## **Congestive Heart Failure Clinic at EIRMC**

Day-to-day management for CHF patients

When your burden of patient care causes you to narrow your practice's scope to more critical intervention, patients needing ongoing support for CHF are perfect candidates for referral to the Heart Failure Clinic.

Part of the Wellness Center family of programs, the Heart Failure Clinic helps

patients and their families learn more about their condition and how to better manage their symptoms at home. This results in fewer readmissions and better long-term outcomes for the patient.

Because congestive heart failure cannot be cured, EIRMC's program pairs a heart failure cardiologist with a specialized nurse practitioner to assess a patient's condition and tailor a wellness plan. The focus is on treating symptoms, monitoring



medications, and helping patients learn healthy lifestyles to curb progression of the disease.

In the 6 months the clinic has been open, the results have been rewarding for patients of this program: zero readmissions. The national average hovers in the 20%

range, while EIRMC's 5 month average is 3.92% with 0% 30-day readmissions.

Douglas Blank, MD, heart failure specialist and Medical Director of the heart failure program, says, "This is good news for heart patients and means EIRMC is providing the best care possible, also evident by a 100% achievement in meeting Core Measures." He says that after discharge from the hospital, regular heart failure clinic visits can help those diagnosed with CHF to

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# Hdppy Mother's Ddy

# EIRMC Physicians'

## **Education Conference**

- May 3 Intraoperative Perfusion Assessment With Spy Elite System (NON CME)TBD
- May 8 M&M Conference
- May 10 Nano Technology James Schmutz, M.D.
- May 17 Cellulitis to Sepsis: When MRSA Complications Lead to PICU
  Tour of PICU follows
  Jeremy Hertzig, M.D.
- May 24 No conference Memorial Day weekend.
- May 31 No conference

Eastern Idaho Medical Education Consortium is accredited by the Idaho Medical Association to sponsor category one continuing medical education for physicians.

All classes are Friday at 7:30 a.m. at EIRMC, Classrooms A & B.

For more information contact: Shanna Hardman, Medical Staff Assistant (208) 529-6260

Shanna.hardman@hcahealthcare.com

## **Meet Mindy Hall**

Mindy joins Cody Arave as Physician Outreach liaison at EIRMC.

With a background in pharmaceutical sales and as an account executive in home health, Mindy has worked with physicians in southeast Idaho for over 10 years.

Mindy enjoys spending time with her husband, watching their children compete in their many sporting endeavors including baseball, football, volleyball and equestrian competition.

Look for Mindy or Cody to visit your office soon with information on how to connect with EIRMC services.

## **Cellulitis to Sepsis:**

When MRSA Complications Lead to PICU

Jeremy Hertzig, MD, Pediatric Intensivist at EIRMC, will present Friday morning CME followed by a personal tour of the PICU.

VE THE DATE of

CME May 17, 7:30am in Classroom A&B Join us as Dr. Hertzig shares real stories exposing the crucial juncture in the care continuum and learn to identify when PICU treatment is necessary.



# **CHF** continued

maintain an active role in managing their disease, by providing ongoing education beyond discharge instructions or occasional physician appointments.

Lesli Christofferson, Nurse Practitioner specializing in heart failure at the Wellness Center, agrees that once home, good intentions don't always translate into changed habits. Referral to the program brings opportunity for further instruction and monitoring, and additional resources like pharmacists, dieticians, and exercise physiologists, resulting in transformative understanding for the patient. As always, EIRMC will keep you in touch with your patient's progress and hand them back when their care demands interventions outside the scope of wellness.



#### **The Heart Failure Clinic Provides:**

- Comprehensive heart failure education for patients and families
- Rapid post-hospital follow-up
- Collaborative approach to care with the referring physician
- Medical therapy consistent with evidence-based practice
- Emergent intravenous diuretic therapy
- Feedback to family physicians and cardiologists
- 24 hour accessibility to staff – helping patients understand when to go to the ER

### **Benefits to Patients**

- Increased understanding of heart disease diagnosis and symptoms
- Decreased ER visits
- Better knowledge of
  - Activity guidelines
  - Dietary guidelines
  - Importance of taking medications

- Decreased hospital admissions
  - Improved quality of life
  - Close monitoring of heart condition and expert treatment from
  - Dietician
  - Psychologist
  - Pharmacist
  - Exercise Physiologist
  - Nurse Practitioner

To refer a patient or to learn more about services offered: 535-4200

Monday - Friday: 8:00a - 4:00p 2860 Channing Way, Suite 115

# **NEWS**Briefs



# Protocols shed light on patient care.

#### Now Available on EIRMC.com.

Hospitalist services at EIRMC continue to grow and serve the physician community. Dr. Jared Morton, Medical Director of the Hospitalist program, has promised to never leave you in the dark about your patient's care, and to that end, has posted an extensive list of evidence-based protocols under the "For Physicians" tab on the website. Simply click on the tab, and then click on the "Hospitalist" icon to access the list. Select a document by clicking on the link.



# **Demolition Derby and Musical Departments**

Update on construction and new department locations

Ever under construction, EIRMC continues to employ the hard-hat crowd and here are some areas to be aware of:

- May 2 Construction complete on new Cardiopulmonary Rehab digs on 1st floor
  - ICU reconfiguration begins expanding into the old Cardiac Rehab space
- May 13 Demo begins on 5th floor; one hallway will be out of service at a time
  - Each hallway will take 13 weeks to complete due to entire bathroom renovation in every patient room

## Where did they go?

## Cardiopulmonary Rehab

• Now on 1st floor near the Womens Center

#### Education

• Now in MOB, Suite 111 (old PAT)

## **Pre-Admission Testing**

- Now back on 2nd floor near ASU
- Expanded hours: 8am 9pm M-Th, 8am 6pm Fri