



Physician Connection

June 2010

Neurosurgery Pioneer to Present at Bronson Neuroscience Symposium

The Neuroscience Symposium on Friday, June 25, will feature a keynote presentation by Amin Kassam, MD. Dr. Kassam is internationally recognized in the fields of minimally invasive neurosurgery, conventional skull base surgery, cerebrovascular surgery and microvascular decompression for cranial nerve disorders. He is a pioneer in the development of the expanded endonasal approach (EEA), a completely transnasal approach to removing brain and skull base tumors rather than using a traditional craniotomy. Go to bronsonhealth.com/neurososymposium for more information or to register.



Amin Kassam, MD

New X-ray Machine at Bronson Diagnostics Oshtemo

We are pleased to announce our new X-ray machine has been installed at Bronson Diagnostics Oshtemo. This machine enables us to provide you, and your patients, with improved imaging tests. We also offer laboratory services. All services are available on a walk-in basis only. No appointment is necessary. Bronson Diagnostics Oshtemo is located at 5629 Stadium Drive in Oshtemo. Hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you have questions, call (269) 372-5973.

Difficult Airway Page No Longer Used

Bronson will no longer be using the broad "difficult airway page" fanout to multiple providers. Nurses and providers will now use Glidescopes and King Airway devices to assist with difficult airways first and then page a specific provider or specialty directly if additional assistance is needed. This ensures the requestor knows who is available, who is coming, and when the responder is coming to ensure a timely response for our patients' safety. Contact Neil Johnson at (269) 341-6389 with questions.

Neuroscience Symposium

Friday, June 25
8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
 Radisson Plaza Hotel
 6.5 AMA PRA Category 1
 Credits provided by MSU/KCMS

Doctors Honored During Hospital Week

Four medical staff members and two residents were honored as President's Team Award recipients during Hospital Week 2010. The recipients of the President's Team Award are nominated as providers who have demonstrated clinical excellence, customer and service excellence and/or corporate effectiveness. Congratulations!

Medical Staff President's Team Award Recipients:

Matthew Dommer, MD
 Southwestern Michigan
 Emergency Services

Eui Doug Lee, MD
 Bronson LakeView Surgery

Penny Rathburn, DO
 Bronson Internal Medicine
 Hospital Specialists

Ruqiya Shama Tareen, MD
 MSU/KCMS Psychiatry

Resident President's Team Award Recipients:

Amy Ford Turner, DO (Internal Medicine)

Tricia Royer, DO (Internal Medicine)

Joint Commission Coming to Bronson

Bronson is expecting three Joint Commission on-site surveys in the next month:

1. Bronson Methodist Hospital, Bronson Medical Group Practices and Bronson Home Health Care will have a five-day survey with six surveyors. There will also be a mock survey the week of June 7.
2. Bronson LakeView Hospital and Bronson LakeView Practices will also be surveyed.
3. Bronson Vicksburg Hospital is the third area to be surveyed.

Bronson Performs Well in National Surgery Quality Report

In 2007, Bronson Methodist Hospital (BMH) joined the American College of Surgeons' National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP) to compare morbidity, mortality and complication rates with participating hospitals.

The January 2010 Semiannual Report finds BMH performed "as expected" in 26 out of 30 surgical outcomes, "worse than expected" in zero outcomes and "better than expected" in four measures. Those four measures were overall (general vascular surgeries) surgical site infection, general surgical site infection, colorectal surgical site infection, and colorectal length of stay.

The report shows significant improvement in post-op pneumonia outcomes, which was identified as an opportunity in a previous report. The multidisciplinary Surgery Performance Improvement Committee implemented several strategies to improve respiratory care in our patients after surgery and they appear to be working. Thank you to our Surgery Performance Improvement Committee Co-Chair and NSQIP surgeon champion, Mark Dittenbir, MD.

Case Study Published in Journal of Neurology

A case study “Early onset probable linezolid-induced encephalopathy” authored by Jeffrey Fletcher, MD (Michigan State University), Eric C. Feucht, MD (Bronson Adult Critical Care), Laura E. Aykroyd (Ferris State University) and James M. Curtis (BMH Pharmacy) was published in the *Journal of Neurology*. While neurological complications with linezolid are rare, long-term exposure can be associated with neurotoxic effects. Patients with pre-existing neurologic sequelae or risk factors, such as alcohol abuse, diabetes, or concomitant administration of chemotherapeutic agents and/or antiretroviral therapy, may be more susceptible to the development of linezolid-induced neurotoxicity. This case study described a 41-year-old male who developed early onset encephalopathy after a day and a half of linezolid therapy (a synthetic antibacterial agent of the oxazolidinone class with potent activity against Gram-positive organisms).

