Christiana Care Health System

Medicine Annual Report

Featuring key facts and figures from the 2010 fiscal year.
Christiana Care’s eCare team monitors hospitals in Maryland.

Featuring key facts and figures from the 2009-2010 fiscal year and highlighting accomplishments, honors and awards earned, appointments and committee memberships.

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Chair’s Message

Welcome to our FY 2010 electronic annual report of accomplishments within the Department of Medicine.

Christiana Care Medicine continues to earn recognition nationally and at home. In FY 2010, U.S. News and World Report again ranked Christiana Care among the top 50 hospitals for treating Gastrointestinal Disorders. We were also one of only five U.S. organizations honored for health and clinical outcomes by Thomson Reuters with their 2009 Healthcare Advantage Award.

Medicine initiatives are gaining well-deserved recognition for quality and patient safety. We are especially proud of Anthony Munson, M.D., Mary Ciechanowski, RN, MSN, APRN, BC, CCRN, and members of the STAR unit team for countless hours of hard work to achieve the Gold Seal of Approval™ from the Joint Commission as a Primary Stroke Center. Joint Commission certification demonstrates strict adherence to national standards and guidelines that significantly improve outcomes for stroke patients. We also won Performance Achievement Awards from the American Stroke Association and from the American Heart Association for heart failure and heart attack.

Our congratulations to Michael DePietro, M.D., and the Medical Intensive Care Unit at Christiana Hospital, recipients of the 2009 Beacon Award from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. Christiana Hospital is one of only 35 hospitals nationwide and the first in Delaware to receive this honor, recognizing the highest standards in patient outcomes, nurse recruitment and retention, staff training and a healthy work environment.

In addition, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and the Canadian Patient Safety Institute recognized our Sepsis Alert Campaign, Patient Safety Mentor Program, and eCare system for innovation at their annual meeting in March 2010.

Medicine is leading the way to improved patient care with deployment of our Inpatient Medicine Service Line (IMSL) initiatives and acute care transformation unit-based projects. Worthy of note are projects that contributed to reducing length of stay (LOS) on our medical units (LOS fell by 0.39 days in FY 2010), which opened beds and improved access to care; our ongoing infection prevention efforts that include participation in a national initiative to reduce central line infections; and our widespread efforts to improve efficiency, communication and patient and provider satisfaction with the care we provide. A critical first step accomplished in this process was hiring our first Vice President of Medicine, Mike Eppehimer, MHSA, as an integral member of the IMSL management team.

Christiana and Wilmington hospitals have joined an elite number of hospitals (only 3.7 percent nationwide) transitioning to Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE), a major step toward paperless medical records, which can improve patient safety and dramatically reduce medical errors. Medicine physicians were leaders in the implementation process, with 93 percent completing CPOE training.

Medicine education remains strong for both combined and categorical graduate education programs and is supported by top clinical leaders who serve as faculty and mentors. Fellowship programs in Cardiology and Nephrology are flourishing with the addition of many new candidates this year, and we continue to train medical students from Jefferson Medical College and other schools around the country.
Congratulations to our teaching award winners: Matt Burday, D.O., recipient of the 2010 Hobart Amory Hare Honor Medical Society Award for Best Teaching Attending in the Department of Medicine, Jefferson Medical College, and Christiana Care’s Most Outstanding Attending Teacher of Medical Students for 2010 in the Department of Medicine. Congratulations also to Badrish Patel, M.D., recipient of the 2010 Department of Medicine Resident Teacher of the Year Award.

Our ability to leverage technology, our enthusiasm for research, our commitment to education and our drive for performance excellence is transforming the way we deliver patient care and train tomorrow’s providers. Once again we acknowledge and thank the many physicians in the Department who have contributed countless hours of service to the Department and the health system in support of our mission.

Virginia U. Collier, M.D., FACP
Hugh R. Sharp Jr. Chair of Medicine
Professor of Medicine, Jefferson Medical College
**Medicine Facts & Figures**

The Department of Medicine has an attending staff of approximately 439 physicians and oversees about 500 of the 1,150 beds in Christiana Care hospitals. Our medical staff provides excellent care to a diverse patient mix. Collectively, we diagnose and treat a broad spectrum of primary-care diseases, as well as tertiary care medical conditions not routinely encountered in smaller hospital settings.

In FY10, Medicine attendings discharged almost 24,000 inpatients and observation patients. Our medical staff provides excellent care to a diverse patient mix. Collectively, we diagnose and treat a broad spectrum of primary-care diseases, as well as tertiary care medical conditions not routinely encountered in smaller hospital settings.
Academic Programs

Medicine strives for continuous improvement in the task of training future physicians to meet the demands of modern medical practice. The Department sponsors the Categorical Internal Medicine Residency Program, along with two combined programs (Medicine-Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine-Internal Medicine), a one-year Preliminary Medicine program, and a Transitional Year program. A strong academic curriculum combined with extensive “hands-on” training offers an outstanding residency experience. Well over 100 faculty and volunteer attending physicians are committed to training the next generation of clinicians and physician leaders in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

Class of 2009-2010

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Internal Medicine

We prepare well-rounded graduates of the Internal Medicine Residency Program for the challenges of providing high quality, compassionate, cost-effective care as primary care physicians, hospitalists, and specialists. As many as 40 percent choose to practice in Delaware.
New Curriculum
Starting July 1, 2009, curriculum changes afforded Internal Medicine residents the opportunity to follow patients longitudinally and manage episodes of acute illness during their ambulatory medicine training as they would in real practice. The new six-week schedule features four weeks of inpatient medicine (or inpatient-based elective) training alternating with two weeks of an ambulatory medicine block. The result has reduced resident fatigue and improved continuity of patient care. The new curriculum is in step with current changes to the new Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME/RRC) regulations.

Residency program celebrates 20th anniversary
Christiana Care has 19 Med-Peds physicians serving as pediatric hospitalists, at the Wilmington Hospital Health Center, at the HealthCare Center at Christiana, and in primary care Med-Peds and related specialty practices throughout the community. Fifteen are graduates of our residency program, now in its 20th year and recently granted a five-year accreditation without any citations from the Accreditation Council on Graduated Medical Education (ACGME), a designation given to only a minority of Med-Peds programs. This year, a Transition Care Practice (TCP) was developed for young adults with special health care needs at Wilmington Hospital. Read more about our Medicine-Pediatrics program.

Medicine/Emergency Medicine

Fellowships
Expanding fellowship opportunities strengthen our standing as a respected academic center.

Cardiology

Nephrology

Medical Students
Teaching medical students is an important ongoing commitment. The Department of Medicine is an integral part of the Jefferson Medical College student program. In FY10, 38 second-year students taking “Introduction to Medicine,” 63 third-year students and 93 fourth-year students rotated through the Department. In addition, 53 students from 11 medical schools throughout the United States as well as students from 3 medical schools abroad did fourth-year medical student clerkships here.

Undergraduate Students

Medical Scholars Program
Through the University of Delaware Medical Scholars Program, offered in conjunction with Jefferson Medical College, the Department introduced three qualified undergraduate students to clinical medicine. The Internal Medicine practicum emphasizes the psychosocial aspects of patient care.

International Exchange
In summer, 2010, the Department of Medicine was proud to welcome Abdullah Fahad Al-Rebdi and Abdal Rahman al Tuweijri, fifth-year medical students from the King Fahad Medical City Complex, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, who spent eight weeks completing medical observerships. Their visit included shadowing Cardiology and Nephrology physicians at Christiana Hospital.
Cardiology Fellowship Update

The Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship Program graduated its first two fellows this year, Leo Marcoff, M.D., and Rob Myers, M.D. Dr. Marcoff is pursuing a fellowship in Echocardiography at Columbia University, and Dr. Myers begins the Interventional Cardiology Fellowship here at Christiana Care.

