New pilot program enhances care for diabetic inpatients

Beginning in February, a new program led by Diabetes Center Medical Director Michael Carella, M.D., will provide enhanced care for diabetic inpatients. The program offers management of blood glucose, evaluation and possible adjustments of current diabetes medications, a nutritional assessment and dietitian consult if needed.

Although patients with a new diagnosis of diabetes can be managed through this program, the focus is to manage patients for whom poorly controlled diabetes is a secondary diagnosis.

The new program is managed by an in-house nurse practitioner with physician oversight. It will pilot on 7-South and 6 West beginning Feb. 7, and on 8-South beginning Feb. 21. This service will initially be available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Consults for inpatient diabetes services can be requested by any nurse, but will require orders by an attending physician. Diabetic issues will be managed during the hospital stay and, if it is deemed necessary, the patient will be referred to Sparrow’s outpatient Diabetes Center for further education and management.

For more information about this new program, call Sparrow’s Diabetes Center at 517-364-5955.

Express Transition Unit Opens. Patient Care Technician BethAnne Allen (foreground) and ETU manager Jeanie Bishop, RN, process inpatient orders at Sparrow’s new Express Transition Unit (ETU). ETU patients are transferred from the Emergency Department to begin the admission process and help reduce Emergency Department wait times while streamlining care for patients. To contact the ETU, call 517-364-4120.

Sparrow Quality Endorsements

TCI earns Echo Lab accreditation. Sparrow’s Thoracic Cardiovascular Institute (TCI) was recently granted accreditation by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL) for all of its locations in Lansing, Owosso, Mt. Pleasant and Eaton Rapids.

Sparrow Specialty reaches VAP milestone. Congratulations to Sparrow Specialty Hospital. The long-term acute care facility has gone 24 months with zero cases of ventilator-acquired pneumonia. Kudos to medical director Paul Entler, M.D., and his team.

Stroke team earns honors. Sparrow’s stroke clinical practice team recently earned a number of awards for their efforts in the administering of tPA and other stroke care protocols, ensuring that the care Sparrow provides to stroke patients is aligned with the latest scientific guidelines. Congratulations to team leader Arshad Majid, M.D. and his multidisciplinary team.
Medical Staff Office Update:

Refresh your contact information
Changes in your demographic information such as name, address, phone, fax or pager, should be directed to the Medical Staff Office. Changes are regularly made to the credentialing database along with the hospital STAR system, so it is very important that they are relayed to the office as timely as possible. Changes can be made by mail, email at chris.allen@sparrow.org or faxed to (517) 364-3896

Reappointment
Reappointment (membership and privilege renewal) will take place this year for the following departments: Anesthesia, Family Medicine, Pathology, Radiology and Surgery. Applications will be mailed out this spring. Please return completed applications in a timely manner.

Quarterly Medical Staff Meetings 2011 Dates
Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of March, June, September and December.

March 8 - Eagle Eye Conference Center
June 7 - Eagle Eye Conference Center
Sept. 6 - Eagle Eye Conference Center
Dec. 6 - Kellogg Center
Dinner is served at 6 p.m.
Meeting/CME program begins at 6:45 p.m.

Verizon coverage expands
A significant upgrade has expanded to Verizon cellular coverage on the main hospital campus including the basement auditorium. Strength of reception might be better in newer phones, but some coverage should be available at virtually all locations. If you find a location within the hospital where you cannot get a signal, report it to the IT Help Desk at 364-HELP (4357).

At the ready. In service since April 2009, Sparrow’s Life Net helicopter is available within minutes to quickly transport patients to and from Sparrow so that they can receive the most appropriate care. Physicians can access the air ambulance service by calling 517-364-1111 or the toll-free number, 1.87.SPARROW.1 (1.87.772-7769.1)

iSparrow offers remote log-in
Implementation of electronic medical records is ongoing at Sparrow and iSparrow Charts is the remote log-in document management system that contains electronic images of Sparrow's legal medical record. It is coming soon to Sparrow, Sparrow St. Lawrence, Sparrow Specialty Hospital and Sparrow Behavioral Health.

An iSparrow Chart is an interactive electronic image of a paper chart. This means physicians can access it to complete chart deficiencies. For example, they will be able to edit and electronically sign transcribed reports.

Physicians will soon be able to access iSparrow Charts with a secure Internet connection from home and off-site locations.

The Sparrow iT Team is assisting physicians with remote connectivity to Sparrow applications. The iT Team consists of IT Associates Dan Nelson, Chad Page and Kris Doty.

The iT Team offers support to Sparrow-employed physician sites during the transition to iSparrow electronic medical records.
Med Staff Alignment Survey findings help guide future improvements

My thanks to all the physicians who participated this past fall in our annual Physician Engagement Survey. The survey helps us identify the issues which matter most to you and your colleagues and help guide us in investing our time and resources to improve Sparrow as a place for you to practice medicine.

