August 31, 2016

September is World Sepsis Month

Bartlett Sepsis Task Force

The Bartlett Sepsis Task Force has been hard at work to decrease this life-threatening response to infection.

Sepsis Awareness Month Kickoff: Thursday September 1st and Friday, September 2nd:
Poster displays for clinical units, games and prizes. Tuesday, September 6:
Button and badge buddies will be distributed and an expert panel from Virginia Mason will be here.
Lunch and learn for nursing 11:30-1:00PM in Room 204AB.

We are putting protocols in place to address sepsis in our patients. You will see team members in the hospital providing education about this medical emergency.

To get involved and learn more about this under-recognized medical emergency, please look for the Sepsis Educational Campaign flier for upcoming events and additional sepsis online education opportunities.

Did You Know?

The 1st World Sepsis Congress will take place completely online on September 8 and 9. Register here: https://event.webcasts.com/start here.jsp?ei=1106962

What is Sepsis?
Sepsis in the body’s overwhelming response to an infection which can lead to tissue damage, organ failure and death. Anyone can get sepsis. Any type of infection can cause sepsis. Sepsis kills more than 258,000 Americans each year and leaves many with lasting life changing effects after sepsis.

What are the symptoms of sepsis?
• Fever or feeling very cold
• Extreme pain “worst ever”
• Pale or discolored skin
• Difficult to wake up or confused
• Feeling like you might die
• Short of breath

What should I do if I think I have an infection or sepsis?
Call your doctor or go to the emergency room immediately if have any signs or symptoms of an infection or sepsis. This is a medical emergency.

Bartlett Board of Directors members supporting Sepsis Awareness Month

22nd Annual Toy Run

Toy Run organizer Brillo accepts donations at the Douglas Fire Hall Sunday, August 21, 2016

Sunday, August 21, the Panhandlers Motorcycle Club rounded up hundreds of soft toys for distribution to young patients at Bartlett Regional Hospital. The 22nd annual Bob Valliant Toy Run was a sunny success, thanks to the strong support of the Douglas Volunteer Firefighters, Capital City Fire and Rescue, the Triangle Club and Louie’s Bar. More than sixty-five riders, book-ended by Capital City Fire and Rescue
trucks, made their way down Egan drive from Donna’s Restaurant in the Valley to the Triangle Club bar downtown for a pick-up of the collected toys. The entourage then crossed the Douglas Bridge to a ribs and pulled pork barbeque at the Douglas Fire Hall, where more toy and cash donations were accepted.

Friday, August 26, a flatbed truck pulled up to the administration basement and delivered a dozen bags of toys. The wooden crate for distribution is full again.

**SHOUT OUTS!**

-James Banda: always patient, cheerful and helpful with my computer and phone issues. He is like gold to this hospital.

-Pharmacists, especially Chris Sperry, Gretchen Glaspy, and Ursula Iha: enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and dedicated to improving patient care. Always willing to answer my questions, research topics, and eagerly explore new ideas!

-Rainforest Recovery Center staff, especially our new Leads Morgan Erisman, Erin Maloney and Stefano Deluca: under the leadership of our perpetually positive nurse manager Janell Meade, we are making great strides in developing an evidence-based, first-class treatment center for our community that will be a model for the state.

-Lindy Jones, MD: for dedicating many extra hours to help Juneau’s opiate dependent patients gain access to Suboxone through Front Street Clinic. And Bob Urata, MD for taking the Suboxone training!

-Sally Schneider for her visionary leadership of the behavioral health department. In less than 6 months she has re-energized us and set a clear path forward. I can’t imagine Bartlett now without her.

-Jeanine Miller, RN: There are not enough words for what she has given to this hospital. Our patients and staff have greatly benefited from her leadership and character, and we will miss her dearly. We’ve made great progress on the mental health unit over the past year, and she is a key reason for that. I couldn’t have done my job without her support and help.

-Jenna Hiestand, MD
Medical Director, Behavioral Health Services, Bartlett Regional Hospital

**More Quality Department News**

**2016 Breakfast Briefings**

The Quality department is hosting a Joint Commission 12-part webinar series. Come for a complete overview of the new and revised 2017 standards, chapter by chapter. This year’s series will be focusing on the many significant changes that have occurred, or will go into effect in 2017. All Bartlett employees are welcome to come (with supervisory approval). Supervisors and Managers are strongly encouraged to attend the Bartlett classroom sessions. Come a few minutes early as a light breakfast will be provided. The webinar portion will last an hour, however a Q&A discussion will be held for 15 minutes afterward. For those who cannot attend the Thursday sessions the prerecorded sessions will be made available.

Every Thursday at 9:00am in classroom 204A in the RFV Administration Building, starting September 1st.

