

October-November
2005

In this issue:

- Hyperbaric Therapy for Wound Care
Page 1
- Quality Measures
Page 2

Departments / Issues:

- Orthopedic Services
- Clinical Trials
- Center of Excellence

New Appointments:

- Gloria D. Sanders, M.D.
- Carols Santa-Ines, Jr., M.D.
- Phillip John Cusano, M.D.
- Bharathi U.Thuraisamy, M.D.
- Roulay Thammavong, M.D.
- Erica Snider-Thammavong, M.D.

Hyperbaric Therapy for Wound Care



The Arnot Health Center for Wound Healing has installed two monoplace hyperbaric treatment chambers. These chambers make Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy available at Arnot Health as an additional clinical pathway to the services currently offered at the Center for Wound Healing. Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy enhances the medical and surgical methodologies available for patients with chronic wounds and related issues.

The treatment is used primarily on an outpatient basis, mostly on those with diabetic ulcers, osteomyelitis and radiation necrosis. On average, patients do between 30 and 40 daily treatments.

Our multi-disciplinary team, led by Gregory Malanoski, MD, as Medical Director, will develop an individualized plan to treat each patient's wounds. After careful evaluation of each patient's condition and medical history, the Center for Wound Healing will develop a specific

treatment plan, which may include hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy may treat the following conditions:

- Diabetic Leg and Foot Wounds
- Chronic Bone Infection
- Issues Related to Acute Arterial Insufficiency
- Radiation Related Problems
- Necrotizing Infections
- Gas Gangrene
- Carbon Monoxide Poisoning
- Crush Injuries
- Other Non-healing Wounds

The hyperbaric treatment facility, open Monday through Friday, is located within the Center for Wound Healing in the Ivy II building. **Call 737-7773 for more information.**

Quality Measures

Arnot Health recently received the JCAHO quality report summary for 2004 and the results indicate that Arnot Ogden Medical Center performs well or above average in all of the reported categories.

This quality report is released from the Hospital Quality Alliance. The Hospital Quality Alliance is a collaboration to improve the quality of care provided by measuring and publicly reporting on that care. It enables the public to compare the quality of care in nearly all of the nation's hospitals using information available from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Hospital Quality Alliance.

The collaboration includes the CMS, the American Hospital Association, the Federation of American Hospitals, and the Association of American Medical Colleges, and is supported by other private organizations including the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. The goal of the program is to identify a set of

standardized and easy-to-understand hospital quality measures. These measures are then released publicly at <http://www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov/> and www.medicare.gov.

The ultimate goal is for this set of measures to be reported by all hospitals, and accepted by all purchasers, oversight and accrediting entities, payers and providers.

Results for the major categories are below, but you should look at the website, see all the subcategories and compare us to other area hospitals.

2004 National Patient Safety Goals - Performed Similar to Other Accredited Organizations

Heart Attack Care - Performed Above Other Accredited Organizations

Heart Failure Care - Performed Above Other Accredited Organizations

Pneumonia Care - Performed Above Other Accredited Organizations

Department News

Building Our Orthopedic Services

Arnot Health has teamed with Pittsburgh's Human Motion Institute (HMI) to create the Arnot Health Human Motion Institute, specializing in the coordination and delivery of care related to bones, muscles and joints. The partnership will enhance the Medical Center's orthopedic and rehabilitation services and create a musculoskeletal program of distinction for the region.

"We are quite pleased about this partnership and we feel it will enhance the orthopedic and rehabilitation services we offer our patients," said Dr. Fred Farley, Chief Operating Officer. "Our goal is to make Arnot Health the premier provider for musculoskeletal services in the region."

The partnership will help us coordinate all the components of care for orthopedics patients into a comprehensive program that includes prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation of musculoskeletal injuries.

Clinical Trials at Falck Cancer Center

The **Falck Cancer Center** at Arnot Health now offers Clinical Trials through **Clinical Trials Support Unit** (CTSU), a service of the National Cancer Institute (NCI). The CTSU is a pilot project sponsored by the NCI to make NCI-supported Phase III cancer treatment trials available to physicians nationwide. CTSU provides physicians access to more studies and educational materials for their patients.



Arnot Ogden Medical Center

For more information about available trials, please contact Health on Demand at 607-737-4499 or see the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Trials Support Unit website at <http://www.ctsu.org>.

“Center of Excellence” Designation

In conjunction with Bariatric Surgical Associates Robert Cole, MD, and Douglas McKane, MD, Arnot Health recently received designation as a Bariatric Surgery Program of Medical Excellence from Excellus BlueCross-BlueShield. Arnot Health is the only Southern Tier Bariatric Program to earn such a designation.