Some key findings from the 2010 survey:

- Our overall response rate was 45 percent, an increase from the 2009 survey of 42 percent.
- More than half of the surveys (52 percent) were completed online.
- Our 2010 mean score was 73.4, a slight decline from the 2009 mean score of 74.9.
- Two of the highest mean scores were related to recommending Sparrow to friends, family and other physicians.
- Two of the lowest mean scores were related to speed of turnover in the operating room; and overall satisfaction with information technology.

The results and comments gleaned from our 2010 survey indicate that we have opportunities for improvement. Sparrow is developing action plans to address your concerns. Look for more information in upcoming issues.

Once again, I thank all of you who took the time to complete the 2010 survey and, as always, encourage you to contact me with any questions, suggestions or concerns. -- Michael R. Clark, M.D.

250,000th baby delivery expected in mid-March

There's a special delivery on the way – as Sparrow Hospital prepares to recognize the delivery of its 250,000th baby.

“Our 250,000th birth gives us an opportunity to thank both the expectant parents who have put their trust in us and the many dedicated staff who have put forth their best, 24-hours-a-day for more than a century, in the name of healthy mothers and babies,” said Maude Guerin, M.D., who serves as chair of Sparrow’s OB/GYN Department.

Maude Guerin, M.D.

To celebrate the milestone birth, Sparrow is inviting the community to follow the countdown on our website, sparrow.org and on our Facebook page: facebook.com/sparrowbabymilestone.

iSparrow Charts on the way

iSparrow Charts is coming to Sparrow on May 2. That’s the day physicians at Sparrow, Sparrow St. Lawrence, Sparrow Specialty Hospital and Sparrow Behavioral Health will have electronic access to patient charts following patient discharge. iSparrow Charts will allow physicians to review and sign chart documents online instead of having paper charts pulled and going to the Physician Communication Center to sign them. Orientation sessions begin Apr. 13 in the Physician Communication Center. Watch for more details in the communication center, on sparrow.org and the Sparrow Intranet.
Dr. Holzhei named Sparrow Clinton Hospital Chief of Staff

Sparrow Clinton Hospital has named Greg Holzhei, D.O., as its new Chief of Staff.

Choosing to practice at Sparrow Clinton Hospital in St. Johns was a homecoming for Dr. Holzhei. He was born at the local hospital and his parents still reside in the area.

Heart and Vascular appointments

Joel Cohn, M.D., will serve as new medical director for Sparrow’s Heart and Vascular Services. Supporting Cohn will be: Milind Karve, M.D., associate medical director for invasive cardiology services; Ronald Voice, M.D., associate medical director for non-invasive cardiology services; Appa R. Bandi, M.D., associate medical director for medical cardiology services; and Ranjan Thakur, M.D., associate medical director for electrophysiology services. Matthew D. Wilcox, D.O., has been named chief of cardiology services at Sparrow Clinton Hospital.

Check your website information

All of our Medical Staff members who have profiles on the Sparrow website (sparrow.org) under Find a Doctor should check their information. Because this website is new, some of the information may be incomplete. To update, correct or add information, contact the Medical Staff Services Office 364-2582, or email chris.allen@sparrow.org to be sure they have the correct information in their database.

Sparrow neonatologist Padmani Karna, M.D., is reunited with former patient Beau Hayhoe, a freshman at Michigan State University. Hayhoe, who weighed 1 lb. 12 oz. at birth, spent many weeks under Dr. Karna’s care. A three-sport high school athlete, he is now in MSU’s Honors College majoring in Journalism.

Greg Holzhei, D.O.

Quarterly Medical Staff Meeting

March 8 - Eagle Eye Conference Center
Dinner is served at 6 p.m.
Meeting/CME program begins at 6:45 p.m.

2011 Physician Recognition Dinner
Saturday, April 30
Country Club of Lansing

Physician of the Year – Donald L. Porter, M.D.
Reception and cash bar – 6 pm. Dinner – 7 pm.
Awards ceremony - 8 pm. Black tie optional.
Space is limited. Please RSVP by April 15 517-364-3607
May 2 deadline for paper charts

Beginning May 2, Sparrow will transition to the new iSparrow Charts system. The Health Information Management (HIM) Department will scan discharged patient records and make them available only through iSparrow Charts.

Paper charts created before May 2 must be completed in paper format in the HIM Department. Visiting the HIM Department routinely in the coming weeks will add to your convenience following May 2 by hastening your transition from paper to electronic chart completion.

To view documents or charts for patients discharged before May 2, contact HIM at ext. 42276 (main campus) or ext. 46940 (St. Lawrence Campus).

The IT Help Desk can assist you with questions regarding access to the system on your computer. Call the Help Desk at ext. 4-HELP (364-4357).

Orientation and training for iSparrow Charts will be held Apr. 11 – May 27. Sign-up for classroom or drop-in orientation and training sessions at the Physician Communication Center are posted on the Intranet under the iSparrow Charts link.

Doctors’ Day Message

On behalf of everyone at Sparrow, thank you for your dedicated service to our patients and our community.

We are very fortunate that the more than 900 physicians on our Medical Staff all share an extraordinary commitment to quality and compassion in caring for Sparrow patients. Your presence continues to make Sparrow mid-Michigan’s most popular destination for people seeking high quality medical care, and for future health care professionals seeking an outstanding clinical center for medical education and training.

