January 28, 2015

Process Improvement: It’s EVERYONE’S Job
By Bethany Rogers and Marlowe Dunker

Looking ahead in 2015, every department has identified a process improvement project to focus on. One goal is to adhere to regulatory requirements for an ongoing, “hospital-wide, data-driven quality assessment and performance improvement program” (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services).

Another goal is to use our projects to improve different facets of patient care and improve hospital operations.

Check out the list of topics.

Be sure to tell your director or manager if you are interested in being on the team!

EOL Care Committee Seeking Comfort Quilts
By Kaitlyn Bausler

The End of Life Care Committee is seeking community donations of “comfort quilts.”

Comfort quilts could be small or medium sized knitted, crocheted, or quilted blankets to give to patients to provide comfort and care to these individuals who are...
receiving comfort and/or end of life care at Bartlett Regional Hospital and are likely to die in hospital.

The “comfort quilts” are a token of love from the community and hospital as a person transitions from life into death. The quilts are a gift to the patient and their family.

Comfort quilts have been used in many other hospitals around the country as they aid in transforming a regular hospital room into a soothing, personal, and homey place. The hope is to provide the best quality environment for a person as they face the end of life.

If you would like to donate a knitted, crocheted, or quilted blanket for our “comfort quilts”, please contact the End of Life Care Committee at Bartlett Regional Hospital: Kaitlyn Bausler, RN, Liz Bishop, RN, CAM, and Wendi Wilke, RN.

Compliance Corner
By Sara Parker

Please be sure that prior to releasing patient information an appropriately executed Release of Information (ROI) is in place. Elements of an appropriately executed ROI include:

- The patient’s full name as it appears on the medical record.
- Date of birth
- Medical Record Number
- Demographics (address, phone number)
- Where and to whom the information is to be released
- How the information is to be released
- What elements of the Medical Record are to be released
- Expiration date of the release. (If no expiration date is specified, the authorization will expire 90 days from the date of signing.)

The following information must also be included:

- I understand that I have the right to revoke this authorization at any time. To revoke this authorization, I must submit a written revocation to the BRH HIM Department. I understand that the revocation will not apply to information that has already been released in response to this authorization.
- If I am receiving Part 2 substance abuse services, BRH may condition my treatment on whether I elect to sign an authorization for payment. If I am not receiving Part 2 services, I understand my refusal to sign will not affect my ability to obtain treatment, payment, or my eligibility to receive services at BRH.
- I consider a photocopy of this authorization to be as valid as the original. I understand that I may upon request inspect the information to be disclosed.
- I understand that if the person or entity that receives this information is not a health care provider or health plan covered by the federal privacy regulations, the health information above may be subject to re-disclosure and no longer protected by these regulations. I understand that my substance abuse treatment records that are protected under Part 2 may not be re-disclosed, unless an exception is described below.

Compliance Hotline: 796-8618

HR Notes

Please welcome Kelly Mercer as the new Human Resources Manager.

Kelly comes to us from downtown CBJ HR where she was the HR Manager. Kelly has been a City employee since 2001 when she moved to Juneau from Sitka.

Prior to moving to Juneau, Kelly was the HR/Payroll Coordinator for Sitka Community Hospital and is thrilled to be returning to a healthcare organization to provide vital support services.

Kelly is married with 3 children. Devin (21) is going to flight school in Arizona to learn to fly helicopters, Colton (18) is a senior at JDHS and is also a City worker at the Dimond Park Fieldhouse, and Caden (9) is a 4th grader at Auke Bay. Her husband, Ed, is the Deputy Police Chief, so you could say being a City worker is all in the family!

Between work and a full schedule of kid activities, there is not much down time for personal hobbies, but when she can, she enjoys refinishing shabby furniture, walks with her Wheaton Terrier Bella, coffee with friends and boating with the family in the summertime.
Save the Date!
The Annual Awards banquet has been set for
April 4th, 2015.
We will be celebrating the employees who reached 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 year milestones during 2014 at the Westmark Baranof Hotel.

The Certification Pay committee has met and approved Certification Pay to be included on the payroll paid on February 6, 2015.

Hospital Week is on the horizon.
This year, Hospital Week will be May 10 to May 16. Look for more information in coming issues of the Bartlett Buzz!

New Employees
Cook, Abby K., Admin Clerk I
Hardy, Felecia D., Admin Clerk II
Schneider, Kimberly M., CN PRN III

Note from Infection Control
By Kim Vermedal

Lots of respiratory illnesses are circulating around town, including influenza.

Please do not come to work while you are acutely ill with a respiratory illness and/or a fever.

I know many who work in healthcare feel like they are letting the department down if they call in sick.

However, you risk passing your illness on to your co-workers and our vulnerable patients.

Strengthen your core
Take a break from your busy day

Take control of your stress
Stretch
Start your weekend off right

Breathe
Take some ‘me’ time

Unwind the tension in your muscles

Re-energize
Gain mobility

Ease back into activity after an injury

Whatever your reason, drop in to our weekly Friday yoga anytime from 11-1 in the prayer and meditation room across from the gift shop.

Come as you are, when you can. No stretchy pants or mats required. Feel free to come and leave as you need.

Cost is $5

Yoga is for everybody—men, women, flexible, non-flexible, religious, non-religious; all are welcome!
More Topics Available on SwankHealth!
By Dianne Bigge

We recently upgraded our contract with SwankHealth, our online learning system. Our previous contract had nine disciplines and we now offer classes in over 20 different areas for your continuing education needs.

New disciplines include EMS, Counseling, Laboratory Science, Surgical Technology, Medical Records, Nursing Assistant and Dietetics to name a few.

Log in today and check it out! www.swankhealth.com/brh

“Hot Topics” Poster Session Coming Soon!

Share your department or team’s accomplishments by joining in the Poster Session running from Monday, February 9 through Friday, February 13 in the main hospital Gallery.

How? It’s easy!

Recently Bartlett Regional Hospital was recognized for our free Glucose and Cholesterol screening program by the American Hospital Association. We, and many other fine hospitals, were featured as innovative case examples in their Community Connections publication. There are a few copies left, so if you would like to share with your patients or departments, please stop by Community Relations while supplies last.

Come by Staff Development and pick up your poster board, gather your co-workers, a few pictures, flyers, placards, some colored paper, glue and scissors and Voila! A Poster!

All posters will be entered into a “Best of Show” competition – with the voting done by viewers. Prizes will be awarded.

Viewers will have the opportunity to complete a quiz and get continuing education credit for their effort. Viewers who participate and complete a quiz will also be entered into a drawing for a gift card.

Interested? Contact Gail or Dianne in Staff Development at 796-8442.