us bridge the gap between inpatient hospital care to the outpatient setting. She will first concentrate her efforts to help us communicate with patients' PCPs and ensure accurate discharge medications and follow-ups.

She comes to us from the Dean East Internal Medicine clinic where she has worked as a triage nurse for the past couple of years.

On a personal level, she is an avid gardener, gourmet chef, dog-lover, and marathon runner (needed to keep up with our pace).



Over....

## The Hospitalists Go “Green”

In order to help save our environment, we would like to move away from our hard-copy version of our Hospitalist Newsletter. We plan to slowly move toward an electronic version over the next few issues which will be distributed via email, but also accessible on the web as many staff members do not have St. Mary's-based emails.

Starting with this issue of our newsletter, they will be available on the St. Mary's Hospital Intranet site under the section **Employee News**. Likely in the future, we will continue to have a small supply of newsletters that can be posted on the medical floors. Please remain up-to-date and informed of the changes to our program by reading our newsletter.

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## The Hospitalists

Matt Klein, Division Chief  
Cliff Anderson  
Anna Bilhorn  
Amit Chitnis - Nocturnist  
Diana Choles  
Nicole Christian  
Kevin Eichhorn  
Jim Goodsett  
Santiago Hernandez  
Debbie Jones  
Alex Kendziorski – Nocturnist  
Ibuki Kimura – Director of Operations  
Indira Miryala  
Brad Schmidt  
Elizabeth Trinity  
Flynn Trinity  
Leah Zalapa – Nocturnist  
Sandra Holman, RN



## Fill Out the Annual Hospitalist Survey Today!

The past year has been full of changes for our hospitalist program. Most notably has been EPIC and CPOE. With these changes, we have worked hard to modify our processes to best improve our patient care. We have increased our busy evening-shift staffing and established the 8SW Interdisciplinary Care Unit, both of which, we believe, have significantly improved care and satisfaction.

In order to be able to continue to improve our services, we ask that you again fill out our annual Hospitalist Survey. We value your input and opinion and we take your ideas and try to put them into action to provide better care for our patients. Without your input, we cannot achieve these goals.

**New Changes!** With this survey, there will be an additional set of new questions which allow the respondent to rate each hospitalist and to give constructive individualized feedback. We hope that this will allow each of our hospitalists to improve, not just the service as a whole. We, of course, still want to hear about the program in general, so please fill out the first sections of the survey as well, especially the comments section.

The survey will be available on the St. Mary's intranet site under the section **Patient Education & Resources** during the month of July only. Please spend a few minutes of your time to tell us how we are doing and how we can improve our services and patient care. Please let your voice be heard!