

Medicine Matters

ADVANCED MEDICINE. COMPASSIONATE CARE.

A newsletter for physicians and medical office staff

Please remember to discharge your patients by noon to aid in throughput and patient satisfaction.

August CME Offerings

St. Anthony's Medical Center is accredited by the Missouri State Medical Association to provide continuing medical education programs for physicians. CMEs are conducted on the first and third Tuesday of every month.

- August 4: "Positive Blood Culture Organism Identification" by Sandy J. Estrada, Pharm.D. BCPS, Pharmacy Clinical Specialist – Infectious Diseases Coordinator, Lee Memorial Health System
- August 18: "Cancer Staging-2009 and Beyond" by Frederick L. Greene, MD, Carolinas Medical Center, Charlotte, NC

Unless otherwise indicated, all programs take place at 8 a.m. in the physician dining room and last approximately one hour. St. Anthony's designates this educational activity for a maximum of one hour in Category 1 credit toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the activity.

For additional information or any special needs, please contact St. Anthony's Medical Staff Services at 314-525-1974.

St. Anthony's Announces New President of Medical Staff

Robert F. Beckman, M.D., has been elected president of the medical staff of St. Anthony's Medical Center.

Dr. Beckman, a board-certified surgeon, assumed the duties as president of St. Anthony's nearly 800-member medical staff on July 1 and will serve a two-year term.

Dr. Beckman joined St. Anthony's medical staff in 1989 and has served as a general surgeon and a trauma surgeon since then. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Alabama School of Medicine in Birmingham, Ala., and completed his internship and residency in general surgery at Saint Louis University in St. Louis.

Dr. Beckman is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of the American Medical Association, Missouri State Medical Association and Metropolitan Medical Society.



Immediate bed availability at the deGreeff Hospice House.

We no longer have a waiting list and have made some changes to our admission guidelines. We specialize in inpatient hospice level of care but still provide residential services if desired. Please consider making a referral for any patient you believe would benefit from this unique environment. Affiliated social workers may be contacted at (314) 525-7311 or via the main hospice referral line at (314) 525-4606.



Residential—12 beds

- Patients may have needs similar to other hospice patients but may not have someone who can care for them in their own home or they may choose to receive care at the hospice house instead of their own home for various other reasons (anxiety, do not want to burden family, etc)
- Room and board charges apply in all cases (patients who cannot afford this fee can apply for memorial funds on a first come/first serve basis)

Inpatient—8 beds

- Generally used for short duration (7-10 days) to provide appropriate interventions for symptoms that cannot be managed in other settings
- Criteria may include: uncontrolled pain, imminent death requiring frequent skilled nursing interventions, fluctuating/deteriorating mental status that could indicate danger to the patient or caregiver, severe dysfunctional or unmanageable behaviors (terminal delirium), hemorrhage, severe respiratory distress, intractable nausea or vomiting, frequent seizures, multiple pathological fractures, large wounds or open lesions with complicated dressing changes or requiring frequent professional care
- Room and board is included

What makes the Hospice House special?

- We provide specialized hospice care by trained hospice staff, embracing all aspects of life – physical, spiritual and emotional.
- We have an excellent RN to patient ratio.
- We are on the campus of SAMC with quiet patios, landscaped grounds, and walking paths.
- We have all private rooms with no visiting hour restrictions.
- There is a chapel for private meditation or scheduled worship services.

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Caring & Sharing

St. Anthony's Medical Center is proud of and grateful for the commendable care the medical staff provides to the community. We receive an abundance of positive general comments. The following are specific, actual comments written by patients on their discharge surveys. Physicians also are welcome to submit positive feedback regarding their colleagues. These may be sent directly to Gail Chellis, Physician Relations Executive, via e-mail at gail.chellis@samcstl.org.

"Dr. Shapiro is the best in every way."

"Extra praise for Dr. David J. Morton, Dr. David J. Dobmeyer, and Dr. James E. Alonso!"