Five new fellows started July 1, bringing the program to full capacity with 12 fellows, under Program Director, William Weintraub, M.D., FACC and Associate Director, Ehsanur Rahman, M.D., FACC.

Our first Interventional Cardiology fellow, Nowwar Mustafa, M.D., graduated this year, and has taken a faculty position at St. Claire Regional Medical Center in Morehead, KY. Rob Myers, M.D., begins his Interventional Fellowship, here at Christiana Care, under Program Director, James Hopkins, M.D., FACC.

Doralisa Morrone, M.D., began her Cardiovascular Disease Research Fellowship in July 2010, under the direction of Dr. Weintraub.

Nephrology Fellowship Update

Our Nephrology Fellowship provides superior hands-on training, including experience in Delaware's only adult transplant program. Six months of the fellowship are devoted to research. The first fellow, Manthodi Faisal, M.D., is currently in his second year of fellowship training, coming to Christiana Care from Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia where he was an attending physician in Hospital Medicine. A new first year fellow, Waqas Ahmed, M.D., joined the program this year after completing his residency at Jewish Hospital in Cincinnati, OH.
Section Highlights

Cardiology – directed by the Heart and Vascular Service Line

Christiana Care cardiologists are expert in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of heart disease, stroke and other diseases that affect the heart and blood vessels. Here are some examples of how experience makes Christiana Care a leader in cardiovascular care.

- Award winners in cardiac care
- Arrhythmia Center opens
- New INSIGHT for patient care
- Ultrafiltration program a "first" for Delaware
- Nurse navigators guide heart failure patients
- Expansion to Wilmington Campus
- Speeding heart failure recoveries
- Better cardiac outcomes
- Expediting patient transfers

Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases

The Christiana Care Center for Diabetes & Metabolic Diseases offers comprehensive care for patients with diabetes, metabolic and other endocrine disorders. Our doctors have been recognized through the Diabetes Physician Recognition Program of the National Committee for Quality Assurance and the American Diabetes Association for providing high-quality care. This year, diabetes-certified nurse practitioners were initiated into the practice.

Ongoing performance initiatives for the Diabetes Management Group include working with patients admitted to the hospital with hyperglycemia or hypoglycemia to reduce hospital readmissions rates; establishing a 5B Unit pilot to include services of a Diabetes Resource Nurse at Christiana Hospital; collaboration with OB/GYN to evaluate and treat pregnant women who may have diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) a potentially life-threatening complication in patients with diabetes; and creation of a discharge checklist for patients with diabetes to better coordinate referrals, prescription reconciliation and outpatient follow-up.
Putting the brakes on diabetes and its complications

The Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases research program is recruiting patients for new multicenter, multinational trials:

- Diamyd study is looking at an investigational vaccine that may help preserve beta cell function in newly diagnosed patients with Type 1 diabetes, ages 10 to 20 years old.
- Encore study of an investigational IV medication is also aimed at preserving beta cell function in newly diagnosed patients with Type 1 diabetes, ages 8 to 35.
- Also underway are collaborations with University of Delaware on several studies testing autonomic nerve function in patients undergoing gastric bypass surgery and women with gestational and non-gestational diabetes.

Weight Management Program ranks high in patient satisfaction

Christiana Care’s Weight Management Program, staffed in part by members of the Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases section, is an accredited Center of Excellence by the American College of Surgeons and the American Society for Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery. The program continues to earn high marks from patients. Satisfaction scores remain well above the 90th percentile for program materials, services and staff for our Bariatric Surgery/Life Skills Program, behavioral health, weight management and exercise and nutrition programs. In FY2010, the program also earned accreditation from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Gastroenterology

In its annual Best Hospitals edition, US News & World Report placed Christiana Care among American’s top 50 hospitals for services in Gastroenterology. This is the fourth straight year the publication has recognized Christiana Care, the only hospital in Delaware to make the list this year. Only three percent of the nation’s hospitals make the listing.

Regional center for GI services

The Christiana Hospital GI Lab is a regional referral center for endoscopic ultrasound, therapeutic endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP), esophageal motility, and pH monitoring studies. More than 9,000 procedures are performed annually at Christiana and Wilmington hospitals combined. A comprehensive list of services now includes these new technologies:

- Impedance manometry for enhanced analysis of GI/esophageal motility in patients with non-cardiac chest pain, motility disorders and GE reflux disease.
- Single balloon enteroscopy to diagnose and treat small bowel lesions.
- Spy-glass cholangioscopy for diagnosing bile duct problems and tissue sampling.
- An Electronic Endoscopy Reporting System live at all sites, which allows immediate electronic access to all reports and the ability to track and analyze volume/quality indicators.

Plans are under development to expand the Endoscopy Unit as part of the Center For Digestive Heath Initiative at Christiana Hospital to accommodate the growing demand for specialized GI procedures, including advanced therapeutic ERCP, EUS, and Barrett’s Ablation therapy, small bowel enteroscopy and biliary cholangioscopy.

Hematology

Delaware’s only bone marrow transplant program

Christiana Care’s Bone Marrow/Stem Cell Transplant Program is the only program in Delaware and one of only 183 blood and marrow transplant facilities accredited by the Federation of Accreditation of Cellular Therapies (FACT). Accreditation demonstrates adherence to rigorous standards for the collection, processing and transplantation of bone marrow and stem cells. Doctors at Christiana Care have performed more than 500 transplants in the program’s 18-year history, including 33 transplants in FY10 and 10 harvests for the National Marrow Donor Program, securing stem cells from unrelated donors around the world.
Improving outcomes for hemophilia patients

Christiana Care’s Hemophilia Treatment Center provides comprehensive care and preventive services to more than 200 patients with bleeding disorders. Close communication with primary care and other physicians providing outpatient treatment, such as colonoscopies, dental, dermatologic and gynecological procedures, has resulted in our patients having 0 percent post-procedure bleeding.

The hemophilia program is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and participates in a national public health surveillance project called the Universal Data Collection (UDC) system. Since the UDC system began in 1998, about 24,000 people with bleeding disorders have contributed their health data. Participation in the surveillance program has helped confirm that no new infections of hepatitis A, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or HIV have been linked to products used to treat bleeding disorders.

Infectious Disease

The Infectious Disease section is working to aggressively prevent and control the spread of both hospital and community acquired infections. Activities are focused on strengthening antimicrobial stewardship, promoting a system wide hand-hygiene initiative, and targeting interventions in line with national guidelines to further reduce incidence of ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP), surgical site infections, catheter associated urinary tract infections CAUTI, and central line-associated blood stream infections (CLABSI).

- **Antimicrobial Stewardship program launched**
- **Participating in national CLABSI initiative**
- **Pharmaceutical trials underway**
- **Top notch care for HIV patients**

**Antimicrobial Stewardship program launched**

With antimicrobial resistance a global concern and few new contra agents on the horizon, Christiana Care has launched a new antimicrobial stewardship program (ASP). Its mission is to direct antimicrobial use to help curb the main cause of microbial resistance, the overuse and misuse of antibiotics. At Christiana Care, the ASP is a joint effort of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics and the Infection Prevention Committees with the full support of the Infectious Disease section of Medicine and Medical Executive Committee. Primary objectives of the program are to optimize antimicrobial prescribing to improve patient care, slow the development of antimicrobial resistance, reduce overall costs associated with misuse of antibiotics, and to ensure the continued efficacy of the antimicrobials we have available.

