

MORNING CMO REPORT

08.09.2017

FROM THE DESK OF:

Anthony P. Weiss, MD, Chief Medical Officer,
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs,
Upstate University Hospital

UPSTATE
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Grateful Patient Gives Gift to Honor Extraordinary Care

[Applies to All Physicians](#)

Grateful patient Dave McCarthy and his wife Norma donated \$50,000 to the Upstate Foundation in honor of the extraordinary care and treatment that Mr. McCarthy received as a patient of Gennady Bratslavsky, MD, and his team at Upstate University Hospital. The unrestricted gift is in support of the Department of Urology.

Mr. McCarthy is a longtime cyclist who has been riding with a group of friends from Skaneateles for several years. His relationship with the Upstate Foundation began a few years ago after a couple of members of the cycling group became patients of Dr. Bratslavsky, and the group began riding to raise donations for the Department of Urology. When Mr. McCarthy was in need of a urologist, he followed his friends' recommendations and made an appointment to see Dr. Bratslavsky, and was very pleased with the results. "My surgery was successful because Dr. Bratslavsky is an incredible surgeon whose ability to utilize the DaVinci robot ensured precision," he shared. In a very short period of time, he was back in good health and cycling with his group.

Thank you to Mr. McCarthy for this generous donation and for giving us permission to use his story to raise awareness of the Grateful Patient and Family Program. Thank you to Dr. Bratslavsky for setting an example for our institution of the type of care we can be proud of; the type of care that each of us would recommend to others.

Grateful Patient and Family Program

Quite often, donations from patients are made in appreciation of the care provided by Upstate physicians, and are a way for patients to give back to the institution knowing that they may very well be helping the next patient. Paying it forward is very healing and often gives the patient purpose and hope. To learn more about the Upstate Foundation's Grateful Patient and Family Program, contact Bethann Kistner at kistnerb@upstate.edu or 315-464-4283.

Memo from the Risk Management Department

[Applies to All Physicians](#)

Faulty/Broken Instruments- Please note that if you come across any faulty or broken instruments during a procedure, these items should **NOT** be thrown away, but rather, should be saved and sent to the appropriate department for inspection.

ALERT-Highest priority emergency communication; warrants immediate action or attention by the recipient.

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In addition, please review the Medical Staff Bylaws (MSB-03) Invasive Procedures:

B. Invasive Procedures⁵

1. A brief procedural note shall be recorded in the medical record immediately after an invasive procedure or surgery, and contain at least the following⁶:
 - a. Operation or technical procedure performed
 - b. Proceduralist and assistants, and a description of specific significant surgical tasks performed by those other than attending provider
 - c. Pre-procedural and post-procedural diagnoses
 - d. Anesthesia
 - e. Findings
 - f. **Complications** (ex. faulty instruments; and description of events)
 - g. Specimens removed
 - h. Implants, grafts, tubes and drains
 - i. Estimated blood loss

⁵ Procedures that require time-out or consent as per policy C-07, Informed Consent

⁶ Items that do not apply should be noted as not applicable

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Opioid Epidemic Educational Session – Save the Date

[Applies to All Physicians](#)

**SAVE
THE DATES**
Aug 24 or 26

**Onondaga County Health Department
invites you to attend a FREE**

OPIOID EPIDEMIC Educational Session for Medical Providers



**Thursday, August 24, 2017 • 6:00-8:00 pm
or
Saturday, August 26, 2017 • 8:30-10:30 am**

More details to follow!



ongovhealth
**Onondaga County
Health Department**
ongov.net/health • facebook.com/ongovhealth

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Changes to Hemoglobin A1-c, C-reactive Protein and Lactate (UPDATED)

[Applies to Downtown Physicians](#)

The Core Laboratory at Upstate Downtown Campus announces the following changes effective August 1, 2017:

New Method to Measure Hemoglobin A1c:

Old Method: HPLC

New Method: Immunoassay (Turbidimetric Inhibition Immunoassay)

What is not changing:

- Test results, reference values, and therapeutic goals, as both methods are traceable to DCCT/NGSP standards.
- HbA1c is lower in hemolytic anemias and increased in polycythemia and post-splenectomy.
- Can be used in Hemoglobin S, C, E, D traits.

What is changing:

- Performed: Everyday
- Acceptable sample: EDTA-Lavender top tubes
- >10% HbF interfere with the assay

Two Tests to Measure C-reactive Protein:

- C-reactive protein in inflammatory conditions (CRP), **LAB149**
- C-reactive protein, high-sensitivity in cardiac risk assessment (hs-CRP) **LAB150**

Serum/plasma samples are tested at different dilutions in the two tests, in order to reach an ideal precision and fast turn-around-time. The test principle is the same (particle enhanced immunoturbidimetric method).

Reference Ranges:

- CRP <8 mg/L
- hs-CRP <3 mg/L (<1.0 Low CVD Risk; 1.0-3.0 Average CVD Risk; >3.0 High CVD Risk)

Lactate: New Reagent with Increased Sensitivity:

- Lactate levels will be estimated 15-20% higher with our new reagent, when lactate is >5 mmol/L.
- There will be only a modest increase (<5%) in the measured value, when lactate is <5 mmol/L.

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- Consequently, the normal range of 0.5-2.2 mmol/L, and the critical value of 3.9 mmol/L are not changing.

If you have any questions, please contact Katalin Banki, M.D., Director of Core Laboratory or Stephen Gwilt, MS, MT(ASCP)SH, SC, Supervisor, at 464-6790.

T. vaginalis Testing

[Applies to Downtown Physicians](#)

Beginning August 14, 2017, the UH Microbiology Laboratory will replace culture for *T. vaginalis* with the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* (ATV) assay. This nucleic acid amplification test offers significant improvements in sensitivity (~98%) compared to other methods including wet mount (50-60%), culture (~75%), and Affirm VPIII (~60%).

