

Stroke, knee & hip services certifiably gold

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations awarded Kenmore Mercy Hospital Disease-Specific Care Certification for Total Knee Replacement, Total Hip Replacement and Advanced Primary Stroke Care this summer.

It is the first Buffalo area hospital and one of only five in the state to receive the knee and hip certifications and one of only two hospitals in Western New York to receive the stroke care certification.

The Joint Commission, the nation's most trusted healthcare regulatory body, conducted an extensive, on-site review of Kenmore Mercy's stroke and knee and hip replacement services. Having found no deficiencies, the hospital

was awarded the Gold Seal of Approval.

Expert reviewers looked for compliance in more than 40 standards of care specific to the needs of patients and families, including infection prevention and control, process improvement, leadership and medication management.

"Certification is a voluntary process and I commend our physicians and entire staff for successfully undertaking this challenge to elevate our standard of care and instill confidence



Marcus Romanowski, MD, Chair of Orthopedic Surgery at Kenmore Mercy Hospital, speaks with Rita Kirk of Amherst before her knee replacement surgery.

among the community we serve," said James Millard, president & CEO of Kenmore Mercy Hospital.

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ASA recognizes hospital

Kenmore Mercy recently received the American Stroke Association's Bronze Performance Achievement Award, which represents the hospital's first 90 days of consistent adherence to the *Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Quality Achievement* indicators.

These include aggressive use of medications like tPA, antithrombotics, anticoagulation therapy, DVT prophylaxis, cholesterol reducing drugs, and smoking cessation.

The 90-day evaluation period is the first in an ongoing self-evaluation by the hospital to continually reach the 85 percent compliance level needed to sustain this award.



Rosanne Hemmitt, Director, Quality Improvement, from the Stroke Association, presents the Bronze Award to James Millard, Raquel Martin, MD, and George Kalonaros, MD.

The number of acute ischemic stroke patients eligible for treatment is expected to grow over the next decade due to increasing stroke incidence and a large aging population, making these guidelines even more important.

Welcome Aboard

Kenmore Mercy Hospital is pleased to welcome the following physicians to the medical staff.

Michael Duff, MD, joined the Radiology Department and specializes in oncology.

Catalina Ionita, MD, joined the Internal Medicine Department and specializes in neurology.

William Lagaly, DO, joined the Family Practice Department and specializes in wound care.

Harry McCrea III, MD, joined the Internal Medicine Department and specializes in cardiology.

Michael Meyer, MD, joined the Internal Medicine Department and specializes in neurology.

Joseph Muscarella, Jr., DO, joined the Surgery Department and specializes in otolaryngology.

Brenda Perez, MD, joined the Family Practice Department and practices at the Williamsville Primary Care Center.

Sandeep Singh, MD, joined the Internal Medicine Department and specializes in cardiology.

Kenneth Snyder, MD, joined the Surgery Department and specializes in neurosurgery.

Robbie Wall, DO, joined the Internal Medicine Department and specializes in cardiology. He is an electrophysiologist.

Johnny Yap, MD, joined the Radiology Department and specializes in oncology.

Su Zhan, MD, joined the Internal Medicine Department and specializes in rehabilitation medicine.



From the President James Millard

It's hard to believe, but fall is upon us. While many of you are in the thralls of the back to school season, we are getting ready for a different sort of educational opportunity - Kenmore Mercy Hospital's Associate Forums and Catholic Health's Voice of the Associate Survey.

Through the Associate Forums, you learn firsthand about important projects, news, and initiatives at Kenmore Mercy. These forums, like the Voice of the Associate Survey, enable you to share your opinions on a number of key issues.

Each and every time I meet associates, at our Associate Forums, in the hall and at various meetings, you share some great ideas for process improvement, patient satisfaction, equipment needs, etc... Please keep those ideas coming, keep talking to your administrative team, and let your voice be heard.

Kenmore Mercy's Associate Forums begin on September 28 and run through October 14. They are held at a variety of times, making them accessible for every shift.

The Voice of the Associate Survey will be conducted October 2 - 15. Computers and paper surveys will be available and all surveys are anonymous.

You truly are the voice of our associates. I hope you take the time to join us this fall and make a difference for your co-workers and patients alike.

Kudos!

Mary Lamartina and **Kristen Parisi**, nurses in the **Intensive Care Unit**, have been named ambassadors for the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. In addition, **Kristen Parisi** achieved her CCRN certification.



Kevin Brandon, pharmacist, received the 2011 Inpatient Preceptor of the Year Award from SUNY at Buffalo School of Pharmacy.

Heather Telford, nurse manager of the **Emergency Department**, achieved her Certified Emergency Nurse Certification.



Health Information Management won a coffee and doughnut party for the best Fabulous Fifties costumes at the 2011 Associate Picnic.

Congratulations to **Thomas J. Brewer, DO, MS**, Kenmore Mercy Hospital's 2011 Doctor of Distinction. He is an intensivist in the Intensive Care Unit since 2008.



Cafeteria joins Meatless Monday Movement

Kenmore Mercy Hospital has joined the “Meatless Monday” movement, by leaving meat off the cafeteria menu one day a week.

The hospital’s Dining Inn Café is now offering vegetarian entrees on Mondays under a plan announced this summer.

Meatless Monday is based on the World War I & II movement, when Americans were encouraged to give up some of their staple foods to aid the war effort.