I very much appreciate your cooperation as we continue to work together in today’s challenging health care environment. Thank you again for your commitment and contributions to quality patient care and to Sparrow.

Warm regards,

Michael R. Clark, M.D.
The “Sparrow Way”

Building on the practices of some of the most prestigious medical centers in the nation, Sparrow is currently drafting the core principles behind the “Sparrow Way,” a patient-first, evidence-based medicine organizational philosophy that will help guide us in our daily efforts.

Presently, the Sparrow Way Steering Committee, co-chaired by president and CEO Dennis Swan and Chief of the Medical Staff Michael Clark, M.D., and the Sparrow Way Task Force, co-chaired by Chief of the Medical Staff-Elect John Armstrong, M.D., and Senior Vice President of Affiliate Operations Mark Brett, are busy defining and formulating the core principles of the “Sparrow Way.”

To assist in this endeavor, several medical staff leaders and members of our leadership team have scheduled fact-finding site visits this spring and summer to some of our nation’s top hospitals, including the Mayo Clinic, Geisinger Medical Center in Pennsylvania, Ohio’s Cleveland Clinic and Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle to gather information on best practices that can be implemented at Sparrow. When completed, the “Sparrow Way” will provide a blueprint to help provide uncompromising care and unique service for each and every Sparrow patient.

2011 Physician of the Year

Donald L. Porter, M.D.

Sparrow Clinton Hospital (SCH) surgeon Donald L. Porter, M.D., has been selected as the 2011 Sparrow Physician of the Year. Dr. Porter has served as SCH general surgeon for more than 30 years. He also has served as SCH Chief of Staff, Service Chief of Surgical Specialties, and as a member of the SCH Board of Directors.

Sparrow Physicians Hall of Fame

2011 Inductees

Ronald Horowitz, M.D.  
Medical Director, Sparrow Regional Laboratories

L. Rao Kareti, M.D.  
General and Thoracic Surgery

Ronald Rhule, D.O.  
Emergency Medicine

Harry Wise, III, M.D.  
(posthumously) Obstetrics & Gynecology

Quarterly Medical Staff Meetings

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of June, September and December.

June 7 - Eagle Eye Conference Center
Sept. 6 - Eagle Eye Conference Center
Dec. 6  - Kellogg Center

Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m.
Meeting/CME program begins at 6:00 p.m.
Introducing: MySparrow for Physicians

Accessible at sparrow.org/mysparrowphysicians or through the sparrow.org home page, MySparrow for Physicians is designed to help you with your mission of protecting and improving the health of your patients.

MySparrow Physicians is a web area through which you can find convenient logins to Sparrow-based systems, such as iSparrow Remote, and the Juniper gateway to STAR, IMPAX or LabTest. You’ll also find links to schedule tests, procedures for your patients, news about iSparrow Charts, CME calendar of events, how to join the physician referral database, and physician order forms. It is a comprehensive, easy-to-access resource for patient services and clinical information. It is part of iSparrow, which brings the latest technology to clinical care at Sparrow.

iSparrow Charts

Beginning May 2, all Sparrow charts for patients who have been discharged will be digital through the iSparrow Charts (DMIS) initiative. This will allow you the convenience of completing and signing off on your charts from your office or home.

To be prepared for the transition. By May 2, you should:

1. Complete and sign off on outstanding and delinquent charts.

2. Attend an iSparrow Charts orientation session. To see complete orientation information, including how to attend, go to sparrow.org/isparrowcharts or call the Sparrow Help Desk at (517) 364-4357.

The Help Desk also can assist you with questions regarding access to the system on your computer.

Obituaries

Mendel Ford, M.D.                  Paul Jakubiak, M.D.

With regrets, we announce the deaths of anesthesiologist Mendel Ford, M.D., 44, who died March 19, and neurosurgeon Paul Jakubiak, M.D., 74, who died April 11.

A graduate of Wayne State University School of Medicine, Dr. Ford joined the Sparrow Medical Staff in 1999. He was a managing partner of Physician Anesthesia Services.

Dr. Jakubiak was a graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School, who joined the Sparrow Medical Staff in 1967. In 2006, he was in the inaugural class of inductees of the Sparrow Physicians Hall of Fame.

We extend our deepest condolences to the colleagues, friends and families of these two outstanding physicians.
Progress in record completion assignments for iSparrow Charts

We are gaining momentum in presenting record completion assignments to physicians in iSparrow Charts.

In the last two weeks, charts have been routinely committed to iSparrow Charts within 12 hours of chart pick-up from the nursing units by Health Information Management. It is our goal to continue that level of commitment on an ongoing basis.

In many cases, individual physician deficiency volumes are beginning to accumulate. You are encouraged to check record completion work queues in iSparrow Charts at least twice weekly to avoid backlogs.

If you have not yet received iSparrow Charts training and access instructions, please contact Deb Loniewski at 517.282.6763.

