2010 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

INNA YAMPOLSKY,
Physician Assistant, Surgery

Inna Yampolsky, Physician Assistant from the Department of Surgery, has no "working hours". She works until she completes her work, many days late into the night. Inna is the cornerstone of the surgical clinic and every nurse, technologist and other ancillary health worker knows and respects her. She is available to patients at all times. Inna’s relationship with her Surgery Resident colleagues, nurses and ancillary staff is excellent. She cares for her environment by assisting in maintaining the habitable status of the Surgery Residency Resource Center. In addition, she is an excellent phlebotomist. Congratulations and thank you.

FIRST NATIONAL URBAN HEALTH CONFERENCE

On Friday, February 25, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. the Herbert G. Cave Auditorium hosted the National Urban Health Conference. The morning sessions focused on Parenting in An Urban Community, and Mental Health, Stress, and Depression. The Panelists for the Parenting in a Urban Community included: Cynthia Grace, Ph.D., Chair, Department of Psychology, City College of New York City, Psychologist, Consultant, Author; Kareem Ghalib, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Columbia University; Terri Timberlake, Ph.D., Director, Mental Health Program Services, NYC Health & Hospitals
The purpose of the Urban Health Conference was to look for ways to improve health in Harlem. Healthy Eating, Obesity, Dental Health, Urban Violence, Financial Health, Parenting in the Urban Community, Depression, Heart Disease, Spiritual Health and other issues affecting the health of the Harlem Community took center stage at the conference. The four day conference was designed to help us think about new approaches to health and wellness, particularly approaches that blend expertise and resources from our community.

The Afternoon session focused on Heart Disease/Community Health: Listen to Your Heart. This session was moderated by Maurice Wright, M.D., Medical Director, Harlem Hospital Center, with Keynote Speaker Aubrey Clarke, M.D., Attending Physician, Division of Cardiology, Harlem Hospital Center, and included the following panelists: Tamara Nahar, M.D., Chief, Division of Cardiology, Harlem Hospital Center,
HARLEM SCHOOL OF MUSIC VISIT
On Wednesday, February 23, 2011, students from the Harlem School of Music rendered a musical performance to the Department of Behavioral Health in the Division of Child Psychiatry on the 5th floor of the Kountz Pavilion. The students performed a variety of songs for the children, putting smiles on their faces and inspiration in their hearts.

FAITH RINGGOLD’S ANNUAL VISIT
On Tuesday, February 8, 2011, Faith Ringgold, children’s author and artist, visited Harlem Hospital Center, continuing her nine year tradition of meeting with children from Amber Charter School and reading to them. This year’s meeting took place in the 3rd Floor Dayroom. Meeting the third graders reaffirmed the mission of this project – to offer a platform for young people to speak publicly and talk about their aspirations. This year’s theme, “Picture Me in 50 Years” evoked some very interesting stories of what the students feel they will be doing 50 years from now.

TJC READINESS AND TIPS for the Joint Commission Survey
Harlem Hospital Center is preparing for the next survey by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (TJC). The survey is unannounced.

During this season of TJC preparation, we all are paying particular attention to our environment and the environment of care for our patients and their families. Below you will find a list of items that we should be on the lookout for everyday.
Please report these findings to Facilities Management immediately at ext. 2480 or 2482.

ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY CHECKLIST

- Remove Chocks (Especially Isolation Rooms, PER Waiting Room
- Leaks
- Missing/broken tiles
- Signage - taped flyers
- Exposed wires
- Holes
- Blockage in hallways (beds, garbage, etc.)
- Fire Extinguishers inspection stickers
- Interpreter Telephones
- Burnt out bulbs

THE JOINT COMMISSION COMMAND CENTER

The TJC/CMS Help Center began full operation on Wednesday, December 1, 2010. To reach the Help Center dial extension 2480. Voicemail will be set-up for calls received during off-hours. You can also fax or email your findings to Jo-Ann Young: Fax: 2366/Email: joann.young@nychhc.org.

The Command Center will be manned daily through TJC from 8am-4pm Monday through Friday. This schedule is subject to change based on call volume.

TJC KNOWLEDGE BOWL WALK-THROUGH

Christina Harris, Assistant Coordinating Manager, Public Affairs, questioning Mr. Pedro Estevez, OTRL, Rehabilitation Medicine, during TJC Knowledge Bowl Walk Through.

Mr. David Simon, Chief of Rehabilitation Therapies, smiling after being quizzed on his knowledge of TJC.