September 8, 15, 22, 29
October 6, 13, 20, 27
November 3, 10, 17, 23

More on the specific topics for each session will be made available as soon as they are released.

-Nathan Overson
Process Improvement Coordinator

**Congrats Kim!**

Bartlett Hospital has received the “Chasing Zero Award” from Mountain-Pacific! Per the email we received: “This award is based on going stretches of time without infections and speaks to the quality of our infection control..."
prevention and control program and the daily dedication of our health care team.” Infection Control Coordinator Kim Vermedal will be attending the Mountain-Pacific Fall Patient Safety Conference in October where she will receive the award on behalf of Bartlett Regional Hospital. There will be a media release and opportunities for staff to celebrate this success!

The quality department is focusing on patient safety, assessing Bartlett’s safety culture and looking in the future to be more involved with process improvement efforts. During our daily huddle, we are identifying staff who have made a difference in patient safety.

The quality department would like to give a shout out to the following staff patient safety champions:

Brian Hood PA in the ED
Lisa Wallace Nurse Case Manager
Peter Easaw from Security
Leslie Vianne RN Med Surg
PAT nursing staff
Kirsten Kincaid RN Clinical Analyst

-Denise Plano MHA MSN RN, Director of Quality

Kudos from the CEO
I’d like to share a recently received good old fashioned letter from residents of Jupiter, Florida. Jo Ann and Jay Osborne arrived in Juneau on the cruise ship Radiance of the Seas July 23. Jo Ann fell on the ship and broke her hip. The couple made their way to Bartlett Regional Hospital the next morning for care. Jay thanks Dr. Ted Schwarting especially “for doing such an outstanding job.”

The letter goes on: “From the unexpected private room, to great hospital meals, to a truly caring staff of nurses, therapists and support personnel, we couldn’t have asked for better treatment considering the circumstances. A special thanks also is in order to nurses Rhonda, Megan and Laurie, as well as Kirsten the physical therapist and Suzanne the occupational therapist for doing their jobs with cheer, encouragement and professionalism while caring for my wife. In addition, the ability for me to stay on site in the Bartlett House and have meals served to me in my wife’s room, at no charge, made the entire process that much easier to cope with as well. We truly were blessed to have been in the area and admitted to your fine facility. And you certainly lived up to your motto of being ‘the best community hospital in Alaska.’ “

The Osbornes aren’t the only ones reporting an excellent patient experience. Recent surveys have shown overall growth in patient perception of care. The trends show “Communication with Doctors”, “Communication with Nurses” and “Responsiveness of Hospital Staff” as the highest rated areas and during several months in 2015, and ranked Bartlett Regional Hospital in the top 10% of US Hospitals. For the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2015 and the 1st quarter of 2016, one report ranked BRH as the top rated hospital for the Patient Experience Domain in the state of Alaska.

Surveys like these and personal feedback from families like the Osbornes show our team is working as it should across the board, for each facet of the patient experience. Thank you to our staff for embodying quality in community healthcare, in the vital, diligent and compassionate work you do, shift after shift.

-Chuck Bill, Chief Executive Officer, Bartlett Regional Hospital
The Fall 2016 Juneau Community Health Fair (part of Alaska Health Fair Inc.) is coming right up, September 10, 2016, 8 a.m.-Noon at the Nugget Mall.

Also at the Nugget Mall, Sept. 10, 10:00-1:30, Bartlett Regional Hospital staff will be doing their FREE quarterly glucose and cholesterol screenings. This is a non-fasting event, checking for total cholesterol, HDL and non-fasting glucose. Results are given on-site.

(As part of the Community Health fair, Alaska Health Fair Inc. will offering a comprehensive blood draw for $45. A1c, PSA, Vitamin D, Thyroid, B12 and celiac disease are also offered at an added cost. For information call Alaska Health Fair Inc. 907-278-0234)

BARTLETT BEAT THE ODDS CREW 2016

Who are the best T-shirt folders in town? The BRH crew, that’s who! Several health care providers showed up way before the racers for the 25th annual Beat the Odds 5K race and Cancer Connection fundraiser for breast cancer research Saturday, August 20th and did their T-shirt magic. Thanks for the pictures Lorie Daniels and Brooke Gunstrom!

Good Job Lab!

The Lab passed their CAP (College of American Pathologists) inspection. Here’s some of the Laboratory and Histology staff celebrating with pizza sent by the CEO’s office!

The State of Alaska is working on developing in every community a strong volunteer base in the event of a disaster. A strong volunteer base is essential to our ability to respond and recover from a disaster. We would like that database to be in place before a disaster occurs in our community. Alaska Respond (for medical professionals) and the American Red Cross are looking to develop both a professional and amateur volunteer base.

Since September is Emergency Preparedness month, now is a
good time to join one or both of the organizations at the links. Bartlett Employees are able to note in both registrations that their first responsibility is to their role at Bartlett.

