



# Medical Staff News

JUNE 2024

## MEC Reports

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### Mark Greenberg, M.D., Retirement

After serving as a member of the Lee Health Medical Staff for 36 years and vice president of Medical Affairs since 2007, Dr. Mark Greenberg retired from his role with Lee Health on June 1. We are grateful to Dr. Greenberg for spearheading numerous initiatives to advance the quality, safety and patient experiences at our health system, and we wish him a happy and healthy retirement. Dr. Greenberg is the 'encyclopedia of the medical staff,' frequently able to recite the exact location and words used in the bylaws, rules and regs and administrative policies that establish Medical Staff governance. He has taught many members of the Medical Staff how to maneuver their responsibilities as Medical Staff leaders and is highly esteemed for his ability to solve complex problems and resolve conflicts peacefully and judiciously. You can [click here](#) to read his retirement message.

### Sally Palmon, M.D., Appointed Vice President of Medical Affairs

We're also pleased to announce Dr. Sally Palmon as our new vice president of Medical Affairs. Dr. [Palmon](#) has lived in Fort Myers since 1998, raising two children, serving as a partner with Anesthesia and Pain Consultants and practicing anesthesia primarily at Gulf Coast Medical Center. In 2014, she became involved with the Gulf Coast Medical Center Medical Executive Committee (MEC) as a member-at-large, secretary and eventually Medical Staff president during the pandemic.



Dr. Palmon was born and raised in Washington, D.C., and went to Georgetown University for her undergraduate and medical school degrees. She completed her anesthesia residency and neuroanesthesia fellowship at Johns Hopkins Hospital—where she was also an assistant professor. Congratulations, Dr. Palmon, on your new role with Lee Health. We appreciate your leadership over the years and are excited to work with you in this new capacity.

### Coming Soon: Hospital at Home

*by Iahn Gonsenhauser, M.D., MBA, Chief Medical Officer*

Later this year, Lee Health will launch a Hospital at Home program. Through this program, individuals facing acute illnesses or exacerbations of chronic conditions can receive high-quality medical attention, at a level that was previously only available within the hospital, from the comfort of their own home.

**The benefits of the Hospital at Home program are many.**

For patients, it offers a familiar environment conducive to healing, reducing stress and enhancing overall well-being. It eliminates the inconvenience and discomfort often associated with hospital stays, allowing individuals to maintain their daily routines and preserve familial support networks. Clinicians, like nurses and doctors, find hospital at home safe, effective and incredibly rewarding. Other health systems that have launched similar programs have experienced improved outcomes and enhanced patient experience.

From the perspective of the health system, this program represents a significant advancement in healthcare delivery, optimizing resource utilization and alleviating strain on inpatient facilities. Reducing avoidable in-hospital admission and readmission fosters cost-efficiency while ensuring patients receive timely and personalized care.

Together, these benefits underscore our commitment to innovation and excellence in healthcare, empowering individuals to thrive in the comfort of their own homes.

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### **Medical Staff Scorecards Now Available on VirtuaLee**

To keep our Medical Staff members informed and updated on relevant metrics for each campus/facility, we have created a link on the Quality and Safety VirtuaLee page called 'Medical Staff Scorecards.' There are scorecards for each campus, and they will be updated quarterly. [Click here](#) for a quick link to the scorecards.



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### **Safe Use of Opioids**

The Substance Use Disorder Clinical Consensus Workgroup (CCW) of the [Clinical Collaboration Council \(CCC\)](#) is promoting increased awareness of the safe use of opioids.

Did you know that the odds of death from an accidental opioid overdose now exceed that of death from a motor-vehicle crash or trauma? Or, that rates of fatal overdoses are 10 times higher in patients who are co-dispensed opioid analgesics and benzodiazepines versus opioids alone?

To learn more about what you can do to promote the safe use of opioids, read and share the [Safe Use of Opioids...Why It Matters?](#) flyer. If you have any questions, email the CCC at [CCC@LeeHealth.org](mailto:CCC@LeeHealth.org).

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### **Medication Use Management Information Added for GLP-1 Agonists**

Evidence-based clinical guidelines for the preoperative management of glucagon-like peptide (GLP-1) agonists have been added to VirtuaLee. [Click here](#) for the document that outlines the management of patients taking GLP-1 and needing procedures requiring anesthesia or sedation. To find this and other documents on Medication Management, [click here](#) to be directly connected to the Pharmacy VirtuaLee department page.

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## Hurricane Season is Underway; Be Prepared

Hurricane season started on June 1. We have a few reminders, so you're prepared:

- If a major storm approaches, the Medical Staff Office and acute care executives will create a list of physicians and advanced practice providers expected to provide coverage at Lee Health facilities during and after the storm. They will contact these individuals to make billeting arrangements.
- Please ensure the Medical Staff Office has your correct and up-to-date contact information so you receive emergency alerts before, during and after a storm.
- Using Google Chrome, review the Hurricane Response policy ([S08 08 398](#)) for additional details you need to know during hurricane season.

If you have any questions or want to confirm your contact information, contact the Medical Staff Office at 239-343-8571.



Submit articles for future issues of Medical Staff News to: [Yolene.Derissaint@LeeHealth.org](mailto:Yolene.Derissaint@LeeHealth.org)

Lee Health | Lee Health Corporate Center, Ft. Myers, FL 33916

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