

SUTURES

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Department of Surgery
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HCAHPS Patient Satisfaction Survey

To gain a better understanding of what patients are being asked on the HCAHPS Patient Satisfaction Survey, there was a recommendation made at Surgery PIC to inform the physicians on what they are being rated on and what is required of them. For the “communication” with the physician elements, the survey topics include emotional support, respect for patient preferences, and explanation of information and coordination of care. There is continual work being done on improving peri-op communication, which includes communicating estimated surgical time. The MD/RN Collaborative has recently compiled the questions and they have separated them out by physician specific questions.



Surgery PIC Public Folders Migration to Sharepoint

The Outlook Exchange Public Folders will be sunsetting and replaced with a Microsoft web-based product called SharePoint. All Performance Improvement Committee (PIC) content (including agendas, minutes, and other PIC-related documents) will be moving to SharePoint. Existing PIC exchange public folder users will have access by using the same login and password as your outlook web mail or desktop/laptop. To login, open Internet Explorer and type in <http://sharepoint>, scroll to the category “Performance Improvement Committees” and select the committee site. Note: you will only have access to committees in which you are a member. Login to the SharePoint Site can also be done from outside of Cedars without a VPN. Instructions and a direct link to the site will be also provided by your PIC coordinator prior to the next PIC meeting. If you experience any problems or have questions, please contact the EIS Help Desk at 310-423-6428.



Dr. Edward Phillips Honored

The Department of Surgery would like to congratulate Dr. Edward Phillips who was recently elected to fellowship in the American Surgical Association. He joins Dr. Alfredo Trento who was elected last year and other long standing members such as Dr. Leon Morgenstern, Dr. Donald Dafoe, Dr. Andrew Klein, Dr. Randy Sherman, and Dr. Bruce Gewertz, as well as new recruits Dr. Armand Guiliano and Dr. Ed Bove. The current Cedars roster of members of the ASA compares favorably to that of any academic department of surgery in California.



Pharmacy Updates

Acetylcysteine 10% 100mg/ml solution for nebulization shortage

Please note that we are currently experiencing an acute shortage of acetylcysteine solution for nebulization. Unfortunately, several of the manufacturers do not have a release date at this time, and acetylcysteine 20% inhalation solution is also on backorder. Given that our current supply of acetylcysteine nebulization solution is critically low, acetylcysteine 10% has been removed from the Pyxis machines and will only be available for use on a case-by-case basis until we can secure adequate supply. This decision has been approved by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Chair as well as the Pulmonary Division.

BENZOCAINE TOPICAL PRODUCTS: SPRAYS, GELS AND LIQUIDS: RISK OF METHEMOGLOBINEMIA

FDA notified healthcare professionals and patients that FDA continues to receive reports of methemoglobinemia, a serious and potentially fatal adverse effect, associated with benzocaine products both as a spray, used during medical procedures to numb the mucous membranes of the mouth and throat, and benzocaine gels and liquids sold over-the-counter and used to relieve pain from a variety of conditions, such as teething, canker sores, and irritation of the mouth and gums. The FDA is therefore recommending that:

- Benzocaine products should not be used on children less than two years of age, except under the advice and supervision of a healthcare professional.
- Adult consumers who use benzocaine gels or liquids to relieve pain in the mouth should follow the recommendations in the product label. Consumers should store benzocaine products out of reach of children. FDA encourages consumers to talk to their healthcare professional about using benzocaine.

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm250264.htm>

DABIGATRAN FACT SHEET AND REVERSAL GUIDELINES

As many of you are aware, the Dabigatran (Pradaxa®) 150mg tablet has been added to the CSMC formulary in February 2011



Citizenship and Beyond

Calendar

Surgery Grand Rounds

Wednesday, June 22 at 7:00 am in ECC – B

“CS Medicine” with Glenn Braunstein, MD

“Crimson” with Harry Sax, MD

Wednesday, June 29 at 7:00 am in ECC – A/B

“Wound Healing Surgery: Advances in Patient Outcomes Using Evidence Based Protocols” with Harold Brem, MD

Publications

Kahn, AM, Applebaum, R: “Operative Treatment for Segmental Eyelid Vitiligo” Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. March/April 2011 –Volume 27 – Issue 2 pp 132-134

Gary H Hoffman M.D.L recently published “Anal Cancer, A Four Part Review” a four part series on the diagnosis and treatment of anal cancer in *General Surgery News*; April, May, June, July 2011.

Shirin Towfigh, MD; Tatyana Clarke, MD; Wael Yacoub, MD; Aydin H. Pooli, MD; Rodney J. Mason, MD, PhD; Namir Katkhouda, MD; Thomas V. Berne, MD: “Significant Reduction of Wound Infections With Daily Probing of Contaminated Wounds: A Prospective Randomized Clinical Trial”. *Arch Surg*. 2011;146(4):448-452. doi:10.1001/archsurg.2011.61

Presentations

Dr. Robert McKenna gave the Tudor Edwards Thoracic Surgery lecture titled “Evolution and Current Status of Lung Volume Reduction Surgery for Emphysema” at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Cardiothoracic Society in Great Britain and Ireland on March 22, 2011.

Dr. Neel Joshi presented "Surgery 2.0" at the Princeton Club of Southern California board meeting in Century City on April 12, 2011. The topics covered included the latest developments in the treatment of breast cancer as well as minimally invasive abdominal surgery.

Dr. Edward Phillips gave a Grand Rounds presentation titled "Techniques in Laparoscopic Solid Organ Surgery" at City Of Hope on May 19, 2011 Techniques in Laparoscopic Solid Organ Surgery.



Items for submission to Sutures may be sent to Meg Jenkins at jenkinsml@cshs.org

The next SUTURES will be Wednesday, June 15, 2010.