Alaska Respond Registration: https://www.akrespond.alaska.gov

Thank you in advance for considering to volunteer in our community in the event of a disaster.

*Stop by the lobby and check out the preparedness table. Lots of great information to keep your family safe in an emergency.
*Complete the emergency preparedness crossword puzzle and be entered in a drawing for a prize!
*Be on the lookout for the weekly preparedness question. Answer the question and you will be entered in the drawing too!

- *Kim Vermedal and the Emergency Management Team*

**New Employees On-Board**

I am pleased to announce that Brenda Vigue has accepted the Clinical Assistant Manager position in Same Day Surgery and Pre Admit Testing. Brenda has years of critical care nursing experience and we are proud to have her as our CAM. Please Welcome Brenda.

-Sherri O’Connor RN, CNOR Director of Surgical Services

Dallas and I are excited to let you know Jason Bushman joined the HR team as the HR Generalist. Jason was previously the HR & Benefits Manager for Watco Companies in Kansas and prior to that was the Account Coordinator/Team Alaska Customer Service Representative for Premera Blue Cross.

He grew up in the Pacific Northwest, has a Bachelor’s degree from Washington State University, and while working for Premera, spent a summer in Anchorage and one month in Juneau. He is very excited to be back in Alaska. Please give him a warm welcome.

-Kelly Mercer
Human Resources Manager

I would like to welcome Suzette Vu as my new Executive Assistant. Please send good wishes her way. She will make an excellent addition to our team and we are excited to get to work with her.

-William C. Gardner

**Chief Clinical Officer**

And finally, allow me to introduce myself, the compiler of this latest edition of the *Bartlett Buzz*. I’m Katie Bausler, your new Community Relations Director. I took the place of the retired Jim Schrader August 1, 2016. I served eight years at the University of Alaska Southeast in a similar position. My daughter Kaitlyn is a Med-Surg RN and my husband Karl is a SEARHC FNP/PA who makes occasional appearances in the BRH-ER. I look forward to meeting more of you and working with all of you!

**NEW EMPLOYEES!**

**JUNE**

Denise Plano, Director – Quality & Process Improvement

Kirsten Solomon, Physical Therapist

Elena Lamas Toribio, Unit Clerk/CNA-CCU

Bobbi Scherrer, Office Manager BOPS

Heather Dalke, Patient Observer

Heather Burke, Nurse Intern

Elsa Robinson, Nurse Intern

Jesse Higdon, Nurse Intern

Caitlin Bedford, Nurse Intern

Jane Sebens, Chief Law Officer

Jeffrey Von Rekowski, Speech Language Pathologist
**JULY**

- **Jessica Rocco**, CNA I – Med/Surg
- **Janel Saceda**, RN I – OR
- **Lawrence Acuff**, CSR Tech
- **Tayma McClain**, PRN II – ED
- **Abby King**, RN II – ED
- **Leah Fisher**, RN I – SDC

**August**

- **Bradley Kizer**, RRC Revenue Cycle Lead
- **Tiffany Schmidt**, Dietitian
- **Wilbur Sangster**, Buyer

- **Dawn Ward**, Pharmacy Tech I
- **Dixie Williams**, Accounting Technician I
- **Tell Spragg**, EMT
- **Shawn Nolan**, Groundskeeper
- **Christopher Carpenter**, Respiratory Therapist
- **Houston Laws**, Lead Behavioral Health Assistant – RRC
- **Cory Hill**, Storeroom Clerk
- **Oscar Godinez**, EVS Technician I
- **Jason Bushman**, HR Generalist
- **George Kuhar**, Physical Rehab Clerk/Aide

- **Kathryn Bausler**, Director – Community Relations
- **Ivy Keso**, Administrative Clerk II – HIM
- **Jennifer Winkelman**, RN III – MHU
- **Tawny Coppick**, Unit Clerk – ED
- **Angelica Laguidao**, Residential Aide
- **Sarah McDermott**, RN I – Med/Surg
- **Shalane Saceda**, RN I – SDC
- **Diana Samuelson**, PRN II – CCU
- **Eric Stefanich**, RN I – OR
- **Nino Suarez**, Residential Aide

- **Kelly Mercer**, Human Resources Manager
Shout Out – Grace Gonzales!!

This past Spring at least 30 Job Shadow students came through Bartlett.

Grace handles everything for this program including interim orientation, communications with the school and BRH staff, badging, signing in/out and filtering them all out to the Departments. This year, one of the students returned after the program with a gift for Grace...Chicken pad thai from Suwanna Cafe. Grace said that this has never happened before. HR believes it is all due to Grace’s attention to detail, endless positivity and organization. Way to go!

- Kelly Mercer
Human Resources Manager