**Participating in national CLABSI initiative**

Efforts to lower the CLABSI rate include participation in a national initiative to implement the Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program (CUSP).

Christiana Care is part of a four-state cohort (Alabama, California, Delaware and Kentucky) implementing “On the CUSP: Stop BSI” that started in July 2010. Currently, 23 states and 550 hospitals are participating in this project. The goal is to reduce the mean CLABSI rate across the nation to less than 1 per 1000 catheter days over two years.

**Pharmaceutical trials underway**

The Infectious Disease section participates in a number of clinical trials designed to identify more effective treatments: the use of monoclonal antibodies as initial treatment and to prevent recurrence of Clostridium Difficile infection (C-Difficile); a multicenter trial testing an antifungal drug to treat invasive candidiasis, a fatal blood infection seen in people with a compromised immune system; a pneumonia study comparing the infusion of an antibiotic over four hours to the standard infusion of 30-60 minutes. The premise is that the antibiotic levels remain elevated longer; therefore, patients get better quicker and need fewer days of antibiotics.
Top notch care for HIV patients

Christiana Care is a major provider of HIV medical services throughout Delaware, operating seven clinical sites (five in New Castle County, and one each in Kent and Sussex Counties) integrated into the communities with the highest rates of HIV infection. In addition to comprehensive medical care for HIV infection, the HIV program includes a number of nested programs to address medical and psychiatric co-morbidities and women's health. The newest site in Newark addresses the relatively high number of individuals identified by the Delaware Division of Public Health currently not accessing HIV medical care.

In CY 2009, the program treated 1,537 HIV positive individuals (an 8 percent jump over the previous year), and 234 were new patients. For the first time, the total number of clinical visits at all sites jumped to 10,355, a 15 percent increase over CY 2008.

![HIV Statewide Patient Census](image)

Data represent calendar year 2009.

Although the majority of patients live well below the federal poverty level, 84 percent of appropriate patients are on HAART (anti-retroviral therapy). Of those, 76 percent have undetectable HIV RNA levels. As the chart below indicates, lost to follow up rate for 2009 was 3.7 percent and the mortality rate was 2 percent.

![Selected HIV Performance Measures](image)

Data based on calendar year 2009.

Internal Medicine

The Department of Medicine is committed to providing excellent, coordinated, patient focused care on inpatient medicine services. Within the General Internal Medicine section hospitalists as well as general internists who also have office practices provide inpatient care at both Christiana and Wilmington hospitals. Outpatient clinical care
sites include the Health Care Center at Christiana, the Internal Medicine Faculty Practice at Wilmington Hospital and the Adult Medicine Office and the HIV Program at the Wilmington Hospital Health Center.

Inpatient Medicine Service Line
This year the Department began taking a fresh look at operations and clinical care provided by Internal Medicine and Family Medicine physicians for inpatients at Christiana and Wilmington hospitals. The Inpatient Medicine Service Line (IMSL) has enlisted the talents of the entire provider team to identify and develop opportunities to promote superior value, quality and safety by bringing the people who deliver patient care into the problem-solving and decision-making processes. Task forces are targeting patient safety and performance improvement; cost-effectiveness and value; hospital flow and resource utilization. Current projects include "Journey to zero - infection prevention"; "Innovation unit on 5C" where Patient Care Facilitators are improving care coordination on this large general medicine floor, which will serve as a model for other units; introducing unit-based clinical leadership teams; promoting a safe and effective discharge process; and smoothing inpatient transitions from ED to MICU or ED to floor.

Division of Hospital Medicine
Forty-nine providers, including five non-physician providers, from the Division of Hospital Medicine (DoHM) provide care for inpatients on the Medicine service. During the first nine months of FY10, hospitalists were responsible for 10,620 discharges, with approximately seven percent transferred from other services. In addition, to serving on at least 28 hospital committees, members of the DoHM precept three resident teaching teams and provide mentorship and preceptorship to Jefferson medical students and Arcadia University Physician Assistant students.

Hospital-wide collaborations
Hospitalists continue to focus on opportunities to increase collaboration across their Division, with other sections and departments. Recent efforts include collaboration with nursing on the Unit Care Redesign project whose outgrowth has been the 5C Patient Care Facilitator project; the development of enhanced communication tools such as the new SBAR format for web paging and clear protocols for enhancing communication with family members and for facilitating transfers into the institution. Other ongoing initiatives include follow-up on patients discharged on anti-coagulants and patients who leave the hospital "against medical advice."

New partnerships
In the first quarter of FY 2010, Christiana Care Hospitalist Partners (CCHP) joined the Christiana Medical Group (CMG) and IPC-The Hospitalist Company in providing 24-hour care to patients at Christiana Hospital. To ensure a smooth transition from the hospital, CCHP staffs a discharge clinic to ensure timely follow-up outpatient appointments for all CCHP discharged patients.

Medical Oncology – directed by the Oncology Service Line
State-of-the-art cancer care driven by best practices and the latest research comes from multidisciplinary teams of professionals in private practice and at the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center, a select NCI Community Cancer Center Program.

Commission on Cancer accreditation
The Cancer Center received three-year accreditation with commendation from the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons on March 2010.
Leading clinical trial recruitment
In 2009, 178 patients entered NCI sponsored treatment clinical trials and 87 cancer control trials. At the national Cancer and Leukemia Group B (CALGB) 2010 summer meeting, the Delaware Christiana Care Community Clinical Oncology Program (CCOP) was recognized as the top 12-month recruiter among the top 20 percent of CALGB institutions that include many of the country’s most noted NCI Comprehensive Cancer Centers. Christiana Care’s clinical trial accrual rate of 26 percent is far above the national average of 3 to 4 percent.

Neurology

Gold Seal for Stroke Program
In 2010, Christiana Care earned the Gold Seal of Approval™ from the Joint Commission for Primary Stroke Centers. Christiana Care’s Stroke Program experts staff a 19-bed stroke unit with specially trained nursing personnel and rehabilitation teams skilled in physical, occupational and speech therapies. The program has developed into a national leader treating more than 1,200 patients a year. This distinction reflects meticulous documentation and a rigorous on-site review, demonstrating that Christiana Care’s program follows national standards and guidelines that can significantly improve outcomes for stroke patients.

In addition, Christiana Care received the American Stroke Association’s Get With The Guidelines Stroke Bronze Performance Achievement Award. The award recognizes success in implementing a higher standard of stroke care for at least 90 days, according to nationally accepted standards and recommendations.

The section of Neurology provides more than 5,000 neurology consultations a year including stroke code/alert coverage. The section manages the EEG laboratory and members provide services for both EEG and EMG laboratories. The section is also collaborating on the development of the Medicine Service Line. A multidisciplinary, full-service neuroscience program is under development.

New practices
Christiana Care Neurology Specialists was established in July, 2009. The practice includes two fulltime neurohospitalists and five neurologists, who provide outpatient services and contribute to inpatient consultations on call.
Sleep Disorders Center
The Sleep Disorders Center, accredited by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine, provides expert, multidisciplinary diagnosis and care for every kind of sleep problem. This year staff at our seven locations performed 1,600 polysomnograms (sleep studies) and 37 multiple sleep latency tests.

