



Practice Notes: Wash in, wash out

A recent compliance study concluded that there is an inverse relationship between level of professional education and hand hygiene compliance rate. So, how are Sparrow's physicians doing with washing their hands?

Our December 2008 monitoring data indicated that Sparrow physicians disinfected their hands 45 percent of the time. The Sparrow experience is similar to the findings in the study: Nurses wash or disinfect their hands more often than physicians. Our hand hygiene expectations are "wash in, wash out," that is, disinfect or wash your hands when entering and when leaving a patient room. Without a doubt, hand hygiene is one of the best things you can do to reduce health care – associated infections.

Communication Center update

The renovation of the Physician Communication Center is nearing completion, and an open house is being planned. One feature of the new center will be an area to collect suggestions and comments. I am always seeking input from physicians on ways we can make it easier to practice at Sparrow. Our new communication center will offer more opportunities for an exchange of ideas.



From left, Luis Gonzalez, MD, Dawn Springer, MD, and Sparrow President and CEO Dennis Swan at the Doctors' Day breakfast on March 30. Nearly 200 physicians enjoyed the breakfast held in their honor.



Mary Jo Hughes, DO, was recently honored by the American College of Emergency Physicians as a "Hero of Emergency Medicine." She was cited for her clinical excellence and dedication to teaching others. Dr. Hughes also serves as program director of the Osteopathic Emergency Medicine Residency, Sparrow/Ingham/MSU.

Hospitalists honored

James Haering, DO, Carolyn Whitley, MD, and Kelly Morgan, MD have earned the Fellow in Hospital Medicine designation, a special recognition for hospitalists who have distinguished themselves among their colleagues. The Society of Hospital Medicine, the premier national medical society representing hospitalists, will induct this inaugural class of fellows this May in Chicago, Ill.

2009 Physician Recognition Dinner

**Saturday, April 25, 2009
Country Club of Lansing**

Reception and cash bar – 6 pm. Dinner – 7 pm.
Awards ceremony - - 8 pm. Black tie optional.

Space is limited. Please RSVP by April 14

517-364-3607

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Please contact me with your thoughts, comments and ideas regarding this issue, or for any subjects featured in *Sparrow Physician*. Dawn Springer, MD, Chief of the Medical Staff dawn.springer@sparrow.org