Behavioral Health Staff (l-r) Leslie Gertz, RN, Mavis Jackson, RN, Cora Ilegbanle, Activity Therapist, Juliana Ali, RN, and Gary Clemons, Coordinating Manager.
Department of Social Work (l-r) Virginia McNally (seated), Rosie Pettway, Tonya Graham, Koshie Lamptey, Monica Hobson, Margaret Smalls, Theresa Pier, Cheryl Roberts, Evelyn Bishop

Vernie Riley, Assistant Coordinating Manager, Fundraising and Development, quizzes RHB Pavilion staff.

Shirley James, Assistant Director, Strategic Planning, quizzes two of our Dietary staff members.

Department of Dietary

Deborah Thornhill, Associate Executive Director, Strategic Planning, quizzes one of our Dietary staff.

**EMERGENCY CODES**

Our Emergency Codes are announced or signaled by the telephone operator

- **Code Red**  Fire
- **Code Pink**  Baby Abduction
- **Code Orange**  Decontamination Alert
- **Code Yellow**  Psychiatric Evaluation
- **Code 7 -7 -7**  Cardiac Arrest
- **Code Brown**  Internal Disaster
- **Code Blue**  External Disaster
PATIENT SAFETY CHAMPION

Congratulations to the Dr. Roberta Locko and the Department of Radiology for winning the Patient Safety Champion Award for Harlem Hospital Center.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

/CAUGHT IN THE ACT

Is there someone in your department that you have encountered during the course of your day that you would consider worthy of recognition for their efforts during the month? If so, please submit your write-up to Tamicka Murray in the Department of Human Resources, Women’s Pavilion, 6th Floor, Room 640, or by email at Tamicka.Murray@nychhc.org no later than the 3rd Monday of each month. The write-up should include the following information:
- Employee Name
- Title
- Department
- Supervisor’s Name
- Employee’s Tour

Remember, you don’t need to be a manager or supervisor to submit a nomination; you can nominate one of your fellow employees if you feel they are deserving of recognition. Any nomination received after the 20th will be considered during the following month, so please watch the due date. If you have any questions contact Ms. Murray at extension 2812.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mardi Gras
- Tuesday, March 8, 2011
Daylight Savings Begins
- Sunday, March 13, 2011
St. Patrick’s Day
- Thursday, March 17, 2011
First Day of Spring
- Sunday, March 20, 2011

Harlem Hospital Center’s next General Staff Meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in the Herbert G. Cave Auditorium.

The Joint CAB Legislative Breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 12, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon in the Herbert G. Cave Auditorium. All are invited to attend.

For additional information contact the Department of Public Affairs at (212) 939-1370.
2011 MULTI-STAR ONLINE:
Are you up to date?
The 2011 Annual In-Service Manual and Questionnaire booklet is now available online. You can view the manual and the booklet by clicking onto:

Requests for hard copies should be directed to Iris Gumbs at Harlem Hospital (212) 939-1522.

MAKE RETIREMENT A REALITY WITH THE HHC TDA PROGRAM
Your NYC HHC Tax Deferred Arrangement (TDA) is an important benefit that helps make retirement a real, reachable goal for every employee.

The HHC TDA lets you put away a portion of every paycheck toward your future. The money comes out of your pay before you pay federal taxes on it, so the impact on your take-home pay is less. And once your money is in the Plan, you can invest it to help your savings grow.

If you’re not sure how to invest, your local TDA Education Representative, Maria Lebron, can explain investing concepts and review the TDA’s investment options with you. She can also go over Plan details and work with you to enroll, increase contributions, or answer any questions you may have.

Watch for upcoming meetings and learn about how the HHC TDA can help make retirement a reality for you. For more info go to: www.prudential.com/hhc.

IRS DECISION A VICTORY FOR NURSING MOTHERS
On February 10, 2011 the Internal Revenue Service announced that the costs for "breast pumps and supplies that assist lactation are medical care" are now, under the IRS code eligible for tax breaks. That means that breast feeding supplies can be treated as deductible medical expenses and be reimbursed under flexible spending plans. In response to the decision, Senators Merkley and Harkin and Reps. Levin and Carolyn Maloney released the following statement:

"[This] decision is a huge victory for nursing mothers everywhere. Modern medicine has documented health benefits linked to breastfeeding, including a reduced risk of illness in infants and a reduced risk of cancer in mothers. And because breastfeeding is so effective in preventing disease, it also happens to save billions in health care costs. We thank the IRS for their careful consideration and quick response." From the Breastfeeding Coordinators, Generations+/Northern Manhattan Health Network...