Delaware's only accredited EEG lab
Christiana Care’s Electroencephalography (EEG) lab earned five-year accreditation from ABRET, the national credentialing board for EEG technologists. ABRET’s lab accreditation process evaluates technical standards, the quality of the laboratory’s output and lab management issues. Successful accreditation means the EEG lab has met strict standards and is to be recognized as a place where patients and physicians can have confidence they are receiving quality diagnostics. Christiana Care's EEG is the only ABRET-accredited lab in Delaware.

Nuclear Medicine
Nuclear Medicine provides a comprehensive range of services at several Christiana Care locations and is active in researching new diagnostic and therapeutic applications. Two exciting new clinical trials are underway.

Top enroller in national clinical study
Christiana Care is one of 12 participating hospitals and the largest enroller in a study, led by Michael Guarino, M.D., in collaboration with Nuclear Medicine, using radioimmunotherapy as a novel treatment for unresectable pancreatic cancer. A second study, TEAM-UF, led by Mitchell Saltzberg, M.D., examines the use of blood volume analysis (BVA) results to guide ultrafiltration therapy for decompensated heart failure. Nuclear Medicine hopes to join a second trail (TEAM-HF) to examine use of BVA results to improve outcomes and reduce rehospitalization among patients discharged following treatment for heart failure.

Providing comprehensive services
Nuclear Medicine offers comprehensive services and nearly all approved nuclear medicine procedures, including general nuclear medicine, nuclear cardiology, PET, PET/CT, and bone densitometry. Therapeutic procedures include: 131Iodine therapy for hyperthyroidism and thyroid cancer, bone pain palliation with 89Sr Metastron and 153Sm Quadramet, radioimmunotherapy for lymphoma, and 32P hematologic treatments. Services are provided at Christiana Hospital (diagnostic & therapy); the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center (PET/CT); Wilmington Hospital (diagnostic) MAP-2 (diagnostic, therapy & DXA); Smyrna Health & Wellness Center (diagnostic & DXA); and our Foulk Road office (DXA).

New initiatives in Nuclear Medicine include a bone densitometry upgrade. This project involves networking of all Christiana Care bone densitometry facilities and implementing a structured reporting system to greatly increase information provided in bone densitometry reports by incorporating expanded patient history, multifactorial fracture risk analysis, and lateral vertebral fracture assessment. A nuclear cardiology reporting upgrade now includes basic clinical stress test data with myocardial perfusion imaging reports. The next phase of this project is implementation of a structured reporting system, which will combine the imaging and stress EKG reports into a single document, improving turnaround time and clinical benefit.

Nuclear Medicine is moving
Nuclear medicine at Christiana Hospital will be moving in FY11. The new “paperless” department will ensure compliance with radiopharmaceutical preparation standards, improve patient privacy, and integrate PET with the main department allowing expanded cardiac PET imaging.

Pain Management/Palliative Care
Relieving pain and suffering
Effective pain management can improve quality of life and shorten hospital length of stay. Evidence suggests that pain and palliative care programs lead to additional and more timely hospice referrals, fewer inappropriate resuscitative efforts (codes) and fewer ethics consults; thus improving overall quality of care. In FY 2009, the
inpatient consult service provided care to nearly 1,300 patients at Christiana and Wilmington hospitals. Half of these were pain management consults and the others were palliative care. Services provided by a multidisciplinary team include: evaluation and pain/symptom management, advance care planning, end of life care and referral to hospice, general inpatient hospice care, terminal weans, accelerated bereavement and psychosocial/emotional/spiritual support for patients/families.

A separate Oncology Rehabilitation program provides palliative care and symptom management, through bedside and unit based therapies for cancer patients, including physical therapy, medications, self-directed exercise, counseling and support groups.

**Pulmonary Medicine/Critical Care**

"High reliability" concepts drive section initiatives in patient safety and improvements in quality of care. Read more about our recent accomplishments.

- **Tops in respiratory care**
- **Noninvasive tissue oxygen monitoring**
- **eCare expands**
- **MICU leads delirium project**
- **Rapid Response Teams to the rescue**
- **Sepsis Alert Team honored**

**Tops in respiratory care**
Once again, Christiana Care was named a Quality Respiratory Care Institution for 2010, one of 700 selected out of 5,000 U.S. hospitals by the American Association for Respiratory Care. A fully certified Respiratory Therapy Lab averages up to 65,000 procedures monthly, including invasive and non-invasive ventilator management, liberation from mechanical ventilation, pulmonary function testing, bronchoscopy, delivery of respiratory medications, and advanced pulmonary toilet/cleansing. The volume of procedures has jumped by 70-80 percent in the last three years.

**Noninvasive tissue oxygen monitoring**
The Christiana Care's Pulmonary Function Lab now offers non-invasive tissue oxygenation monitoring for critically ill patients. The capability to monitor tissue oxygenation saturation is helpful in evaluating trauma patients in the Emergency Department, who are in shock or at risk of shock, and ICU patients who are at risk for sepsis and multiple organ system failure. The new system provides early warning of potential problems and feedback useful in directing successful interventions and in preventing unnecessary blood transfusions or IV fluids.

The Pulmonary Function Lab offers a wide variety of tests to evaluate the respiratory system, performing a combined average of 2,600 procedures a month at Wilmington and Christiana hospitals. One recently in the news HAST - High Altitude Simulation Testing - identifies people at risk for low blood oxygen levels while flying who made need to take supplemental oxygen on aboard the aircraft.

**eCare expands**
Christiana Care's tele-ICU, eCare, remotely monitors critically ill patients around the clock at 5 rural Maryland hospitals, with a sixth hospital to be added within the next 6 months. Three hospitals were entered into the program this year. Currently 46 ICU beds are being monitored from eCare Central in the HealthCare Center at Christiana building. The tele-ICU program was launched initially in 2005 to better monitor patients at Christiana and Wilmington hospitals, but Christiana Care is one of the first to use the system to allow intensivists to consult in the care of patients hundreds of miles away. Studies show patients do better and require shorter stays in hospitals when doctors trained in critical care manage their care. In addition to enabling health care professionals to act quickly and to prevent complications, the system also reduces stress and improves nurse retention in the ICUs. Collectively, participating Maryland eCare hospitals admit more than 66,000 patients every year.
MICU leads delirium project
Christiana Care's Medical Intensive Care Unit is the development or "alpha" site for a large, nationwide telemedicine project focused on ICU sedation and delirium, launched by VISICU, Inc., a Baltimore-based health care solutions company. There is evidence to suggest that delirium, a potential complication among sedated ICU patients, is a predictor of prolonged ICU and hospital stay, latent neuropsychological problems and post-discharge mortality. Accurate identification and prompt modification of risk factors associated with delirium in the ICU may prevent many adverse outcomes.

Family Rapid Response Teams to the rescue
New to Christiana Care this year, access to Rapid Response Teams at both Christiana and Wilmington hospitals enables patients or family members to call for help if they think there is a serious condition change. The family RRT extension, 6385 at either hospital, connects directly to a nursing coordinator to respond quickly and assess the situation. If necessary, the coordinator calls an RRT. Posters in every patient room and appropriate public areas explain the process. RRT's have responded to more than 2,400 calls, contributing to the downward trend in mortality and "Code Blues" outside the ICU. Ongoing evaluation of RRT calls brings awareness to specific "signs" that will allow patients to be evaluated and "rescued" earlier.

Sepsis Alert Team honored
Our award winning Sepsis Alert Program at Christiana Care was recognized in 2010 for innovation as a "high reliability" application by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). This care management program incorporates a number of initiatives, including use of screening criteria, an antibiotic recommendation sheet, a treatment order set and protocol, and a medication kit, to support the prompt identification and treatment of patients who have sepsis. The program has led to significant decreases in mortality, morbidity, length of stay, and time to antibiotic administration and fluid resuscitation, and is participating in the GENESIS Project, a multicenter quality improvement collaborative.