Specimen: *Endocervical*

- Blue swab collected and transported in Aptima Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit

Vaginal

- Pink swab collected and transported in Aptima Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit

Cervical material in PreservCyt-Thin Prep Vials

Transport: Swabs:

- Room Temperature within 60 days of collection

PreservCyt-Thin Prep Vials:

- Room Temperature within 30 days of collection

Notes:

- Wet prep examination (Wet prep, genital) and the Affirm VPIII Assay (Affirm test) will still be available for order. **Both tests require a different sample than the ATV.**
- ATV testing can be performed using the same Aptima transport tube used for GC/CT testing, one sample for three tests.

Contact UH Microbiology at 464-4459 for further information.

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CDC Launches Updated Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System

[Applies to All Physicians](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have launched VAERS 2.0, an update to the existing Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). VAERS is a national program to monitor vaccine safety that collects and reviews reports of adverse events, including vaccination errors, that occur after vaccination. VAERS is a passive reporting system. Therefore, it is important for health care providers and other individuals to report adverse events following vaccination to VAERS so that evaluation can be done to assess for potential safety issues.

- VAERS 2.0 includes a new reporting form and a new website that allows users to submit a VAERS report electronically.
- There are two ways to report an adverse event following vaccination to VAERS 2.0:
 - Use the online reporting tool, or
 - Complete a VAERS PDF form and upload it onto the new VAERS website.
- The old VAERS-1 paper form will be phased out by the end of 2017. Accommodations will be made for persons unable to submit forms electronically.
- Anyone can submit a report to VAERS, including healthcare providers, patients, family members, vaccine manufacturers and the public.
- The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act requires healthcare providers to report adverse events to VAERS that are found in the Reportable Events Table located at:
https://vaers.hhs.gov/docs/VAERS_Table_of_Reportable_Events_Following_Vaccination.pdf
- Assistance with reporting is available via email at info@vaers.org or by phone at 1-800-822-7967.
- The new VAERS website also allows users to access VAERS data and learn more about how the safety of vaccines is monitored.

Additional Resources

- VAERS website: <https://vaers.hhs.gov/>
- VAERS Information for Healthcare Providers: <https://vaers.hhs.gov/resources/infoproviders.html>
- VAERS: An Overview and Demonstration (Video):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbCWhcQADFE>
- Fact Sheet for the General Public and Healthcare Providers:
https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/pdf/vaers_factsheet1.pdf
- History of Vaccine Safety (CDC):
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/ensuringsafety/history/index.html>
- For questions about other vaccine-related issues please contact the NYSDOH Bureau of Immunization at 518-473-4437 or email immunize@health.ny.gov.

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Outstanding Physician Comments

[Applies to All Physicians](#)

Each week we receive written comments from our patients regarding the care we provide within the Hospital. Below are this week's comments from grateful patients receiving care on the units and clinics at Upstate:

Comments
Informational

Radiology CG – Dr. Katsuhiko Kobayashi - Excellent!

Surgery Center CC – Dr. Ripich absolutely excellent. Explained everything to my wife afterwards.

Dr. Lisa Lai was knowledgeable and professional while being compassionate and caring.

Dr. Setter is the best doctor I ever had.

5W Inpatient Psychiatry CC - Dr. Ghaly is very caring, understanding and professional!!

Center for Children's Surgery - Dr Albanese was the surgeon and he was amazing.

Endoscopy - Dr. Rawlins – excellent!

Dr. Roy was great too.

Stress/ECHO/EEG Lab – All three professionals were outstanding. Each has something that was exceptional in this situation - **Dr. Changlai**

Pediatric Pulmonary and Sleep – Dr Hingre takes great interest in care of my child

Peds Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition - Dr Beg - phenomenal and made both myself and my daughter feel very comfortable. Dr Beg also made sure he was educating me (Mom) of what was going on.

Dr Beg extremely kind, genuine and there for both the adult and child

UHCC Women's Health Services - Dr. Julee Choi. She listened to everything I said and addressed my symptoms.

Vascular Surgery Clinic - CC - Dr Shaw - the greatest.

Dr Shaw was awesome.

Wellspring Breast Center - Dr. Swan was wonderful.

Emergency Department – Dr. Lauren Sielert, she was very compassionate a calm demeanor that helped me feel a little calmer. She was very accurate in her assessment. She was my angel in this situation.

7A - Dr. Azer is excellent! He saved my ankle!

6B – Dr. Hassan and Dr. Shiv also took extra time and effort to communicate with me and explain my situation and options for care.

8F - Dr. Wallen is a great surgeon, excellent bedside manner and explained my surgery so I understood everything.

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Surgery Harrison Center - Dr. Hassan went above and beyond and considered my significant travel time for follow up appointments.

Breast Care Center - Dr. Albert Scott. Very pleasant man.

Medicine Subspecialties - Dr. Paul is very nice and I feel very comfortable with her. I have recommended her to two others needing pulmonary care.

Dr. Yu - So kind, treating me like her only patient. Highly recommend her to others.

Dental Service - Dr. Javon Z. Slaughter loved him

UHCC Neurology - Dr. Pam is a very caring and compassionate doctor that I would recommend to anyone.

University Cardiology - Dr. Szombathy was professional, knowledgeable but still cheerful and upbeat.

Transplant Center - Dr. Pankewycz is an awesome dr.! The best!

Family Medicine - Dr. Nanavati can best be described as an AWESOME provider, caring and communicative in every way. He amazingly treats the whole patient, physical and mental.

Pediatric Urology - Dr. Riddell - knowledge and confidence, listening to concerns.

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