Welcome new physicians

The following physicians have joined or are in the process of joining Sparrow. Please welcome them:

- **Abigail Balger, M.D.**, Department of Emergency Medicine
- **Amit Banga, M.D.**, Department of Internal Medicine
- **Debra Dillon, D.O.**, Department of Radiology
- **Peggy Hale, D.O.**, Department of Emergency Medicine
- **Nathaniel Hibbs, D.O.**, Department of Emergency Medicine
- **Amy Hurlburt, D.O.**, Department of Internal Medicine
- **Christian Kolacki, M.D.**, Department of Emergency Medicine
- **Alicja Milik, M.D.**, Department of Internal Medicine
- **Kristen Owen, D.O.**, Department of Emergency Medicine
- **Kristen Ponichter, D.M.D.**, General Dentistry. Department of Surgery
- **Shalini Thoutreddy, M.D.**, Hematology/Oncology, Department of Internal Medicine
- **Barry Wenig, M.D.**, ENT, Department of Surgery

Process begins for Neurology to become own department

The Medical Staff Executive Committee has voted to start the process to make Neurology its own department instead of a division under Internal Medicine.

For information, contact Chief of the Medical Staff **Michael Clark, M.D.**, at 517.364.2429.

L. Rao Kareti retires after decades of service

L. Rao Kareti, M.D., one of the region’s most respected surgeons, is retiring at the end of June.

Dr. Kareti has been in practice locally for 38 years and is renowned as a general and thoracic surgeon.

He has been affiliated with Michigan State University since 1991 and is an associate professor with the MSU Department of Surgery.

Dr. Kareti was recently inducted into the Sparrow Physician Hall of Fame, the latest of many honors for his service to the community.
Physician educators honored with residency awards

The late Harry Wise, M.D., leads the list of Sparrow physicians honored for providing superior education to our medical residents.

Dr. Wise was posthumously given the CREOG Award, a prestigious national award for excellence in resident education.

Others recognized with resident education awards:

- Emergency Medicine: Dave Castle, D.O.
- Emergency Medicine Non-EM Teaching Award: Steven Martin, M.D.
- General Surgery: Outstanding Educator Award for Excellence in Teaching: Chet Morrison, M.D.
- Internal Medicine: Excellence in Training/Community: Alan Neiberg, M.D.
- Internal Medicine: Excellence in Training/Faculty: Heather Laird-Fick, M.D.
- Internal Medicine: Excellence in Training/Research: Ralph Watson, M.D.
- Lansing CHM Outstanding Volunteer Faculty: Jimmie Harris, D.O.
- Neurology Residency Educator of the Year: Stephen Burton, M.D.
- OB/Gyn Golden Apple Award: Martin Schoenmaker, M.D., Frank Takyi, M.D.
- OB/Gyn Senior Teaching Award: Martin Schoenmaker, M.D.

Pediatric residency awards went to:

- Ray E. Heifer Residency Teaching: Mark Kadrofske, M.D., PhD
- Maria Patterson Mentor of the Year: Elna Saah, M.D.
- Richard D. Ryszewski Faculty Teaching: Yakov Sigal, M.D.
- Jerold P. Veldman Clinical Faculty Teaching: Jonathan Gold, M.D.

Welcome Alonso Collar to Sparrow cardio team

Alonso Collar, M.D., a leading heart and vascular surgeon in the Lansing area since 1986, has joined Sparrow Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery practice. He also has been designated Sparrow’s Medical Director of Cardiovascular Surgery.

For more information, contact 517.364.5200.

James McCoy, M.D., retires after distinguished career

James McCoy, M.D., has retired after a long career at Mid-Michigan Physicians, P.C.

Dr. McCoy practiced internal medicine at Mid-Michigan since 1973, preceded by two years at an Air Force hospital in Missouri.

He was a longtime member of the Sparrow Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and served two stints as chairman of the Department of Medicine at St. Lawrence Hospital.

Reminder: Call the Help Desk (364-HELP) if you need extra assistance or training on iSparrow Charts.

The Help Desk is ready to assist 24/7 and often can quickly resolve an issue.
New process for test results after patient discharge

Starting Sept. 12, Sparrow will provide New Results After Discharge (NRAD) lab and test results directly to the ordering physicians.

NRAD are results ordered while a patient is in the hospital but reported after discharge. Sparrow is making the change to ensure test results are always reviewed by the physician who ordered them to ensure continuity and quality of care for our patients.

The results will arrive in the ordering physician’s office at the same time and in the same manner as all inpatient test results (i.e. via lab courier, USPS, electronically, etc.).

If you have questions, contact Larry Rawsthorne, M.D., Senior Vice President, Medical Affairs, 517.364.5900.

Food and Nutrition seeks clarity on diet orders

Sparrow’s Food and Nutrition Services works closely with physicians on the proper diet options for our patients. In order to assure the best communication, here are some suggestions:

- If a soft diet is ordered, clarify which one. A Mechanical Soft is for patients with chewing problems or lack of teeth. A Soft/Low Fiber is for those with GI issues, diverticulitis, post-op diet progression, new ostomy, etc.
- Clarify whether a patient needs a: Low Fat diet (specifically for gall bladder issues) or Cardiac diet (heart-healthy low fat/low cholesterol; specify if caffeine is allowed) or Weight Control diet (for weight issues).