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Services

Leaders in rehabilitation services
The CARF accredited Center for Rehabilitation at Wilmington Hospital provided comprehensive rehabilitation services to 778 inpatients in FY10. Three-year accreditation granted by the Center for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) in 2009 signifies that the Center's integrated inpatient rehabilitation program and designated stroke specialty rehabilitation program compare favorably among programs nationally by all the standard measures. Following a site visit in June 2009, CARF surveyors recognized the Center's dedication to patients by including patients and their families as part of the health care team and for exceptional use of interdisciplinary communication and teamwork.

In addition to the 40-bed inpatient unit, Christiana Care's outpatient rehabilitation program provides services for patients recovering from minor injuries or surgery to the most complex, chronic conditions related to stroke and neurological disorders, brain injuries, lymphedema, balance and vestibular disorders and functional challenges related to injury or aging. The program also offers comprehensive amputee rehabilitation and prosthetics training program, which is seeking Amputee Specialty Rehab certification and is preparing for a site survey in September.

An expanding program in cancer rehabilitation and pain management serves patients at the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center and is led by board-certified physicians in physical medicine and rehabilitation and palliative and hospice medicine.

Renal & Hypertensive Diseases

In 2006, Christiana Care established Delaware's first and only adult kidney transplant program. The program is certified by the United Network for Organ Sharing to perform both living donor and deceased donor kidney transplants and led by an experienced team of transplant surgeons and professionals who provide optimum care for these complex patients. For FY10, the team performed 35 kidney transplants and some 1263 evaluations. Currently 331 patients remain on the waiting list for a kidney transplant.
MEDICARE certifies Renal and Transplant Service

Christiana Care's Renal and Transplant Program earned three-year Medicare certification (5/2009 - 5/2012) following a site visit in May. Certification signifies that the program complies with the oversight guidelines established in June 2007 by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and meets criteria for volume and survival rate performance, as well as conditions of participation which measure pre-determined standards in the care of transplant candidates, transplant recipients and living organ donors.

Kidney Transplant Team honored: The National Kidney Foundation Serving the Delaware Valley honored Christiana Care and the Kidney Transplant Team for "instituting a higher standard of care towards patients with end-stage renal disease in the Delaware Valley." The team received the Bruce Zakheim Legislative Advocate Award in March 2010.
Cardiology Section

Award winners in cardiac care

This year, Christiana Care received the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines Gold Performance Achievement Award for Heart Attack and Heart Failure. This means Christiana Care reached the aggressive goal of treating patients with 85 percent compliance for at least 24 months to core standard levels of care as outlined by the AHA/American College of Cardiology.

Arrhythmia Center opens

The Gerret and Tatiana Copeland Arrhythmia Center opened at the Center for Heart & Vascular Health in September 2009 featuring the Stereotaxis Niobe Magnetic Navigation System with ‘virtual’ arrhythmia simulation. The center is the only hospital in Delaware and among a select group of high-volume centers nationally with the capability to perform a new type of ablation - a corrective procedure that cures atrial fibrillation in up to 80 percent of our patients. The center also offers other promising treatments for arrhythmia, such as the convergent procedure, in which an electrophysiologist and a cardiac surgeon work in tandem to correct and repair the heart and its rhythm.

New INSIGHT for patient care

New software promises accurate and detailed patient-to-provider reporting. INSIGHT, a new symptom self-assessment tool developed by Christiana Care clinicians and information technologists, enables patients to answer questions and describe symptoms on a laptop or PC in the waiting room. A report sent immediately to the physician’s workstation makes it easy to review all symptoms in real time as well as to monitor ongoing patient progress.

Ultrafiltration program a 'first" for Delaware

The Heart Failure Program has successfully initiated the first ultrafiltration program in the state designed primarily for decompensated heart failure patients. Ultrafiltration is the process of removing salt and water from patients with fluid overload and can be thought of as a "mechanical diuretic." Ultrafiltration can lower the likelihood of readmission within the first 30 months of therapy, a time where roughly one third of heart failure patients otherwise could be expected to return to the hospital for recurrent symptoms.

Nurse navigators guide heart failure patients

A new program initiated in May 2010, added specially trained Nurse Navigators to the heart failure patient care team. These registered nurses are on hand to guide heart failure patients through the care and resources they need to ensure the best hospital experience, a well-coordinated discharge and timely follow up in the community.

Expansion to Wilmington Campus

Heart & Vascular Services expanded to the Wilmington Campus along with the appointment of Arthur Colbourn, M.D., as associate chief of Cardiology, Wilmington Campus. Vascular Interventional Radiology services followed in January 2009.
Speeding heart failure recoveries

A multidisciplinary task force representing both Wilmington and Christiana hospitals is critically examining ways to ensure that heart failure patients are not hospitalized any longer then necessary. As a result, average length of stay on the Heart Failure Unit continues to decline.

Better cardiac outcomes

Cardiac Rehab patients are showing significant improvements two to three months following a cardiac event with a 59 percent increase in functional capacity and a 25.7 percent improvement in quality of life. The team highlighted patient progress in an abstract presented at the 10th Scientific Forum on Quality of Care and Outcomes Research in Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke, April 25, in Washington, D.C., which was later published in Circulation (online) in May 2009.

Christiana Care offers the only cardiac rehabilitation program in northern Delaware accredited by the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR). Enrollment is at 71.8 percent, well above the national average of 20-30 percent. Partnership with the Christiana Care Visiting Nurse Association is optimizing the recovery of the surgical cardiac patient and improving outcomes, helping to lower hospital readmission rates to only 2 percent.

Expediting patient transfers

As many as 43 percent of observation patients discharged from Christiana Care’s Clinical Decision Unit (CDU) have presented to the Emergency Department with chest pain. In an effort to reduce Emergency Department overcrowding, Christiana Care’s Clinical Decision Unit (CDU) initiated a new "pull system" to expedite patient transfers. The system produced a significant drop in the number of patients awaiting beds in the ED with a corresponding decrease in average ED "boarding" hours to well under one hour. Decreased boarding hours lead to better patient outcomes, fewer delays and more productivity, fewer patients who leave without treatment, greater patient satisfaction and improved fiscal management.
Honors, Awards & Kudos

Congratulations to Medicine’s "Top Doc's” -- Delaware Today Magazine 2010

Teaching Awards

Matt Burday, D.O., is the recipient of the 2010 Hobart Amory Hare Honor Medical Society Award for Best Teaching Attending in the Department of Medicine, Jefferson Medical College (voted by the medical students in this internal medicine honor society and awarded to a medicine faculty member from Jefferson or its affiliates).

Dr. Burday is also Christiana Care's Most Outstanding Attending Teacher of Medical Students for 2010 in the Department of Medicine (voted by all third and fourth year medical students rotating through Christiana Care).

Ehsanur Rahman, M.D., FACC, was voted Teacher of the Year for the Cardiology Fellowship, Christiana Care.

Tabassum Salam, M.D., and Chris Coletti, M.D.,(PGY5 EMIM), were recipients of the Mark W. Maxwell Award, given annually by the Department of Medicine residents to a Christiana Care attending who best demonstrates the characteristics of devotion to patients, compassion, humility, and extraordinary enthusiasm.

Badrish Patel, M.D., received the 2010 Department of Medicine Teacher of the Year Award.