Decades later, the idea has been repurposed – get creative, get meatless one day a week. Kenmore Mercy Hospital is doing its part by educating and inspiring people to eat fewer animal products.



Chef Chris Rickers prepares some vegetables.

The increased production of meat uses large amounts of land and water, produces significant greenhouse gases, and is a major factor in water pollution worldwide.

In addition, reducing meat intake can lessen a person’s risk for developing chronic conditions like obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and even cancer.

“Veggie-centric meals are healthier, less expensive, better for the animals and better for your own health,” said Kathy McAlpine, food services manager at Kenmore Mercy Hospital.

Meatless Monday is Kenmore Mercy’s latest sustainable food effort. In 2010, the hospital planted an organic rooftop herb garden.

Read more about the national Meatless Monday campaign at www.meatlessmonday.com.

Dedicated volunteers honored

The following volunteers were awarded special pins during the 2011 Volunteer Recognition Dinner.

Helping Hands

Orrah Wicks, a volunteer since 2007, helps newly admitted patients and with the Forks & Spoons program.

Charlie Gaglia, a volunteer since 2006, serves in the Willow Tree Gift Shop and is a front desk patient information volunteer.

Shining Star

Sally Hooper, a volunteer since 2007, serves in the transport office.

Commitment to Excellence

Joan LeBlanc, a volunteer since 1999, is the treasurer for the Auxiliary,

Above & Beyond

Victoria Stearns, a volunteer since 2001, serves at the front desk as a patient information volunteer.

Hearts & Hands

Margaret Brown, a volunteer since 2008, serves in the Willow Tree Gift Shop.

Judy Kedge, a volunteer since 1998, serves as a Eucharistic Minister volunteer with the Spiritual Care Department.

Marie Kuhn, volunteer since 2000, serves in the transport office.

Caring Hands

Mike Aidala, a Eucharistic Minister volunteer since 1998, also serves at Sisters of Charity Hospital and at McAuley Residence.



From left to right , volunteers Susan Snyder, Sr. Sheila Lederer, Sr. Norine Traux and Sandy Gerace

Shooting Star

Anne Karpie, a volunteer since 2004, is an active member of the Auxiliary. She helps with the sewing group and sells their wares in the lobby on Monday mornings and is also a hospitality cart volunteer.

Heart of Gold

Sr. Norine Truax, a volunteer since 2008, serves at the patient information desk, surgical waiting room, and McAuley Residence.

Moving remembrance events bring staff together

Kenmore Mercy Hospital staff, volunteers and friends came together twice this year for remembrance events in honor of our country's heroes.

In June, the hospital hosted a special flag ceremony to pay tribute to veterans and those who currently serve in the armed forces.

On September 11, a patriotic remembrance service was held to mark the anniversary of the tragedy ten years ago. A prayer cloth was also on display in the lobby for anyone to sign, leave a memory or a prayer.



During the flag ceremony, the hospital received an American Flag flown over Camp Leatherneck in Helmand Province, Afghanistan and dedicated to Kenmore Mercy by Major Kevin Klostermann, Commanding Officer for Company 1, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines. He is a physician's assistant in the Emergency Department.

Kenmore Mercy Hospital wants to know your military stories for inclusion in next year's ceremony. To share your story, call Dawn Cwierley at x76279.



Information Desk volunteer Pat Stewart leaves her thoughts on the prayer cloth.

Please join us at an upcoming Associate Forum this fall

Hospital Sessions

Wednesday, September 28 at 10 a.m.

Thursday, September 29 at 3 a.m.
& 6 a.m.

Friday, September 30 at 10:30 a.m.

Monday, October 3 at 8 p.m.

Wednesday, October 5 at 2 p.m.
& 5 p.m.

Thursday, October 6 at 11 a.m.

Tuesday, October 11 at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, October 12 at 5 p.m.

Friday, October 14 at 3 a.m.

All of the above sessions will be held in the Community Room.

Offsite Sessions

Wednesday, October 12 at noon
Sheridan Healthcare Center, Pulmonary
Rehabilitation Conference Room

Thursday, October 13 at noon
Williamsville Diagnostic Center
Conference Room

Upcoming Events September

11-17

Healthcare Environmental Services
& Housekeeping Week

15

Auxiliary Scrubs Sale - Atrium

18-24

Surgical Technology Week

24

Mercury Day

30

Knee & Hip Reunion
- Community Room

October

2-8

Nuclear Medicine Week

3-9

Sleep Technologists Week
Physician Assistants Week
National Healthcare Food
Service Week

7

60th Anniversary Event - Atrium

9-15

Healthcare Security Week
Case Management Week
Emergency Nurses Week
Central Service & Sterile
Processing Week

16-22

Pharmacy Week

14 & 18

Auxiliary Sewing Group Bazaar
- Atrium

18-22

Auxiliary Theme Baskets - Atrium

23-29

Healthcare Facilities
& Engineering Week
Spiritual Care Week
Respiratory Care Week

November

10

Auxiliary Small Indulgences - Atrium

18

Tribute to Angels
- Buffalo/Niagara Marriott

22

Thanksgiving Basket Blessing
- Atrium

"A strong and lively faith is the solid foundation of all virtue."

~ Catherine McAuley, Foundress of the Sisters of Mercy