

From Brian Boyd, MD, Outgoing Chief of Staff: Serving in Interesting Times

Not only has another year come and gone, but my two-year term as your Chief of Staff is quickly drawing to a close. Looking back, serving as your chief has been tumultuous, exhausting, enlightening, humbling and gratifying. As I shared with our highly capable incoming Chief of Staff Dr. Peter Smethurst, it was the most challenging and at the same time most rewarding thing I have ever done. I am reminded of a saying sometimes attributed to the Chinese considered both a blessing and a curse: "May you live in interesting times."

Together, we've ridden many unexpected and extreme highs and lows on the COVID-19 roller coaster. COVID-19 took a great toll on the Medical Staff, as well as Nursing, Administration and the entire health care team. While I am cautiously optimistic, the past year and a half has also shown that we are one variant away from again being inundated.

As if pandemic challenges weren't enough, in the midst of it we transitioned our electronic medical record (EMR) to EPIC. We are still pursuing its full potential in our current optimization phase.

The pandemic experience drove home to me the importance of wellness and striving to find and maintain a balance in life. Even though the pandemic precluded us from fully launching the Physician Resilience Enhancement Project (PREP) as I had envisioned, the good news is that as Immediate Past Chief of Staff, I intend to do so. Now more than ever, there is a great need for this pursuit.

Those of you who were able to participate in the November 5 Grand Rounds kicking off PREP learned about burn-out stages, risk factors, measurement and staff status, plus PSJH caregiver resources. I stressed that burn-out is not a weakness. We need to address the systemic and structural issues that contribute to burn-out. To that end, I'm very pleased that we have heard from physicians willing to volunteer for the PREP Committee. If you are interested in serving, I encourage you to contact me or Medical Staff Services Director Beth Miller.

Being Chief of Staff really does take a village to be successful. Beth is a stellar member of that village. Her guidance and knowledge enabled me to do my job. I am forever grateful to the entire Medical Staff Services team for their support. A great core group of staff officers as well as the entire Medical Executive Committee were always there for me when I needed them and never failed to give me sage advice.

Also in the throes of COVID, another absolute highlight from my chiefship involved creating and bestowing the Katie Skelton Friend of Physicians Awards, named in honor of SJO's longtime and recently retired Chief Nursing Officer. I was especially moved by honoree Jennifer Sturm, an ICU nurse working the night shift. During the awards ceremony, her husband shared that to keep her family safe, she would come home to sleep in the garage on an air mattress in her car, then go back to work. Hearing about Jennifer's sacrifice, as well as seeing how everybody pitched in during the crisis, I've never been prouder to be a member of SJO Orange family. Community doctors came to



the hospital to help out and specialties crossed over to help in what was truly a time of "all hands on deck."

Despite struggling to come to grips with the "new normal" of social distancing, we found new ways to connect with colleagues and patients. Two years ago I didn't know what Zoom was, but today the utility of that tele-platform and Microsoft Teams have allowed for greater participation. For example, after having to cancel Doctor's Day festivities in 2020, in 2021 we held a virtual celebration of appreciation featuring keynote speaker ZDogg MD. It turned out to be a therapeutic event, with much-needed venting

and decompression.

One of the lessons I've learned is the need for our Medical Staff to be active on a larger stage, due to the corporatization of medicine. I'm pleased that we welcomed local and regional administrators to engage in a newly created Orange County Chiefs' Table. My counterparts at St. Jude and Mission Hospital and I came together to ensure our ministries' Medical Staffs continue to have a voice in care delivery decision-making.

In 2021 we said goodbye to some wonderful friends and physicians, including Drs. Michael Fox, Winston Ho, Michael Linzey, Sterling Mutz and Christine Yang. We also welcomed 115 physicians (including teleradiologists/allied health professionals) to staff, who will no doubt make many significant contributions to excellence in patient care.

