Surgery Center Cedar Rapids Completes First Same-Day Total Joint Replacement Procedure
Surgery Center Cedar Rapids (SCCR), Cedar Rapids’ only designated ambulatory surgery center, is now performing total hip and knee replacement procedures for patients who are healthy enough to meet certain criteria. In conjunction with Physicians’ Clinic of Iowa (PCI) Orthopedic Surgeon, Jeffrey Nassif, MD, SCCR is the first ambulatory health care facility in Cedar Rapids to perform this advanced surgical procedure while simultaneously allowing patients to go home for recovery on the same day.

SCCR has been developing the hip and knee replacement program for over eight months. Experienced surgeon, anesthesia, and nursing staff have developed the structure of the program. This includes specific criteria, which approximately 30 percent of patients will meet, and ensures their ultimate safety. Patients are admitted early in the morning, go through their final health screening and preparation, move to the OR and then begin their surgical recovery. Within a few hours of waking staff have the patient walk again and prepare them for discharge. Patients are then transported to PCI for physical therapy training prior to heading home.

“The advantage of performing these procedures at an ambulatory facility is that, for patients who are healthy enough, they don’t have to spend a night or two in a hospital, but rather they can go home on the same day,” states Jeffrey Nassif, MD. “Transitioning these procedures to ambulatory surgery centers is taking place throughout the United States where now over a 100 non-hospital facilities are performing hip and knee replacement on an outpatient basis. This option is ideal for the extremely healthy patient and studies have shown patients heal faster when they can recover in their own homes.”

Heart & Vascular Institute first in Cedar Rapids to perform Watchman procedure
Heart & Vascular Institute team members performed their first Watchman procedure in December. Currently there are only two other locations in Iowa performing this procedure.

The Watchman is an implantable device that goes into the left atrial appendage to reduce stroke risk in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation, as an alternative to long-term anti-coagulation medications. It is believed that over 90 percent of stroke-causing clots, in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation, form in the left atrial appendage. The Watchman device is a one-time implantable that can allow patients to be off oral anti-coagulation and reduce their stroke risk. Ninety-two percent of patients are able to stop taking Warfarin at 45 days, and 99 percent are able to stop it at one year.

Drs. Mohit Chawla and Wassef Karrowni perform this procedure as a team at St. Luke’s along with either Drs. Ojas Bansal or Fahed Al Darazi providing intra-procedure TEE.

UnityPoint Health Recognized for Excellence in Patient Financial Communication
UnityPoint Health hospitals have achieved recognition as an Adopter of the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA)’s PATIENT FINANCIAL COMMUNICATIONS BEST PRACTICES®. This is a national, first-of-its-kind recognition that fewer than 200 hospitals, health systems and physician practices have received across the U.S.

UnityPoint Health staff completed a detailed application process to show we follow nearly 100 best practices that take place at various times and settings. We demonstrated ways in which we display compassion, patient advocacy, and emphasis on patient education in our financial interactions with our patients. These best practices were developed by a blue-ribbon task force of the HFMA to help improve communication between healthcare providers and consumers about financial matters.

DEA Renewals
Below is a bulletin from the Drug Enforcement Agency regarding renewals. Please review and plan accordingly.

Starting January 1, 2017, DEA will only send out one renewal notification in accordance with Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 130113(c)(3). The renewal notification will be sent to the “mail to” address for each DEA registrant approximately 65 days prior to the expiration date. No other reminders to renew the DEA registration will be mailed. This is to also advise you that the online capability to renew a DEA registration after the expiration date will no longer be available. You will have to complete an application for a new DEA registration if you do not renew by midnight Eastern Time of the expiration date. The original DEA registration will not be reinstated.

Paper renewal applications will not be accepted after the expiration date. If DEA has not received the paper renewal application by the day of the expiration date, mailed in renewal applications will be returned and the registrant will have to apply for a new DEA registration.

Thank You
I truly believe it is an honor and privilege to work with you as part of our medical staff at UnityPoint Health – Cedar Rapids. Each year you confirm this through the care you provide to our patients and your generosity in donating your holiday gift back to us to help our community.

This year, through your generosity, we were able to donate gift cards to the Veterans of Foreign War, Families Helping Families and some of our own associates in need. We also donated food to Foundation II and the Salvation Army so they could serve those in need. Finally, we donated turkeys, hams and pies to 60 Four Oaks families for their own holiday meals.

I hope you all were able to take time to celebrate the occasion, the opportunities and the people in your lives. May you all continue to go above and beyond in all you do. We look forward to our continued relationship through the year. Happy 2017!

Merry Iowa City and UnityPoint Health – Cedar Rapids Announce Plans for Partnership
Merry Iowa City and UnityPoint Health – Cedar Rapids announced they have signed a letter of intent (LOI) that would allow them to provide health care services to the area through a new relationship.

While details of the proposed relationship remain to be determined, the goal is to enhance operational efficiency and clinical quality for patients and employees in the area.

“Bringing our two organizations together will improve our value-based care and care coordination capabilities,” said Mike Heinrich, Interim President and CEO and Executive Vice President and CFO, Merry Iowa City. “UnityPoint Health – Cedar Rapids understands how important it is for Mercy to retain its identity as a Catholic hospital and we are excited to have the support of the Sisters of Mercy and the Davenport Diocese.”