For information, see the Diet Formulary page under Food & Nutrition Services on the Sparrow Intranet, or contact Michele Nikolai, Clinical Nutrition Manager, 517.364.2363.

Inpatient Physician Advisory Group helps guide EMR

The founding members of a new Inpatient Physician Advisory Group have been identified and are in the midst of reviewing key project scoping decisions to help ensure the success of physicians as we transition to EMR (Electronic Medical Record) at the hospital.

The IPAG founding members have been part of visioning sessions for EMR and are working with hospital leadership to identify the remaining members of the advisory group, as well as developing an EMR charter to ensure physician input and guidance the project.

For additional information, contact Michael Zaroukian, M.D., Ph.D., EMR Medical Director, 517.802.2611

Blood Bank asks for completed transfusion orders

The Sparrow Blood Bank is asking physicians to completely fill out transfusion orders. The Blood Bank will no longer accept forms with missing information, effective Sept. 12.

There will be no interruption or delay in the cases of patients with acute or active bleeding.

For further discussion or questions about blood management, contact Jennifer Ely, D.O., at ely0273@msn.com, Chet Morrison, M.D., at chet.morrison@hc.msu.edu, or Margie McCloy, R.N., at Margie.mccloy@sparrow.org.

Quarterly Medical Staff Meetings
Sept. 6 - Eagle Eye Conference Center
Dec. 6 - Kellogg Center (holiday party and election for Chief of Staff-Elect)

Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. Meeting/CME program begins at 6 p.m.
Welcome new physicians:
David Rhine, MD, TCI
Jay T. Morrow, MD, Radiology
William Slater, MD, Radiology
Ronald Sarosi, DDS, Dentistry
Charles Rollinson, DO,Ob/Gyn
Paul Naour, MD, Anesthesia
Abigail Balger, MD, EM
Esli Gollapalli, DO, EM
Christian Kolacki, MD, EM
Jibran Naseer, MD, Fam Med
Cori Hemming, MD, Pediatrics
Robert Root, DO, Pediatrics

Michael R. Clark, MD
Chief of Medical Staff

Sparrow has new standard color uniform policy

Starting this month, Sparrow begins a nearly system-wide switch to a standard uniform color professional appearance policy. The switch will allow patients and visitors to easily distinguish nurses, PCT’s and other Caregivers at just a glance. Colors groupings are:

* Khaki (light brown) for unit-based Caregivers such as patient care technicians, emergency medical technicians, dialysis technicians, psychiatric technicians and medical assistants.
* Hunter Green for Registered Nurses.
* Chocolate (dark brown) will be worn by non-unit based Caregivers such as phlebotomists, transport and sitters.
* Navy Blue for environmental services Caregivers.
* Wine (deep red) for respiratory therapists, radiation therapists, and imaging Caregivers.
* Black and White will continue to be the standard uniform colors for all food and nutrition Caregivers.
* Black Polo Shirts will be worn by health unit coordinators, patient representatives and other administrative support Caregivers.
* Dark Green Polo Shirts will be worn by physical therapists, occupational and other therapists.
* Ceil Blue (traditional light blue) will continue to be the standard color for surgical Caregivers.

First trans-oral robotic surgery performed

Sparrow’s first trans-oral robotic surgery was recently completed by Barry Wenig, MD, Professor and Director of Otolaryngology at Michigan State University, Department of Surgery. The procedure is geared for patients with tongue and throat cancers and thyroid disease. It eliminates the incision and improves recovery time compared to the traditional mandibulotomy. The equipment permits easier access and removal of the tumor than traditional methods. For more information, call Dr. Wenig at 517.267.2460.

Sparrow verified as only Level 1 Trauma Center in mid-Michigan for adult and pediatric patients by a review committee of the American College of Surgeons. The achievement recognizes dedication to providing optimal care for injured patients. For information call John Kepros, MD, at 517.364.2616.

Please contact me regarding any subject featured in this newsletter at clark1@msu.edu or 517.364.2429.
Sparrow ED gets national recognition

Sparrow Hospital ED was honored by the Studer Group as a standout facility and an example of what is right in healthcare. The Florida-based consulting firm, which works with more than 800 healthcare organizations worldwide, honored the Sparrow Emergency Department as the Health Care Organization of the Month for October. The award is based on achievement, improvement and overall performance. There are more than 110,000 visits a year to Sparrow’s ED. Sparrow has shown impressive results in the past year, implementing measures to reduce the number of untreated patients, lengths of stay, and waiting times. Patient satisfaction scores jumped from the 45\textsuperscript{th} to the 85\textsuperscript{th} percentile of like-size hospitals. And the rate of patients who left before treatment fell to 1.6 percent in the last quarter of 2010, compared to a 1.9 percent national average. Questions? Please contact Tony Briningstool, MD, Executive Medical Director, Emergency Services at 517.364.3268.