"I love Dr. Maassen. He is so cheerful and kind."

"Dr. Milosavljevic was especially pleasant and thorough."

"Dr. Chang is very good. She went above and beyond a doctor's call of duty."

"Dr. Lou is the best doctor I've ever had."

"Dr. Richard Brennan is a wonderful doctor."

"Dr. Jennifer McDonald is wonderful. She takes her job seriously and goes above and beyond for her patients. She is very skilled and knowledgeable."

"Dr. Joyce was EXCELLENT! Dr. Campbell was not in that evening, but she is always excellent as well. I love all the doctors at Women's Health Partners."

"Dr. Frank Patrick is excellent."

"Dr. Patrick is awesome!"

"Dr. Lange is a great doctor."

"Dr. Gosser has wonderful bedside manners. He made me feel very comfortable. He is a fantastic doctor who truly cares about his patients."

"We love Dr. Dixon!!"

"Dr. Gelstein handled my bladder cancer prostate cancer and my current problem. Everyone should have a doctor like Dr. Gelstein. He is a real people doctor."

"I was told Dr. David Fagan was the best, and now I know he is."

"I love Dr. Milo. I wish he had an outside office because he would be my choice for a primary."

"Dr. Sutter was excellent and friendly."

"Dr. Bruckel was awesome!"

"Dr. Naidu is a very good doctor. She really cares about you."

"Dr. Naidu saved my life."

"Dr. Staten is a very good physician."

"Dr. Naidu is an excellent doctor. I am very happy with her and the way she handled my illness."

"I could not ask for better care than that provided by Dr. Curtis Jones and Dr. Kirk Nelson. They are professionals in every sense and very well qualified."

"Dr. Nellore and Dr. Peddi were both excellent."

"Dr. Canas is the best. She is very friendly and caring."

"My surgeon, Dr. Campbell, was EXCELLENT. I'm switching to her as my ob/gyn. She is very talented, intelligent, and competent. My family liked her too. She explained things well."

"Dr. Carter Fenton is an excellent ER doctor. If I didn't have a great doctor already, I would want him as my doctor."

"Dr. Milo is nice."

"Dr. Shapiro is awesome."

"Dr. Chang is very good. I will recommend to friends & family."

"Dr. Sri Kolli is VERY GOOD."

"Dr. Schoedinger and Louise are the best!"

"Dr. Teng was very helpful and did a great job explaining my conditions."

"The doctor was very concerned and answered all the questions I asked. I couldn't have asked for better treatment from Dr. Fuller."

"Dr. Dunn was a good doctor."

"Dr. Sutter was excellent."

"Dr. James Cahalin is quite possibly the greatest pediatric doctor I have ever met. He is very compassionate toward my daughter's needs and keeps us informed about everything. He has my vote for anything."

"We had Dr. Portnoy, and he was excellent!"

"Overall, this is the greatest experience I have ever had in an emergency room thanks to Dr. James Cahalin and the nurses."



NOW HERE THIS!

St. Anthony's Audiology and Hearing Center is now located in Suite 255 of the Medical Plaza at 12700 Southfork Rd. This move will provide significant enhancements to the accessibility of services for our patients.

- Ample parking exists near all entrances, and the walk to the new office is short.
- Patients will no longer need to stop at outpatient registration
- Scheduling for the initial visit and pre-registration will occur during the initial phone call to our office. Our new phone number is (314) 525-HEAR (4327).

Please note, St. Anthony's Audiology and Hearing Center will provide services for outpatients only.

Attention office managers

The next FREE Office Manager Networking Luncheon will be Wednesday, September 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in The Great Room of the Hyland Education and Training Center. The topic will be "Financially Successful Practices in a Downturn Economy" by Jerrie K. Weith, FHFMA, Director of Health Care Services, Anders Minkler & Diehl LLP. Look for your fax invitation in the mail in the next couple of weeks. If you have any questions or would like to register now, please call Gail Chellis at (314) 543-5983 or e-mail at gail.chellis@samcstl.org or contact Laina Tobias at (314) 525-1540 or e-mail at laina.tobias@samcstl.org. Look forward to seeing you!

