February Is American Heart Month

New Chair of Cardiology Section Shalizeh Shokooh, MD, has been affiliated with Providence St. Joseph Hospital since September 2003 when she joined Orange County Heart Institute, and was soon asked to be a co-director of our Women's Heart Center.

Q. Dr. Shokooh, how do you leverage your leadership role to effect positive change?
A. “The Women's Heart Center gives me a great opportunity to be involved in our community closely, and have an impact on educating the women in our community about heart disease, their risks, and helping them learn how to prevent a disease that claims one in every five female lives in the United States.”

Q. What trends are you seeing in women’s heart disease?
A. Surveys have shown awareness about heart disease being the leading cause of death among women was lower in 2019 compared to 2009. This is very concerning as the decline of awareness was seen greatly in women younger than 34 years of age and racial/ethnic groups. I’d like to see our staff and hospital being closely aware of negative trends in order to reduce them, and to take actions to increase awareness in our community through education, cardiovascular screening and counseling. We owe it to our young population to improve their health through our knowledge and doctoring.

Dr. Cross adds, “Cardiovascular disease is the cause of death for more women than all forms of cancer combined...and yet only 44 percent of women recognize that heart disease is their greatest health threat. As Shalizeh Shokooh, MD, Chair of the Cardiology Section points out, this highlights an opportunity in health education for younger and ethnic populations that scored lower in heart health awareness.

“This year, St. Joe’s is embarking on the journey toward Comprehensive Cardiac Center Certification. This new certification initiative is for hospitals with robust cardiac services and focuses on evaluating patient care at every touch point in the cardiac care continuum to improve patient outcomes, while adhering to clinical performance standards.

“In collaboration with the American Heart Association and The Joint Commission, this will provide us with exciting opportunities to further evaluate, evolve and elevate patient care across Heart Failure, Acute MI and a wide range of other cardiovascular services offered here at SJO.”

2024 Golf Medical Honorees
Integrated Critical Care and Pulmonary Specialists, shown after Foundation staff shared with them that this year our 2024 Golf Tournament will be raising money to honor our Critical Care Services – in particular new imaging equipment needed for our campus. The tournament is on May 15 at Coto de Caza Golf Club. The physicians in this group will serve as our 2024 Golf Medical Honorees.

For questions, please contact the events team at 714-347-7900 or send an email to: sjofoundation@providence.org.

From left, Intensivists Amir Ghiassi, MD, Reza Mina-Araghi, MD, Joseph Preston, MD, Peter Smethurst, MD, Shahid Hayat, MD, and Desmond Sjauwfoekloy, MD
Medical Staff Office Moves

You will find us still located on the first floor of the Sr. Francis Dunn Bldg., but on the opposite side of the lobby, adjacent to Human Resources. We invite our doctors to come visit us.

GRAND ROUNDS: POST-EPIC TRAINING

Thursday, February 29, 2024, 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Presentation and Q&A by:
Johnny Do, MD, Internal Medicine, Providence St. Joseph Hospital Medical Staff

Zoul Auditorium, lunch provided
Target Audience: All physician specialties
Option to attend virtually via TEAMS available at https://bit.ly/3w4RPuY or by scanning the QR code at right.

Target Audience: All physician specialties.

Desired Outcomes: At the conclusion of this activity, learners will be able to:

- Optimize EPIC use to become efficient in and increase efficiency and become familiar the EPIC Hyperdrive update
- Improve patient care in the acute care setting
- Utilize “tips and tricks” of order panels, personalized user order sets, and smart phrases
- Utilize resources for further learning development such as one-on-one sessions, EPIC courses, and access to clinical informatics champions, leads, and system provider informaticists
- Consider how implicit bias may impact appropriate care of patients and the need to improve communication between physicians, patients, the patient’s families, through the use of EPIC