



Physician News Brief

NEWS ABOUT COVENANT HEALTHCARE FROM
The Office of Physician Relations & Regional Outreach

MARCH 14, 2018

Doctors' Day Celebration- Friday, March 23

To recognize our doctor's hard work and dedication, please join us on Friday, March 23 from 6:30am- 11:00am at the CMU Education Building to celebrate National Doctors' Day. SIM lab tours will be available for anyone interested.

Active Medical Staff Meeting- Tuesday, March 20

Tuesday, March 20 is the next All Active Medical Staff meeting located in the Spencer T. Maidlow Cooper Lecture Theatre. Lunch is served at 11:30am and the meeting is called to order at noon. For any questions, please contact the Medical Staff Office at 583.6595.

Hepatitis A Breakout

Since August 2016, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has been actively monitoring an outbreak of Hepatitis A in Michigan. There have been over 750 cases resulting in 25 deaths. Most of these are in Southeast Michigan but recently 2 cases were identified in Saginaw County (not at Covenant) that were traced back to Southeast Michigan. Thus, Saginaw County has been added to the outbreak area. Hepatitis A Virus is primarily transmitted through a fecal-oral route. Healthcare providers can reduce the risk of transmission through vigorous hand washing before and after every patient encounter, the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and receiving the Hepatitis A vaccination. Vaccination should be considered for anyone who has any direct patient contact or is a food service worker AND has not received at least one vaccination. The vaccine can be obtained through your primary care provider, local pharmacies, local health departments and through employee health. If you would like to obtain the vaccine through employee health, please contact the Medical Staff Office at 583.6595.

New Opioid Legislation- Effective March 28, 2018

In an effort to combat the opioid crisis, the Michigan Legislature has passed the Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS) and other laws to track the prescription history of our patients. This legislation is designed to end the practice of "Doctor shopping" by patients and identify physicians who inappropriately prescribe these medications. Different aspects of the legislation begin to take effect March 28, 2018. Covenant is working on integrating the requirements into EPIC. Further information will be provided shortly. In the meantime, we encourage you to visit www.michigan.gov/mimapsinfo or other similar websites to familiarize yourself with these changes. For any questions, please contact Dr. Michael Sullivan, CMO, at 583.7351.

Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation at Covenant HealthCare

On March 1, 2018, Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital and Covenant HealthCare began their 50-50 joint venture. Working together, this will bring advanced inpatient rehabilitation care to Saginaw and the Great Lakes Bay Region. For any questions please contact Juli Martin, Program Director of Mary Free Bed Hospital at Covenant HealthCare, at 583.2816.

Covenant HealthCare and Mary Free Bed Neuro Symposium- Save the Date: May 19, 2018

Please save the date for the annual Neuro Symposium: "Neuro Rehabilitation: Nuts and Bolts" hosted by Covenant HealthCare and Mary Free Bed on May 19, 2018 at Mackinaw Lower Level Conference Room from 8:00am-4:30pm. CE's will be available for: Pain (1), Nursing, Social Work and Physical Therapy (6.5). For any questions, please contact Ashley Wisniewski, PM&R Clinical Coordinator, at 583.6289.



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OUR PATIENTS