Sparrow Physician Partnership Survey

We want to hear what you have to say. Your opinions help mark a clear and unmistakable direction for Sparrow’s improvement efforts. Lead us down the right path by completing the Sparrow Physician Partnership Survey. Responses are confidential, and we will listen to your valuable input. Your survey will arrive by mail in November. Questions? Contact Greg England, Physician Relations Manager, at 517.364.3199 or greg.england@sparrow.org.
Sparrow ready to launch iSparrow EMR Phase 2

Sparrow is now ready to launch the second phase of the iSparrow Electronic Medical Record project throughout our inpatient and outpatient areas at Sparrow Hospital, Sparrow Specialty Hospital, Sparrow Clinton Hospital and Sparrow Ionia Hospital. The key components are planned to go live by the end of 2012. We will add a fully electronic clinical documentation solution for our inpatient and outpatient departments, replacing most of our paper medical charts and integrating iSparrow Charts. iSparrow EMR is central to our efforts to implement the Sparrow Way, the model of care at Sparrow that defines, documents, deploys and adheres to Patient-centered, evidence-based best practices (clinical, service and leadership). A successful future for Sparrow starts with a successful launch of iSparrow. For more information visit sparrow.org/isparrow.

New Senior VP & CMO: Brian D. Schroeder

Sparrow’s new Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer Brian D. Schroeder was the clear choice of Physician leaders who participated in the national search process. Dr. Schroeder comes from Covenant HealthCare in Saginaw where he served as the Medical Director for the Hospital Medicine Program and as a key physician executive. He brings a diverse clinical career and experience from numerous leadership and educational roles. He joins Sparrow in early December. Questions? Call Joseph J. Ruth, EVP and Chief Operating Officer at 517.364.5058.

Brian D. Schroeder, MD

Wound and Hyperbaric Clinic to open

Sparrow is now uniquely equipped to help you heal your patients with chronic wounds. A new Wound and Hyperbaric outpatient Clinic is set to open at the St. Lawrence Campus on Oct. 17, pending final inspection. The clinic delivers advanced treatment options, will send detailed progress reports to the referring physician, and offers a panel of physicians to help manage co-morbidities affecting a patient’s healing process. Treatment options include: hyperbaric oxygen therapy; bio-engineered tissue substitutes; negative pressure wound therapy; growth factor therapies; advanced dressings and wraps; and debridement. To schedule a patient or for more information call 517.364.7750.

“Best wishes to retiring Sparrow Physician Hall of Fame 2011 inductee and Emergency Department team member Dr. Ronald Rhule, DO”
Welcome new physicians:
Family Medicine
Lynn Laitinen-Kloss, MD
Internal Medicine
Mandar Ajaonkar, MD
Monohar Chintu, MD
Michael Flink, DO
Hassan Issa, MD
Madhab Lamichhane, MD
Anesthesia
Alys L. Long, DO
Pediatrics/Cardiology
Thor Thorsson, MD

Sparrow Medical Staff Newsletter

Sparrow one of only five Cancer Centers in trial

Sparrow Cancer Center is one of only five U.S. hospitals taking part in an international clinical trial for non-HIV related multi-centric Castleman’s Disease (MCD). The study is open to patients over 18 and coordinated by Gordan Srkalovic, MD, PhD, Director of Clinical Trials. Sparrow has one of the largest clinical trial programs in Michigan. Sparrow annually enrolls about 90 patients in about 25 separate clinical studies. Patients diagnosed with MCD have a median survival rate of 14 to 30 months. About 78 patients from about 24 countries will be enrolled in a study that explores the effects of an investigational medicine that blocks proteins that stimulate inflammation and tumor growth in lymphatic tissues. For more information, visit www.CastlemansResearch.com. Questions? Contact Dr. Gordan Srkalovic at 517.364.2182 or gordan.srkalovic@sparrow.org

Quarterly Medical Staff Meeting Tuesday, Dec. 6, to elect the 2012-13 Chief of Staff-Elect. Candidates are James Olson, MD, and Randy Pearson, MD. RSVP by Dec. 1 to 517.364.2429 or melinda.rapelje@sparrow.org

Reminder: Please complete Physician Survey

Time is running out to submit your Sparrow Physician Partnership Survey. If you have not yet responded, please take the opportunity to do so. Only a few minutes are needed to complete the survey. By doing so, you will be providing valuable information about how we can improve the ease of practicing at Sparrow. Questions? Need your PIN? Contact Greg England, Manager of Physician Relations, at 517.364.3199 or greg.england@sparrow.org

Michael R. Clark, MD
Chief of Medical Staff

Please contact me regarding any subject featured in this newsletter at clark1@msu.edu or 517.364.2429.