Jennifer LeComte, D.O., received the 2009 Teacher of the Year voted by Internal Medicine Students.

Vikram Marocha, M.D., (PGY1 EMIM), voted Most Outstanding Resident Teacher of Medical Students for 2010, in the Department of Medicine (by vote of third and fourth year students rotating through Christiana Care).

Clinical Pearls

Congratulations to the 7th annual Clinical Pearls speakers: Philip Blatt, M.D., Hematology; Matthew Burday, D.O., Internal Medicine; David M. Cohen, M.D., Infectious Diseases; Ehsanur Rahman, M.D., Cardiology; Badrish Patel, M.D., Pulmonology; and Anand Panwalker, M.D., Infectious Diseases.

Focus on Excellence Awards

Ed Ewen, M.D., and the faculty and residents of the Adult Medicine Office won the Focus on Excellence President’s Award for their poster, "Diabetes Care in the Adult Medicine Office."

Denise French, MSN, Geriatric CNS-BC, Patricia Curtin, MD, FACP, CMD, Nancy Davis, RN, BSN, CIC, and Linda Sydnor, MSN, Geriatric CNS-BC, tied for first place in the Focus on Excellence “Nursing Excellence” category with results from a nurse-driven protocol initiative that reduced use of indwelling Foley catheters by 45 percent.

HIV Program under Medical Director Susan Szabo, M.D., received its FOURTH Focus on Excellence Award in November 2009. The Silver Award in the category of Excellence in Community Health was awarded for the submission on Long Term Medication Adherence.

Other Awards

Tony Bianchetta, M.D., and Allen Freidland, M.D., won the 2008 President’s Award to School Health Committee Members, Medical Society of Delaware.
Joyce Bunkley, RN, primary care nurse at the Lancaster HIV Wellness Clinic received the 2009 Delaware HIV Consortium WOW Gala Guardian Angel Award.

Dan Elliott, M.D. was a 2009 Society of General Internal Medicine Hamolsky Award finalist for best abstract submitted by junior faculty: "Systemic Barriers to Diabetes Management in Primary Care."

Allen Friedland, M.D., was voted one of "40 People to Watch Under 40" by Delaware Today Magazine, 2008.

Allen Friedland, M.D., and John Donnelly, M.D., were named Delaware Valley Kid’s "Favorite Docs” featured in the July 2010 issue of MetroKids magazine.

Cherilyn Hall, M.D., received the 2009 CCHS Medical Dental Staff Award, Best Case Report; "Laxative Induced Buttock Dermatitis."

Tom Hilton, M.D., and Helen Ting, M.D., were "Recognized Providers" in Diabetes Care by Bridges to Excellence.

Denise L. Lyons, MSN, GCNS-BC, Clinical Specialist in Gerontological Nursing, and WISH Program Coordinator, was one of eight accepted into The Practice Change Fellows Program aimed at building leadership capacity among nurses, physicians, and social workers who have operational responsibility for geriatric care.

Mark Manchen, HIV social worker, received the 2009 Community Leadership award from Bethel AME and the AIDS Task Force.

Gregory Masters, M.D., received a 2010 Statesman Award from the American Society of Clinical Oncology for "extraordinary volunteer service, dedication and commitment to ASCO.”

Kelly McGlaughlin, Jefferson Medical College (JMC) MS3, was a "Top 10" winner in the National ACP Student Clinical Vignette Abstract Competition for her abstract, "Propionibacterium Acnes: When Will You Grow Up?" co-authored by mentor Anand Panwalker, M.D.

Jen Packard, M.D., won the 2009 Howard Schubiner Award from National Med-Peds Residents Association given to the resident who exemplifies excellence including exemplary clinical care of patients, compassion and humanism in relationships with patients and colleagues; involvement in community; and contributions to field of Medicine-Pediatrics.

Lisa Phillips, M.D., received the 2009 Ryan White Award at the WOW Gala of the Delaware HIV Consortium.

Linda Sydnor, RN, Geriatric Clinical Nurse Specialist on 6A, the Acute Care for the Elderly (ACE) Unit at Christiana Hospital, was honored in April 2010 as the Alzheimer’s Association Volunteer of the Year in the state of Delaware.

Christopher Zebley, FNP, received the Service Excellence Award from the National Association of Nurse Practitioners.

Marc Zubrow, M.D. was named a "HealthLeaders 20" by HealthLeaders Magazine in 2009. He was also a 2010 Semi-Finalist for the Abby Award presented by Adaptive Business Leaders (ABL) for "Leadership in Innovation" in the category of "Approach to the Delivery of Healthcare."

Medical Intensive Care Unit at Christiana Hospital was the 2009 recipient of the Beacon Award for Critical Care Excellence from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses.
Appointments

Academic appointments at Jefferson Medical College

Daniell Elliott, M.D., is initially appointed assistant professor of Medicine.

Allen Friedland, M.D., was promoted to associate professor of Medicine, secondary in the Department of Pediatrics.

Timothy Hennessy, M.D., is initially appointed clinical assistant professor of Medicine.

Neeta Milasincic, M.D., is initially appointed clinical assistant professor of Medicine.

Julie Silverstein, M.D., was promoted to clinical associate professor of Medicine.

Other Appointments

David Biggs, M.D., was appointed to the NSABP Breast Steering Committee.

Joanne Brice, M.D., FHM, was inducted into the inaugural class of Senior Fellows in Hospital Medicine (SFHM).

Heather Cox, M.D., is president-elect of the Delaware Academy of Family Physicians (DAFP) as of May 2010.

John Donnelly, M.D., FACP, was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

John Emberger was named a Fellow of the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC).

Manish Garg, M.D., FACP, was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

Stephen S. Grubbs, M.D., is a member of the CALGB Board of Directors and serves on numerous CCOP Committees, He is a member of the CCOP Foundation Board and serves as Compliance Officer.

Michael Guarino, M.D., was appointed to the NSABP Foundation Research Program Business Advisory Committee.

Andrew Himelstein, M.D., was appointed to the CALGB Cancer Control & Health Outcomes and Symptom Intervention Committees.

Terry Horton, M.D., is newly appointed to represent the Delaware Valley as Community Treatment Provider (CTP) representative to the National Steering Committee of the National Institutes on Drug Abuse Clinical Trials Network.

Roy Kao, M.D., was named assistant chief of service for Internal Medicine, 2011-2012.

Brijendra Kumar, M.D., FHM, was approved for Fellowship in the Society of Hospital Medicine.
Gregory Masters, M.D., was appointed to the RTOG and CALGB Respiratory Committees.

Karen McGee, M.D, was elected to the Executive Committee of the Delaware Academy of Family Physicians (DAFP).

Shakaib Qureshi, M.D., was elected chair, Education and Research, Delaware Rheumatology Society.

Albert Rizzo, M.D., is the newly elected chair of the National Board of Directors for the American Lung Association.

Vivek Reddy, M.D., was accepted into the Christiana Care Cardiology Fellowship Program.

James Ruether, M.D., was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Physicians.

Mitchell Saltzberg, M.D., was awarded Fellowship in the American Heart Association.

Maureen Seckel, RN, ACNS-BC, CCRN, CCNS, is newly elected to the board of directors of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN), 2010-2013.