“We are excited to have the opportunity to bring Merry Iowa City into the UnityPoint Health family and have a great deal of respect for the long tradition of care they have in the community,” said Ted Townsend, President & CEO of UnityPoint Health – Cedar Rapids. “As the health care industry continues to evolve and change, it is increasingly important for organizations and systems to collaborate and partner in order to continue to provide quality, affordable health care.”

“The Sisters of Mercy West Midwest Community support the proposed relationship between Merry Iowa City and UnityPoint Health – Cedar Rapids and are grateful that the hospital will continue to retain its Catholic identity through the Davenport Diocese,” said Sister Laura Reicks, RSM, President of the Sisters of Mercy West Midwest Community.

Formal discussions will start immediately. All parties, including the Roman Catholic Diocese of Davenport, will work to complete due diligence and receive the appropriate approvals from their respective governing boards and regulatory bodies. During due diligence, representatives will learn more about the other organization and work closely to explore options. The agreement will preserve a key role for the local board in the leadership and governance of Merry Iowa City.
Epic Update

As Scheduled Frequency

The “As Scheduled” frequency button found within medication orders will now adhere strictly to the dosing times. Currently, when ordering, the As Scheduled time shows the standard scheduled times, even if the order time is past the As Scheduled time. Moving forward, the As Scheduled time will only show the future scheduled time. If a dose is needed prior to the standard scheduled time, the “Include Now” button will add a dose.

Specify the frequency and start date when ordering a medication. Moving forward, the “As Scheduled” button will only show times available to you after the current time.

Prior to change:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Administration Grid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>As Scheduled</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>As Scheduled</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After removing the Missed Instance/Dose Interval:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<td>As Scheduled</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Documentation Update

October 2016 ICD -10 updates brought several changes in documentation requirements. Many of the changes reflect the need for specificity. Due to this need, you may see more “clinical validation” queries from the clinical documentation nurses. This type of query is asking for more information to help specify and validate the current documentation. Diagnoses frequently needing further queries from the clinical documentation nurses. This type of query is asking for more information to help specify and validate the current documentation. Diagnoses frequently needing further queries from the clinical documentation nurses.

Clinical Validation Query Examples:

- COPD (generic diagnosis): specify chronic bronchitis, emphysema, or asthma.
- Chronic Kidney Disease: specify as stage II, III, IV, V or end stage requiring dialysis.
- Pneumonia: specify as simple, aspiration, or possible gram neg, MRSA, etc. (specify the cause or suspected cause if known).
- CHF: specify as diastolic (preserved EF), systolic (reduced EF) or combined (acute or chronic)
- Pressure Ulcer/Injuries: specify as stage 1, 2, 3, 4 or unstageable.
- Respiratory Failure: specify as hypoxic or hypercapnic and clinical indicators to support the diagnosis i.e.: difficulty taking PO, talks in phrases or use of accessory muscles.
- Sepsis: document clinical indicators i.e.: SOFA criteria and infection.

Brain Death Diagnosis

There is now a smart text available for brain death. It is called UPH Physician Brain Death Diagnosis. To access, select the smart text search box (next to the butler), type in brain death and select the UPH version for a templated note.

Timed Frequency Option for All Imaging Orders

(right) All radiology orders now have a frequency option of “Timed.” When choosing the “Timed” frequency it is important to choose a specific time for when you want the test performed.

DME Order Improvements

The DME subject matter experts have approved changes to DME orders to decrease their risk for denials while reducing the hard stops within the orders for providers.

- All DME Orders: The question “Specify Length of Need” will now default to “Lifetime.” This is the most common answer. Click the magnifying glass to select a different answer.

- Oxygen DME Therapy Referral: The “Equipment needed” question will now default to “Concentrator and Small Volume Administration set” so the DME vendor will be reimbursed for all needed equipment.

- DME CPAP or BIPAP Referral: Auto CPAP and Auto BIPAP have been added as possible answers to the “Specify type of device” question.

- DME Oxygen Therapy Referral: The “At night” option has been changed to “Sleep” on the Home oxygen frequency question.

- DME Nebulizer Referral: A question was added “Supplies Needed” with a default answer of “Neb with Compressor and Small Volume Administration set” so the DME vendor will be reimbursed for all needed equipment.

- DME CPAP or BIPAP Referral: Auto CPAP and Auto BIPAP have been added as possible answers to the “Specify type of device” question.

- DME Oxygen Therapy Referral: The “At night” option has been changed to “Sleep” on the Home oxygen frequency question.

Welcome Providers

Xin (Jack) J. Luo, MD
Urgent Care Hiawatha

Susan M. Mason, DO
UnityPoint Clinic Float Provider

Lori Oliver, ARNP
UnityPoint Health - St. Luke’s Neonatology

Upcoming Events

Mandatory Adult Dependent and Child Abuse Reporting
- Presented by Drs. Regina Butteris and Gerald Jogerst
- Wed., Jan. 11 at 11:55 a.m.
- CRMEF Conference Room
- RSVP to Cherie Weber at (319) 297-2306 or cweber@crmef.org

Cancer Prevention: Weighing the Risk
- Presented by Nassif Community Cancer Center dietitians and exercise specialists
- Tues., Jan. 24 from 5-6 p.m.
- PCI Community Room
- Register at communitycancercenter.org/event-registration or (319) 558-4876