Welcome new physicians:
Family Medicine
Lynn Laitinen-Kloss, MD
Internal Medicine
Mandar Ajaonkar, MD
Monohar Chintu, MD
Michael Flink, DO
Hassan Issa, MD
Madhab Lamichhane, MD
Anesthesia
Alys L. Long, DO
Pediatrics/Cardiology
Thor Thorsson, MD

Sparrow one of only five Cancer Centers in trial

Sparrow Cancer Center is one of only five U.S. hospitals taking part in an international clinical trial for non-HIV related multi-centric Castleman’s Disease (MCD). The study is open to patients over 18 and coordinated by Gordan Srkalovic, MD, PhD, Director of Clinical Trials. Sparrow has one of the largest clinical trial programs in Michigan. Sparrow annually enrolls about 90 patients in about 25 separate clinical studies. Patients diagnosed with MCD have a median survival rate of 14 to 30 months. About 78 patients from about 24 countries will be enrolled in a study that explores the effects of an investigational medicine that blocks proteins that stimulate inflammation and tumor growth in lymphatic tissues. For more information, visit www.CastlemansResearch.com. Questions? Contact Dr. Gordan Srkalovic at 517.364.2182 or gordan.srkalovic@sparrow.org

Quarterly Medical Staff Meeting Tuesday, Dec. 6, to elect the 2012-13 Chief of Staff-Elect. Candidates are James Olson, MD, and Randy Pearson, MD. RSVP by Dec. 1 to 517.364.2429 or melinda.rapelje@sparrow.org

Reminder: Please complete Physician Survey

Time is running out to submit your Sparrow Physician Partnership Survey. If you have not yet responded, please take the opportunity to do so. Only a few minutes are needed to complete the survey. By doing so, you will be providing valuable information about how we can improve the ease of practicing at Sparrow. Questions? Need your PIN? Contact Greg England, Manager of Physician Relations, at 517.364.3199 or greg.england@sparrow.org

Michael R. Clark, MD
Chief of Medical Staff

Please contact me regarding any subject featured in this newsletter at clark1@msu.edu or 517.364.2429.
Physician Fund for Excellence Endowment

Please consider Sparrow as part of your annual gift to not-for-profits. The "Physician Fund for Excellence" endowment provides funds that will be used at the direction of medical staff. This endowment will enhance the ability of our physicians to provide high-quality and trend-setting care, research, and instruction, and will strengthen our physician team for decades to come. Your annual gift, even if small compared to what you give elsewhere, is powerful when combined with other active physicians. A team of physician Champions that includes Larry Rawsthorne, MD, and Michael Clark, MD, are working to engage you in the philanthropic pursuits of Sparrow. For more information contact Patty Jacobs Warner, Director of Major Gifts at the Sparrow Foundation, at 517.364.5690 or patty.warner@sparrow.org.

Sparrow leading in patient safety, quality effort

The 2011 MHA Patient Safety and Quality Annual Report: Hospitals Putting Patients First details Sparrow’s safety and quality efforts. Participation in the MHA Keystone: Surgery collaborative in 2011 resulted in over 99 percent of surgeries having a briefing and debriefing completed. As part of MHA Keystone: Obstetrics Sparrow’s rate of elective inductions before 39 weeks is four times less than the statewide rate. Sparrow’s elective cesarean section rate for babies less than 39 weeks gestation is less than half the statewide rate. “At Sparrow, we take patient safety and quality seriously, and strive to provide the right care to everyone, every time. It is embedded into what we do every day,” said Sherry Taunt, Sparrow Vice President of Quality & Performance Improvement.

Questions? Contact Sherry at 517.364.5230.

Sparrow proactively monitoring drug shortages

Sparrow has monitored drug shortages for many months to stay ahead of any potential shortages, said Richard H. Ricker, Director of Pharmacy Services. Should medication be unavailable, Sparrow always ensures physicians are provided with appropriate alternative medications. Sparrow has a team of pharmacy members who meet daily to review pending drug shortages. If a specific medication is in short supply, we work proactively to identify alternative medications and work with primary manufacturers and wholesalers to develop a plan of action to accumulate stock of the alternative medications.

Welcome new physicians:
Family Medicine
Jonathan Steen, DO
Internal Medicine
Bryan A. Kovas, MD
Lynn Laitinen-Kloss, MD
Supratik Rayamajhi, MD
Surgery
Sophia Hom, MD
Lucas Julien, MD
Pediatrics
Jennifer Boote, DO
Arpita Vyas, MD

Thank you to Michael R. Clark, MD, outgoing Chief of Medical Staff!

Please contact me regarding any subject featured in this newsletter at clark1@msu.edu or 517.364.2429.

Master Facility Planning process underway

Sparrow is working to ensure our facilities align with our vision of being recognized as a national leader in quality and Patient experience. We are undertaking a methodical process and talking with key stakeholders before making final recommendations. A leading priority is to determine appropriate services to be located in the top four unfinished floors in the Sparrow Tower. Floors 9 and 10 will be built-out first to minimize future overhead noise from construction. Completion of the four floors in the Sparrow Tower will eventually allow for 30 additional private rooms per floor. This will allow us to move current licensed beds into the Sparrow Tower and then also plan for and prioritize the renovation of existing units in the Neumann, Foster and South wings to all-private room floors. Specific criteria were used to evaluate and ‘score’ potential relocation of departments and services. Questions? Contact Ira Ginsburg, Senior Vice President of Operations, at 517.364.5300.

