Hello, everyone! Happy New Year to you and your families! First, I would like to pass along my thanks to Peter Smethurst, MD, Intensivist and Immediate Past Chief of Staff. His guidance and leadership have benefitted all of us here at Providence St. Joseph Hospital and I am eternally grateful. With supreme gratitude, thank you, Dr. Smethurst!

Whether you work primarily in the hospital or in the outpatient environment, you play an important role in the success of St. Joe's. Here are some 2023 numbers that show how many people are involved in moving our mission forward, and how many patients we have served: Our Medical Staff is composed of 1,071 physicians and 162 Allied Health Professionals. Our physicians include 113 medical group physicians and 558 affiliated physicians. 2,200 nurses are included in a total of 3,114 caregivers and hospital employees. Together, we cared for 66,000 unique patients. 413,000 patients were seen for outpatient visits. 21,000 patients were discharged from an inpatient stay. 6,210 patients had inpatient surgery and 5,003 patients had outpatient surgery. 4,374 babies were born. The Emergency Department saw 87,897 patients.

Those numbers represent the awesome talents and strong work ethic of our Medical Staff. Should you occasionally feel a bit winded, it's no wonder. We are doing a lot of work! Please take a moment to care for yourselves as well.

I would like to mention the Physician Honoree Wall near Starbucks. On Jan. 11, a number of our physicians, including some who are Emeritus, appeared in person with grateful patients who honored them with a donation to the Providence St. Joseph Hospital Foundation. These patients showed appreciation for their treatment, and in many cases, for saving their lives. To see this expression of gratitude was truly humbling. It is an honor to work in our healing profession. If you know of a patient who would like to honor you in this fashion, please contact Amy Daugherty at the Foundation, Amy.Daugherty@providence.org.

Great to be with you. See you soon!


The Kidney Transplant Center at Providence St. Joseph Hospital has been named the number one facility in California for kidney transplants by the Scientific Registry for Transplant Recipients (SRTR). SRTR publishes an annual list of the highest-performing centers based on two primary quality metrics: access to transplant and one-year post transplant survival. Providence St. Joseph Hospital's Kidney Transplant Center has the highest survival rate – in the 97th percentile – compared to 20 other kidney transplant centers in the state.

“To be at the top of this list is an honor and indicative of the hard work and dedication of the kidney transplant center team members, who are always working to ensure the best possible results for patients,” said Dr. Yasir A. Qazi. “The recognition is important, but what is most rewarding is that patients will consult this list to select where to get their transplant. We're extremely proud that we continue to be a top resource for people in need of lifesaving care.”

SRTR is a nationally recognized resource database of transplant statistics gathered primarily through the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) requires that SRTR make all data available to the public while maintaining patient privacy. SRTR is dedicated to providing the most reliable, accurate, and timely information about transplant programs, organ procurement organizations, transplant candidates and recipients, living donors, and donor families.

The data is used by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to certify centers, provide Center of Medical Excellence designations, and by patients deciding where to receive treatment. Find a comprehensive report for SJÖ's Kidney Transplant Center, including organ transplantation, survival rates and more details, at www.srtr.org/PDFs/012024_release/pdfPSR/CASJTX-1KI202311PNEW.pdf.

Have You Seen the New Physician Honoree Wall?

A new donor wall was revealed on Jan. 11 adjacent to the Wishing Well Gift Shop near the front lobby by the Providence St. Joseph Hospital Foundation. The wall was inspired by immediate past Foundation board chair, Tanja Cebula, who wanted to create a space for grateful patients to acknowledge their physicians. Twelve physicians’ made the new walls’ unveiling and they include: The late Dr. Ivan Turpin, Dr. David Margileth, Dr. John West, Dr. Brian Palafax, Dr. John Maurice, Dr. Tariq Mahmood, Dr. Ray Casciari, Dr. Peter Smethurst, Dr. Amer Jabara, Dr. Thomas C. Kim, Dr. Michele Carpenter, and Dr. Larry Santora. Congratulations for the incredible care that inspired their patients to make a gift of $100,000 or more!
Epic’s Web Browser Hyperdrive Go-Live on Jan. 28, 2024, brings notable changes for all providers. Hyperdrive is Epic’s new web browser for accessing Hyperspace activities. Some activities will look just as they did before; others will have a new look and may require education. Hyperdrive is not technically an Epic upgrade, but it will have education resources similar to an upgrade. Areas with notable changes include:

- Charge Capture
- Problem List
- Medication Reconciliation
- Therapy Plans
- Chart Search/Epic Search
- AMiON Single Sign On (SSO)

See a list of changes by Service Line at [epiclearning.providence.org/logon/LogonPoint/tmindex.html](epiclearning.providence.org/logon/LogonPoint/tmindex.html)

For remote Epic support 24/7, contact the Virtual Informatics Team at 844-922-7548.