To earn designation as a Program of Medical Excellence, Arnot Health had to meet a set of standards that included, among others, having a designated staff to serve the needs of bariatric surgical patients and having a full compliment of consultative services and equipment. In addition, the program must have organized and supervised support groups, initiate ongoing quality management and improvement programs, and it must be successful in helping patients maintain weight loss while the number of operations and death rates meet proven quality standards.

Bariatric surgeons at Arnot Health utilize the Open Roux en Y procedure. This is the most common gastric bypass surgery utilized. In this procedure, a small part of the stomach is sectioned off, creating a small pouch for restricted food intake. This procedure will bypass four feet of intestine that can no longer be utilized to absorb nutrients.

New Appointments

Gloria D. Sanders, M.D., is board certified in anatomic and clinical pathology and holds an MBA degree in health care administration. She was laboratory medical director at Via Christi Medical Center in Wichita, Kan., bringing more than 20 years experience in her field.

Carols Santa-Ines, Jr., M.D., specializing in anesthesiology, received his medical degree from St. George's University School of Medicine in Grenada, West Indies. He did his residency training at University Hospital of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (USMDNJ) in Newark, University Hospital in Syracuse, and Roger Williams Medical Center, Brown University, Providence, R.I.

Phillip John Cusano, M.D., specializing in anesthesiology has medical degrees from USMDNJ and from St. George's University, Grenada, West Indies. He completed residency in anesthesiology at Yale University School of Medicine.

Bharathi U. Thuraisamy, M.D., has joined AMS and will specialize as a hospitalist at Arnot Ogden Medical Center. Dr. Thuraisamy got her medical degree at Rajah Muthiah Medical College in India. She completed residency training in internal medicine at Woodhull Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY, and completed family practice residency at West Virginia University Medical Center in Morgantown, WV.

Roulay Thammavong, M.D., specializing in internal medicine, has joined Arnot Medical Services and will practice at 100 John Roemmelt Dr. in Horseheads. Dr. Thammavong received his medical degree at Ross University School of Medicine, Dominica, West Indies. He completed his residency training at Wilson Memorial Regional Medical Center in Johnson City, NY.

Erica Snider-Thammavong, M.D., joined Arnot Medical Services as a Family Practitioner and will work out of our Spencer-Van Etten location. Dr. Snider-Thammavong completed her medical degree at Ross University and her residency in Family Practice at Wilson Memorial Regional Medical Center.

Did You Know?

Patricia Meinhardt, M.D., M.P.H., M.A., of the Arnot Health Center for Occupation and Environmental Medicine was recently asked to offer her expertise on water quality and waterborne diseases to government agencies in the hurricane-ravaged Gulf coast.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Louisiana Department of Health and the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine were among the organizations seeking Dr. Meinhardt's help.

The primary tool for this educational program continues to be the medical reference guide Dr. Meinhardt developed, *Recognizing Waterborne Disease and the Health Effects of Water Pollution: A Physician On-Line Reference Guide*, accessible at www.WaterHealthConnection.org. The on-line disaster tools available at the web site have received more than 7 million hits for information in the past two years. Several branches of the US military, the US Department of State, the FBI, and medical and public health specialists from more than 85 countries have accessed the site. It has been posted at four different sections of the Louisiana DOH web site for use by medical and public health practitioners.

The Arnot Health Heart and Vascular Institute's Cardiac Rehabilitation Program has been awarded certification by the American Association of

Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR).

To achieve this certification, the hospital provided documentation on how patients are assessed, patient diet, risk-factor assessment, and setting up a plan of care. In addition, the AACVPR evaluated the hospital's compliance with emergency procedures and preparedness, staff qualifications, patient education, and even the way cardiac monitoring equipment is maintained.

Program certification is yet another example of the Medical Center's commitment to voluntarily meet strict standards in providing cardiac care for the community. AACVPR is a national, multidisciplinary association dedicated to the improvement of clinical practice, promotion of scientific inquiry, and advancement of education for the benefit of professionals and patients they serve. Certification recognizes programs rigorously reviewed by a national board, which meets the association's requirements for standards of care.

ArnotHealth

600 Roe Avenue
Elmira, New York 14905

ArnotHealth

INSIGHT

Arnot Health is a community-based, not-for-profit healthcare system operated for the public benefit.

Contents may not be reproduced in whole or in part without written permission. 607-737-4100 or www.arnothealth.org

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Elmira, NY
Permit No. 157