Discharge Medication Recon Module Upgraded

The Bronson Discharge Medication Reconciliation module in Clinical Portal will be upgraded for all physicians in June. Make sure you are ready for this change by taking advantage of one of the following options:

- **An online training simulation** located on the Physician tab of the intranet, as well as on the Portal Meds Tab.
- **A sneak-peek at the new module** in the Physician Dining room on the Bronson Methodist Hospital's South Campus at the beginning of June.

To further help with the transition, during go-live, there will be at-the-elbow staff rounding to provide support for the Discharge Med Recon version 2.3 during peak discharge hours. For support during non-peak discharge hours, please contact the IT Support Center at (269) 341-6330. Look for more details about this initiative on the Physician tab under the News section of the intranet.

For questions, contact Geoffrey DeTolve, MD at (269) 341-6061 or Julie Williams, MSN, RN at (269) 341-6182.

Library Offers Table of Contents through My NCBI

Bronson's Health Sciences Library now provides publication table of contents in a new format. You will be able to receive e-mailed table of contents directly from “My NCBI” in PubMed. You will no longer have to wait until the library receives the print issue to see what new articles have been published. Reviewing the table of contents from a current professional journal is a great way to keep up with medical advances. If you would like to sign up to receive table of contents, please contact the library. The staff can send you a list of journals that are available for this service. For more information, please e-mail the library at BronsonLibrary@bronsonhg.org or call (269) 341-6318.

Bronson Prohibits Electronic Cigarettes

Electronic cigarettes, also called “e-cigarettes,” are prohibited on all Bronson properties. Electronic cigarettes are battery operated devices that generally contain cartridges filled with nicotine, flavor and other chemicals. The electronic cigarette turns nicotine into a vapor that is inhaled by the user. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is concerned about the safety of these products and found carcinogens and toxic chemicals to which users could potentially be exposed in their ingredient analysis. Physicians should not write orders permitting patients to use electronic cigarettes. Please adhere to the smoking cessation order set. Contact Risk Management with questions.

Emergency Preparedness Class with Tabletop Drill

Learn how to respond in an emergency at Bronson. Join Carrie Kotecki, BSN, RN, director of Trauma & Emergency Center and Emergency Preparedness for a three-hour class (including the tabletop drill) from 8 to 11 a.m. To sign up or for more information, call Mary Ryan-Skolasky at (269) 341-8717.

Emergency Preparedness with Tabletop Drill

Wednesday, June 9, 8-11 a.m.
Friday, September 10, 8-11 a.m.
Monday, November 15, 8-11 a.m.

Home INR Testing Now Available

Bronson Anticoagulation Clinic has a new program so patients can test their INR at home using their own CoaguChek® XS machine. At this time, select patients and their primary care physicians have been notified about their eligibility to participate in the home INR testing pilot. In the future, we anticipate many patients will be interested in this program. The Clinic will identify eligible patients according to these criteria: established at Bronson Anticoagulation Clinic for at least three months; diagnosis of mechanical heart valve, chronic atrial fibrillation or venous thromboembolism; attend a clinic sponsored educational session and are able to demonstrate an understanding of and the correct use of the CoaguChek® XS machine. If you have questions, please call (269) 341-7909 or e-mail anticoagulation@bronsonhg.org.

Bronson Uses Surgical Safety Checklists

Bronson LakeView Hospital (BLH) Inpatient and Outpatient Surgery, Bronson Methodist Hospital (BMH) Inpatient and Outpatient Surgery, and BMH Interventional Radiology are using safe surgery checklists to improve communication and patient safety. A study published last year in *The New England Journal of Medicine* found that using a safe-surgery checklist reduced the number of complications and deaths by more than one-third.

- ✔ Only about 20 percent of hospitals, including Bronson, are using a version of the World Health Organization's surgery checklist.
- ✔ 89 percent of surgery cases at BMH use the checklist.
- ✔ The checklist was introduced this year in BMH Interventional Radiology and is now being used in 60 percent of their cases.
- ✔ The BLH checklist pilot is expanding to all surgery cases.

Physician Connection is published monthly by Bronson Healthcare Group. If you have a topic you would like addressed in this publication, or would like to submit news about a Bronson medical staff member or his or her practice, please e-mail gowenj@bronsonhg.org or call Jodi Gowen at (269) 341-8603 or send your request to Practice Administration, 601 John Street, Box 57, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007.