In spite of two tumultuous years, I managed to maintain a "glass half-full" perspective. I'm enthused about what the future holds. I look forward to continuing to bounce back from the pandemic, and advances in care, such as the addition of the Women's and Family Center which we broke ground on this past fall.

This year, our holidays are likely to be even sweeter, with greater appreciation for gatherings of friends and families. I wish all of you safe and happy holidays, and interesting, ever-better times in 2022.



Helen Caloggero Women's and Family Center groundbreaking – The new center at Main Street and Stewart Drive, slated to open in 2023, will house mother-baby services currently at nine locations.

MEDICAL STAFF BRIEFS

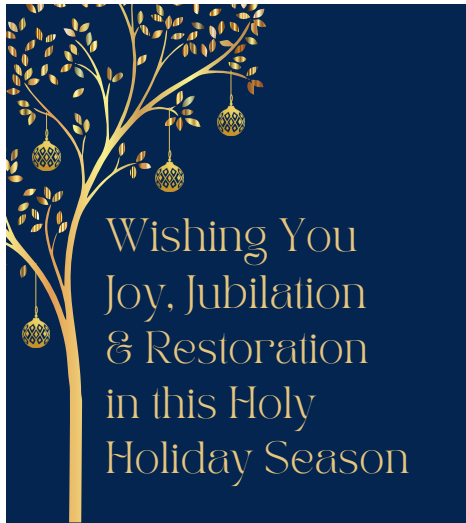
A Publication from the Chief of Staff and Chief Medical Officer

December 23, 2021



1100 W. Stewart Dr.
Orange, CA 92868
www.sjo.org

SUBMISSIONS SOUGHT: Please send news items to: 714-771-8056 or SJOMEDICALSTAFF@stjoe.org



In Memoriam: Michael Fox, MD

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Michael Fox, MD. Dr. Fox passed comfortably at home surrounded by his family on Nov. 29 after a courageous battle with cancer. The family is holding a private service; however, a public memorial will be planned after the new year.

Dr. Fox joined the St. Joseph Hospital Medical Staff in 1981, practicing Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Fox was an esteemed member of our Medical Staff for

40 years and practiced at several area hospitals. He was well known in the community and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. More information on a memorial and the family's wishes for donations in his honor will be circulated when available.

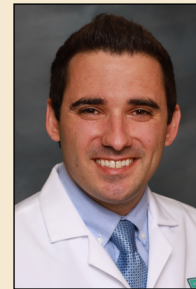
Department of Nuclear Medicine's Notification of Shortage

Due to the supply chain disruptions brought on by COVID-19, our supplier (Cardinal Health) has notified us that there will be a shortage of Tc-99m sulfur colloid and filtered sulfur colloid until at least mid-January 2022. At this time, the tracer will only be available Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

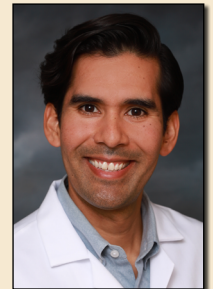
We will try to mitigate the shortage by using alternative tracers whenever possible. For example, we will switch from filtered sulfur colloid to Tc99m Tilmamcept (Lymphoseek) for breast localization surgeries. However, other studies that require the sulfur colloid may experience delays. For example, non-emergent studies such as gastric emptying may need to be rescheduled on days in which the tracer is available.

We apologize for the inconvenience. This problem is nationwide and we hope will come to an end in 2022. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

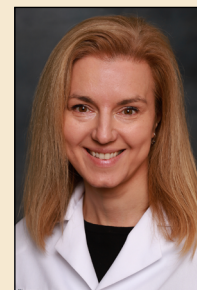
Welcome Medical Staff



Michael DelJunco, MD
Entrust Medical Group
Internal Medicine



Esteban Gomez, MD
Pediatric Hematology/
Oncology



Joanna Kopacz, MD
Infectious Disease



Solomon Poyourow, MD, DDS
Alamitos Oral Surgery
Oral & Maxillofacial
Surgery