John Armstrong begins two-year term Jan. 1

Please welcome John Armstrong, MD, new Chief of the Medical Staff. He is board certified in pulmonary and critical care and a graduate of Boston University and MSU’s College of Human Medicine. He also trained at Henry Ford Hospital and Cleveland Clinic. Armstrong holds appointments as a Clinical Professor at MSU and chairs Sparrow’s Critical Care Services. He has four children and enjoys boating and coaching soccer.

The 2011 Sparrow Annual Report featuring 11 outstanding Caregivers is now available. The report is only being published online to ensure Sparrow is a good steward of our resources. You can find it at: www.sparrowannualreport.org
Olson named new chief of staff-elect

During Dr. John Armstrong’s term as chief of medical staff, James Olson, MD, will serve as chief of staff-elect. Olson has been a member of the Sparrow medical staff since 1986. He is a physician champion for the iSparrow EMR implementation and associate director of the Sparrow/Michigan State University Family Medicine residency program. He is past vice-chair of the Family Medicine Department and past director of Sparrow Mason Urgent Care. Questions? Contact Dr. Olson at 517.802.2660 or james.olson@sparrow.org.

New efforts to boost visitor check-in

Sparrow will soon place new signs in the west parking deck and at the information desk at the main campus to remind visitors to properly check-in and get a visitor badge upon arrival for appointments, surgeries, or visits. The signs are intended to prevent visitors without legitimate hospital business from making their way into patient rooms and clinical units. We ask that you help assist with these safety precautions by please reminding staff to take an extra minute to direct guests without badges to the front desk where they can check-in. Patient safety remains a top priority at Sparrow. We are a statewide leader in terms of implementing Michigan Health & Hospital Association Keystone Center for Patient Safety and Quality initiatives. Questions? Contact Amy Sjoberg, Risk Manager, at 517.364.2461.

Sparrow’s TCI gets national accreditation

Sparrow’s Thoracic and Cardiovascular Institute (TCI) received nationally recognized accreditation for its Vascular Laboratory Services. The three-year accreditation by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Vascular Laboratories (ICAVL) comes after a thorough examination of TCI’s Vascular Lab, its technicians and its physicians, in addition to the review of case studies. The accreditation assures that the TCI Vascular Laboratory is dedicated to achieving the highest standards of Patient care. Questions? Contact David R. Kruger, Vice President Cardiovascular Services, at 517.364.5003.
Physician Orders and Best Practices: From Ballpoint to Bits and Bytes

Physician orders drive the quality, costs and outcomes of care. Giving Physicians evidenced-based tools to select and enter orders helps promote quality while decreasing the overuse, underuse or misuse of tests and treatments. Transforming paper orders to computer-based order sets is an important example of how iSparrow EMR will be a key enabler of the Sparrow Way.

As Sparrow prepares to go-live with an inpatient Electronic Medical Record (EMR) on Dec. 1, 2012, we will be reaching out to Physicians and other Caregivers to help us create electronic order sets for iSparrow EMR. Having current, evidence-based order sets available for a variety of conditions will facilitate quality and ease of transition to EMR use by making it easier and faster for Physicians to enter a comprehensive set of orders for most conditions in iSparrow EMR. Achieving this goal will be an important leadership responsibility for all Medical Directors and Department and Section Chiefs. Other Physicians interested in lending their energy and expertise will also be welcome to participate in order set creation and review.

Your Inpatient Physician Advisory Group (IPAG) reviewed commercial vendors of evidence-based order sets and selected ProVation to use with iSparrow EMR. ProVation order sets are informed by and have direct hyperlinks to UpToDate and other information resources, such as Ovid and the Cochrane Library. UpToDate is well-known and used by many Physicians as their favorite and most trusted clinical knowledge resource, containing current evidence to help them answer clinical questions quickly and easily at the point of care. Regular users of UpToDate will not be surprised to learn that a recent Harvard study of more than 3,300 hospitals showed a statistically and clinically significant favorable association between hospital adoption of UpToDate and hospital mortality, length of stay, and measures of quality.

What selection of ProVation and UpToDate means for Physicians

Sparrow’s selection of ProVation and UpToDate means that when iSparrow EMR goes live, Physicians will...

- Have access to evidence-based order sets powered by ProVation and UpToDate, with links from individual orders directly to UpToDate and other evidence that underpins each order set.
- Be able to access the full UpToDate product at no cost, not only in the hospital but anywhere they can access the Internet.
- Be eligible to claim CME credit at no cost for use of UpToDate in their day-to-day work, with CME hours automatically logged and credit available electronically.

What are we asking in return? We are asking you to help make our order sets the best they can be by...

- Volunteering to review order sets using the ProVation online reviewing tool.
- Reviewing order sets when asked and providing feedback in a timely manner.
- Using the paper versions of the approved order sets in the months before iSparrow EMR go-live and giving us feedback.
- Using the order sets in iSparrow EMR on a routine basis once we go live in December 2012.

Stay tuned for more information on ProVation and UpToDate in the coming weeks and months. If you would like to volunteer to participate in order set creation or review, please contact either Dr. Jim Olson (james.olson@sparrow.org) or Dr. Mike Zaroukian (michael.zaroukian@sparrow.org) for more information on how you can help!