Celeste Jenny Taylor, D.O., was named chief Med-Peds resident, 2010-2011.
Retirements

Medicine gave special recognition to retiring physicians during the past year. The department’s first annual retirement salute, held at Grand Rounds, June 3, 2010, honored Philip Blatt, M.D., (28 years of service), Paul Pennock, M.D., (40 years of service) and Siamak Samii, M.D., (35 years of service). (Pictured left to right: Virginia Collier, M.D., Medicine Chair; Philip Blatt, M.D.; Paul Pennock, M.D.; Siamak Samii, M.D.; and Robert Dressler, M.D., Medicine Vice Chair.)

Lanny Edelson, M.D., who retired as section chief of Neurology in December after 23 years, was recognized last spring at Medical Grand Rounds. Dr. Edelson continues to practice neurology as part of Christiana Care Neurology Physicians.

Ted Kestner, M.D., retired as medical director of the Respiratory Therapy Department after 25 years of service. He was honored on July 16, 2009 at a luncheon given by the Respiratory Therapy Department. He continues to practice pulmonary medicine at Christiana Care as a member of Pulmonary Associates.
Selected Publications


Member’s of Christiana Care’s executive team watch as the newly launched CPOE system is used at Christiana Hospital.


Manzone, TA; Dam, HQ; Intenzo, CM; Sagar, VV; Schneider, CJ; Seshadri, P: "Postoperative management of thyroid carcinoma." Surg Oncol Clin N Am. 2008 Jan 17 (1): 197-218.


Roe MT, Messenger JC, Weintraub WS, Cannon CP, Fonarow GC, Dai D, Chen YX, Klein LW, Masoudi FA, McKay C, Hewitt K, Brindis RG, Peterson ED, Rumsfeld JS. Treatments, trends and outcomes of acute myocardial infarction and percutaneous coronary intervention: a report form the National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR)


Committee Membership

Clinical Research Committee: *Meets Monthly*

James Lenhard, M.D. - Chair  
Jerry Castellano, Pharm.D. (non voting)  
Virginia Collier, M.D., Chair, Department of Medicine, ex-officio  
Michael DePietro, M.D.  
Marcia Drees, M.D.  
Deborah Ehrenthal, M.D.  
Michael Eppehimer, Vice President, Department of Medicine  
Ed Ewen, M.D.  
Michael Guarino, M.D.  
Rubeen Israni, M.D.  
Claudine Jurkowitz, M.D.  
Brian Little, M.D., Ph.D.  
Sarah McTighe, M.D., Assistant Chief of Service  
Michael Stillabower, M.D.  
Doriel Ward, Director of Research, Academic Affairs  
William Weintraub, M.D.

Education Committee: *Meets Monthly*

Brian Aboff, M.D. - Chair and Program Director Internal Medicine & Transitional Year  
Frank Beardell, M.D., Hematology  
David Beswick, M.D., Gastroenterology  
Matthew Burday, M.D., Associate Program Director  
Jeff Cicone, M.D., Nephrology  
Virginia Collier, M.D., Hugh J. Sharp, Jr. Chair of Medicine, ex officio  
Patricia Curtin, M.D., Geriatrics  
Michael DePietro, M.D., Critical Care Medicine  
Joseph Deutsch, M.D., Hospital Medicine  
John Donnelly, M.D., Assistant Program Director & Director Ambulatory Education  
Allen Friedland, M.D., Med-Peds Program Director  
Ripu Hundal, M.D., Endocrinology  
John Kelly, M.D., Cardiology  
Stephanie Lee, M.D., Infectious Diseases  
Sarah McTighe, M.D., Assistant Chief of Service  
Vinay Maheshwari, M.D., Pulmonary  
Tony Munson, M.D., Neurology  
Shakaib Qureshi, M.D., Rheumatology  
Jim Ruether, M.D., Hospital Medicine  
Tabassum Salam, M.D., Associate Program Director  
Sarah Schenck, M.D., Director, Adult Medicine Office  
Julie Silverstein, M.D., Director, Patient Safety & Performance Improvement and Section Chief, General Internal Medicine  
Pamela Simpson, M.D., Oncology  
Marc Zubrow, M.D., Member at Large
Credentials Committee: *Meets Monthly*

Anthony Cucuzzella, M.D. - Chair
Edward McConnell, M.D. - Vice Chair
Joanne Brice, M.D.
William Dahms, D.O
Marciana Filippone, M.D.
Allen Friedland, M.D.
Donald Hayes, M.D.
Ehsanur Rahman, M.D.
R. Bradley Slease, M.D.
Marc Zubrow, M.D.

Executive Committee: *Meets Monthly*

Virginia U. Collier, M.D. - Chair
Brian Aboff, M.D. - Program Director, Internal Medicine & Transitional Year, Education Committee Chair
David Biggs, M.D. - Oncology Section Chief
Joanne Brice, M.D. - Hospitalist Division Chief
Robert Cox, M.D. - Renal and Hypertensive Diseases Section Chief
Patricia Curtin, M.D. - Geriatrics Section Chief
Anthony Cucuzzella, M.D. - Chair, Credentials Committee
Robert Dressler, M.D. - Vice Chair
Kelly Eschbach, M.D. - Section Chief, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Marciana Filippone, M.D. - Gastroenterology Section Chief
Allen Friedland, M.D. - Program Director, Med-Peds, Med-Peds Section Chief John Goodill, M.D. - Section Chief, Pain & Palliative Care
James Lenhard, M.D. - Endocrinology Section Chief, Chair, Clinical Research Committee
Sarah McTighe, M.D. - Assistant Chief of Service
Timothy Manzone, M.D. - Nuclear Medicine Section Chief
Thomas Mueller, M.D. - Neurology Section Chief
Anand Panwalker, M.D. - Infectious Disease Section Chief
Shakaib Qureshi, M.D. - Section Chief, Rheumatology
Albert Rizzo, M.D. - Pulmonary Section Chief
Julie Silverstein, M.D. - Ambulatory Medicine Committee, Internal Medicine Section Chief, and Chair, Professional Excellence Committee, Chair, DOM Performance Improvement Committee
Bradley Slease, M.D. - Hematology Section Chief
William Weintraub, M.D. - Cardiology Section Chief
Marc Zubrow, M.D. - eCare ICU Telemedicine Medical Director
Kunal Bhagat, M.D. - Member at Large
Timothy Hennessy, M.D. - Member at Large
Deborah Zarek, M.D. - Member at Large
Mike Eppehimer, Department of Medicine Vice President, ex officio
Nominating Committee: *Meets Once Every Two Years*

Patricia Curtin, M.D. - Chair  
James Hopkins, M.D. (completing Dr. Emery’s term, ends 2011)  
James Ruether, M.D.  
Valerie West, M.D.  
Reynold Agard, M.D.  
James Loughran, M.D.

Professional Excellence (Peer Review) Committee: *Meets Monthly*

Julie Silverstein, M.D. - Chair  
Kunal Bhagat, M.D., CMG  
David Britchkow, M.D., IPC-HOD  
Marc Corso, M.D., Gastroenterology  
John Donnelly, M.D., Medicine Faculty  
Robert Dressler, M.D., Vice Chair, Department of Medicine  
Malik Gilani, M.D., Community GIM  
James Ley, M.D., Infectious Disease  
Sarah McTighe, M.D., Assistant Chief of Service, 2010-2011  
Badrish Patel, M.D., Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine  
Edmondo Robinson, M.D., CCHP
**Medicine Administrative Staff Profiles**

**Mike Eppehimer, MHSA, Vice President**

Mike Eppehimer joined Christiana Care in 2010 from the George Washington (GW) University Hospital in Washington, D.C., where he was an associate administrator with operational authority for a number of inpatient areas, including pharmacy, environmental services and physician relations.

