

# MEDICAL STAFF BRIEFS

A Publication from the Chief of Staff and Chief Medical Officer



October/November 2023

## Medical Staff WINS

The Center for Cancer Prevention and Treatment has again earned National Accreditation from the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons.



### R4R: An invitation from Melissa Rudolph, MD Providence St. Joseph Hospital Orange MEC Secretary/Treasurer 2022-23, ER Physician & Physician Lead of Clinical Informatics

As the Cochairs for the Runway Show: Southern California, Dr. Melissa and her husband, Ricky, are involved with the nonprofit organization Runway for Recovery (R4R), which raises money for grants to support metastatic breast cancer patients and their families. This year, R4R partnered with the team at the St. Joseph Cancer Center, funding large wrap around grants to five St. Joseph families, supporting everything from grocery cards, clothing, and utility bills, to after-school activities for the children and transportation to appointments. SJO is also one of the lead sponsors for the Runway Show Southern California 2024 that will be held in Jan. 27, 2024, in Tustin! Find a 2023 event video at [runwayforrecovery.org/archive-2023-sc/](https://runwayforrecovery.org/archive-2023-sc/). The motto for Runway 4 Recovery is "The runway is shorter when we walk together."



Please visit [runwayforrecovery.org/events/#Runwayshow-Socal](https://runwayforrecovery.org/events/#Runwayshow-Socal) for more details. Tickets for the January 2024 Runway Show will be available on Nov. 1. Please reach out to Melissa at [melissa@runwayforrecovery.org](mailto:melissa@runwayforrecovery.org) or [melissa.rudolph@stjoe.org](mailto:melissa.rudolph@stjoe.org) with any questions or if you would like to know more about the organization!



### Dr. Matthew Greenberger Achieves Center of Excellence Designation

Congratulations to St. Joseph Hospital urologist Matthew Greenberger, MD, OC Urology, who has achieved a high level of training with the Urolift System and demonstrated a commitment of care for his patients

suffering from symptoms with BPH. Dr. Greenberger is a board certified urologist and urological surgeon in practice for more than two decades.



### Five 2023 Friend of Physician Awards for Outstanding Service

Congratulations to these outstanding individuals on being named recipients of the 2023 Friend of Physician Award:

Angela Acevedo, RN, OCN, ONN-CG, Nurse Navigator, Breast Program  
Lisa Evans, DNP, ACNP, Critical Care Unit  
Virginia Castro, RN, OCN, Nurse Navigator, Breast Program  
Lindsay Frederick, CST, Surgical Technologist  
Lea Oleas, BSN, Registered Nurse, Operating Room



L to R: Ian Chait, MD; Lindsay Frederick; Lea Oleas; John Cross, MD, Lisa Evans; Peter Smethurst, MD; Maher Gobran, MD; Angela Acevedo; Amir Ghiassi, MD; and Gina Castro. Honorees and their significant others received their awards at the Oct. 19 MEC meeting. This honor is given to a select group of caregivers who have worked in earnest to support the qualities that physicians have sworn to uphold with the Hippocratic Oath, including a dedication to patient care, medical ethics, and support of the art and science of medicine.

TELL YOUR PATIENTS ABOUT THIS EVENT OFFERED BY  
THE CENTER FOR CANCER PREVENTION & TREATMENT:

November 11, 9 am- 2 pm • Outpatient Pavilion

## FREE LUNG SCREENING



Patients who may be eligible:

- 50-80 years old
- Currently smoke or have quit in the past 15 years
- 20 pack+ per year smoking Hx

Those who may be qualified for a screening are invited to register at: <https://lnkd.in/gZjfHqd>, or call 844-925-0945 and our navigators will reach out to schedule appointments.

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**SUBMISSIONS SOUGHT:** Please send  
news items to 714-771-8056 or  
SJO-MEDICAL-STAFF@stjoe.org

## New Breast Program Director Dr. Hang Dang Building on SJO's Stellar Breast Program

During residency training, Hang Dang, DO, was on track to become a trauma surgeon. Then she met the patient who changed her life. That patient had a breast tumor so advanced, it bled through her skin.

"I just could not understand how she could have waited so long before seeking care," Dr. Dang said. "Her daughter told me that her mother did not have health insurance and was afraid to seek care. But there were programs, she could have gotten insurance and care."

Dr. Dang switched her focus and completed fellowships in breast surgical oncology and surgical breast aesthetics at the University of Pittsburgh and Northern Westchester Hospital in New York, respectively. After her training, she helped build the breast care program at Guthrie Clinic in New York and New Jersey. Most recently, she was a breast surgical oncologist in Newport Beach.

In August, Dr. Dang became director of the Breast Program at The Center for Cancer Prevention and Treatment. Having served on the Providence St. Joseph Hospital Orange tumor board since 2015, she is already quite familiar with the program. And like her predecessor, breast surgeon Michele Carpenter, MD, who in August stepped back to take



a part-time supervisory role with the breast program, Dr. Dang considers herself first and foremost a patient advocate.

In addition to advocacy, Dr. Dang brings strong research interests to the program. Currently, she is a sub investigator for a study assessing radiation treatment during breast surgery. Dr. Dang has also participated in research evaluating cryoablation to freeze and destroy cancer cells. This month Dr. Dang will preside

over a surgical quality improvement panel at the American College of Surgeons' annual meeting, in Boston.

One of her immediate priorities is bringing nerve-sparing surgical techniques that preserve nipple function to the breast program. Her interests also include robotic mastectomy and abbreviated MRI, which may detect earlier breast tumors than conventional MRI imaging.

"Providence St. Joseph Hospital Orange is a great program," she said. "I look forward to helping it continue to evolve."

Board certified by both the American College of Surgeons and the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons, Dr. Dang completed her medical training at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine, in Stratford.

## Get the Flu Vaccine by Halloween

**Staff with inpatient privileges are required to get a flu shot or submit a [declination](#) by Oct. 31, 2023.** Failure to submit evidence of vaccination or [declination](#) by Oct 31 will result in automatic suspension of privileges until compliance is achieved.

- **Skip the line! Caregiver Health will administer flu vaccine in the Doctors Dining Room Oct. 25, 1200-1300.**
- Vaccinations are offered at no cost to staff members on designated dates/times. Please bring your hospital badge.
- If you received your vaccination elsewhere, please complete the

online attestation or submit documentation of your vaccination to the Medical Staff Office. If you decline the vaccination, please complete the online declination. Attestations and declination forms can also be obtained by emailing [sjo-medical-staff@stjoe.org](mailto:sjo-medical-staff@stjoe.org) or calling 714-771-8056.

- If declining vaccination, you must wear a mask while on hospital campus through the end of influenza season, typically April 30.
- Flu Vaccine is Quadrivalent and is preservative-free. Contact Caregiver Health (CHS) for availability of egg-free vaccines.
- For a schedule of hours or more details, please call 714-771-8055 or email [sjocaregiverhealth@stjoe.org](mailto:sjocaregiverhealth@stjoe.org).