St. Anthony's 'Home Transport' Program

St. Anthony's Medical Center's Senior Services Department's "Home Transport" program provides roundtrip transportation for adults age 60 and older and people with disabilities from their homes to St. Anthony's-sponsored services.

Trained drivers, wearing uniforms and displaying ID badges, use wheelchair-accessible vans to pick up patients in zip codes surrounding the medical center, within St. Louis City and County and Jefferson County. Patients are asked to call with their appointment times 48 hours in advance, if possible. Drivers pick up residents at their doors (must be at ground level or handicapped accessible, no stairs) and transport them directly to their scheduled appointments, returning them home afterwards.

St. Anthony's Home Transport service is available from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays to area residents who are 60 or older or disabled. Cost for a round trip is \$15. For more information or to schedule transportation, call 314-525-1889.

Non-invasive cardiology is pleased to announce expanded hours of service

Hours for NIC testing are Monday through Friday 8–4:30. Stress testing during the weekend is available from 8–12pm.

Monday through Friday, the last stress thallium order can be taken at 2pm and the last stress echo order can be taken at 3pm.

Saturday and Sunday, the last stress thallium order can be taken at 9am and the last stress echo order can be taken at 10:30am.

Transthoracic Echocardiographic testing is daily from 7am to 4:30pm (evening staff may stay until 8:30pm M-F).

EKG hours covering the house will continue to be 630am to 11pm.

Accreditation/Compliance/Regulatory issues

- all medical record entries must be signed, dated and timed.
- Telephone orders must be signed, dated and timed upon the physician's next visit to the hospital—not to exceed 48 hours (not to exceed 24 hours for Acute Rehab).
- Restraint orders must be signed, dated and timed within 24 hours.
- The "Do Not Use" abbreviations at the top of the Physician's Order form may not be utilized in a physician's order.

2009 O'Sullivan Lecture – Oncology Services

This year's O'Sullivan Lecture is planned for 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, November 14 at Sunset Country Club. The event is designed to improve patient care by educating physicians about the scope of oncology services available at St. Anthony's Medical Center. The year's event is open to physicians, allied health professionals and all SAMC clinical staff. Presenters include:

- Eddy Hsueh, M.D., general surgery (moderator)
- Saleem Abdulrauf, M.D., neurological surgery
- Mazan AbuAwad, M.D., interventional radiology
- Peter Fonseca, M.D., thoracic surgery
- Salim Hawatmeh, M.D., urology
- David Schuval, M.D., colon/rectal surgery
- Sarah Beth Snell, M.D., breast surgery

For additional information, please contact the Medical Staff Office at (314) 525-1974.

Reminder from the Presurgical Assessment Department



In an effort to comply with Center of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines for reimbursement of patient testing, it is necessary to have ICD9 codes on all Doctors Orders.

The ICD9 code must be appropriate for each test that is ordered by the physician. Doctors' orders are scanned in Chartmaxx and the billing department staff charges according to the ICD9 codes that are on the orders.

Your assistance in complying with CMS guidelines is appreciated.

Clarification regarding Recommendations from the Department of Psychiatry (June 2009)

Patients presenting in the Emergency Department with Suicide/Homicidal ideation are evaluated in the Emergency Department. If the patient is not medically cleared from the Emergency Department and is admitted, an Assessment Counselor will see the inpatient within ten business hours of the request by the Attending Physician.

At Your Service...

Valet service for the Heart and Surgical Pavilion (south entrance of the hospital) began in July. The FREE service operates from 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. And as a reminder, there is FREE valet service available at the main entrance of the hospital as well as at the front of Medical Office Buildings A and B.