In his role as Medicine vice president, he works extensively on the new Inpatient Medicine Service Line while assisting the chair and vice chair of Medicine on interdepartmental programs and projects. He also has administrative responsibility for all Medicine Research nurses.

**Paula Barnes, Administrative Assistant, Medical Student Education Program**

- Coordinates Internal Medicine medical student rotations.
- Maintains department conference calendar.
- Supports Infectious Disease section, including the Infectious Disease Conference in conjunction with Medicus.
- Coordinates Resident Core Lecture series.

**Marcia Bukay, Supervisor**

- Supports Medical Leadership Team.
- Supervises and provides performance management operations for two Residency Coordinators and five Administrative Assistants.
- Act as timekeeper.
- Coordinates hiring practices for the administrative support personnel, physician assistants, research nurses, nurse practitioners and consulting internists.
- Provides estimates and data support of capital and operating budgets.

**Sherry Donald, Administrative Assistant**

- Supports Performance Improvement and Patient Safety, General Internal Medicine Section, Adult Medicine Office and Ambulatory Medicine Research & Outcomes.
- Supports the Wilmington Hospital office.
- Maintains the faculty physicians schedules in Amion.
- Scans/Indexes Internal Medicine Faculty Practice patient information into patient electronic file.

**Christy Edwards, Coordinator, Internal Medicine & Transitional Year Residency Programs**

- Supports the Medicine Education Committee.
- Supports program recruiting and orientation.
- Participates in program marketing, communications and event planning.
- Supports program compliance.
Marykay Ennis, Executive Assistant to the Chair

- Supports the Department of Medicine Executive Committee, Chair's Management Council, and Inpatient Medicine Service Line Steer.
- Assists with the daily financial operations of the department and contract management in conjunction with Medicine's Vice President.
- Coordinates the Jefferson Medical College faculty appointment and promotion process.
- Pursuing MBA in Healthcare Administration.

Arlene Friedman, Administrative Assistant

- Supports Geriatric Medicine and Wilmington Hospital Consult Service.
- Schedules resident ambulatory rotations.
- Schedules, posts all updates and forwards Medicine Inpatient Consultations (Ward and Unassigned).

Debbie Harris, C-TAGME, Coordinator, Med-Peds Residency Program and Nephrology Fellowship Program

One of only three at Christiana Care certified as a Training Administrator of Graduate Medical Education (C-TAGME), Debbie Harris led a national task force to establish this professional certification.

- Supports Med-Peds residency program leadership.
- Supports Nephrology Fellowship Program.
- Supports recruiting for the Med-Peds residency program.
- Coordinates 4th year medical student elective.

Elizabeth McKee, Administrative Assistant, Internal Medicine Residency Program

- Supports associate and assistant program directors and program coordinator.
- Prepares, updates and follows up on the Internal Medicine resident elective schedules, evaluations, procedures lists, mailings, and conference attendance.
- Schedules resident elective rotations.
- Coordinates the PGY-2 and PGY-3 annual retreats.

Dana Serfass, Executive Assistant

- Supports the Medicine’s vice chair and vice president.
- Assists with Medical Grand Rounds and the Medicine Case Conference in conjunction with Medicus.
- Supports the Division of Hospital Medicine.
- Provides back up support for the Nephrology Fellowship Program.
Stephanie Whitney, Administrative Assistant

- Supports the director of Ambulatory Medicine Research & Outcomes, and the Infection Control Officer/director of Resident Research.
- Supports Medicine research nurses.
- Processes scanning, and data entry for reports and reviews
- IRB/GCP trained for research and grants
- Clinical Research Committee.
- Supports the Neurology Section and grand rounds in conjunction with Medicus.
Welcome New Physicians

We welcomed 27 new physicians to the Department in FY 2010.

- Agarwal, Brajesh N., M.D.
  Medicine/Renal & Hypertensive Diseases
- Allen, Douglas B., Jr., D.O.
  Medicine/Occupational Medicine
- ABhamidipati, Vijaya Surekha, M.D.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
- Bovelsky, Christina H., M.D.
  Medicine/Occupational Medicine
- Chung, Soon M., M.D.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
- Copeland, Kevin A., D.O.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
  Medicine Assistant Chief of Service
- Cowdery, Susan L., M.D.
  Medicine/Rheumatology
- Deutsch, Joseph M., M.D.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
  Medicine Faculty
- Garg, Ashwani K., M.D.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
- Gutierrez, Camilo A., M.D.
  Medicine/Neurology
- Hossack, Jared B., M.D., MBA
  Medicine/Gastroenterology
- Khandelwal, Ashish, M.D.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
- Kostal, Michael J., M.D.
  Medicine/Cardiology
- Langan, Timothy H., M.D.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
- Lawrence-Jackson, Janis, D.O.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
- Li, Weiping, M.D.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
- Mandel, Rekha J., M.D.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
- Meyer, Erin M., D.O.
  Medicine/Medicine/Pediatrics
- Misleh, Jamal G., M.D.
  Medicine/Medical Oncology
- Nalda, Ruben H., M.D.
  Medicine/Internal Medicine
- Narun, Lawrence, M.D.
  Medicine/Cardiology
• Patel, Priya R., M.D.  
  Medicine/Internal Medicine

• Sakr, Carine J., M.D., MPH  
  Medicine/Occupational Medicine

• Sanjeev, Ragu, M.D.  
  Medicine/Internal Medicine

• See, Vincent Y., M.D.  
  Medicine/Cardiology

• Vora, Vaishali S., D.O.  
  Medicine/Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

• Zieff, Jonathan E., D.O.  
  Medicine/Dermatology
Leadership

- **Virginia U. Collier, M.D.**
  Hugh R. Sharp, Jr., Chair of Medicine
- **Robert M. Dressler, M.D.**
  Vice Chair
- **Julie Silverstein, M.D.**
  Director, Performance Improvement & Patient Safety; Section Chief, General Internal Medicine
- **Brian M. Aboff, M.D.**
  Program Director, Internal Medicine and Transitional Year Residency Programs
- **Allen Friedland, M.D.**
  Program Director, Medicine-Pediatrics Residency Program

Section Chiefs

- **Gregory Marcotte, M.D.**
  Allergy & Clinical Immunology
- **William Weintraub, M.D.**
  Cardiology
- **Arthur W. Colbourn, M.D.**
  Associate Chief of Cardiology at Wilmington
- **Peter B. Panzer, M.D.**
  Dermatology
- **M. James Lenhard, Jr., M.D.**
  Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases Center
- **Marciana Filippone, M.D.**
  Gastroenterology
- **Patricia Curtin, M.D.**
  Geriatrics
- **R. Bradley Slease, M.D.**
  Hematology
- **Anand P. Panwalker, M.D.**
  Infectious Disease
- **Julie Silverstein, M.D.**
  Internal Medicine
- **Allen Friedland, M.D.**
  Medicine/Pediatrics
- **Thomas Mueller, M.D.**
  Neurology
- **Timothy Manzone, M.D.**
  Nuclear Medicine
- **David D. Biggs, M.D.**
  Oncology
- **Carine Sakr, M.D.**
  Occupational/Preventive Medicine
- **John Goodill, M.D.**
  Pain & Palliative Care
- **Kelly Eschbach, M.D.**
  Physical Medicine
- **Albert Rizzo, M.D.**
  Pulmonary Disease
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- Robert W. Cox, M.D.
  Renal & Hypertensive Diseases
- Shakaib Qureshi, M.D.
  Rheumatology

Divisions

- Joanne Brice, M.D.
  Hospitalists

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