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## Stevens, Swedish Affiliation Moving Forward

*By: Timothy Roddy, MD, Chief Medical Officer*

It's a new year and Stevens Hospital is embracing a new opportunity that offers significant, positive change for physicians and the community. As you're aware, the Board of Commissioners has approved moving forward with an affiliation with Swedish. This is currently a non-binding resolution that is subject to a definitive agreement and regulatory approval. There are some milestones before us that we'll need to achieve before the agreement can be finalized and Swedish leases and assumes management of Stevens. I'd like to share some of that information with you as well as address how this opportunity is anticipated to affect physicians.

Physicians who are members of the medical staff with privileges at Stevens, will continue to serve the community's healthcare needs as they always have – independently and with the continued support of Stevens staff and services. Physicians who are employed by Stevens will become Swedish employees when the affiliation is finalized. For all physicians and the community, the affiliation offers a bright future. Swedish shares our commitment to quality healthcare and recruitment of high-quality physicians.

Swedish is also offering a substantial financial commitment to Stevens that includes the support and expansion of service lines and upgrades in facilities. This, along with re-branding opportunities, will help ensure long-term stability for Stevens Hospital and our medical staff.

The process of finalizing the affiliation between Stevens and Swedish will take place over the next several months beginning with a community meeting and vote by the Board of Commissioners on a binding and definitive written agreement. Once that happens, meetings with the Washington State Department of Health will take place to transition the license to Swedish. Regulatory approval by the state is required before Swedish can assume management of Stevens. Stevens and Swedish are optimistic that this process will be finalized by summer 2010.

As new information on the affiliation process becomes available, updates will be provided in future issues of Vital Signs. Until then, here's looking ahead to a new year and a fantastic future for our medical staff.

# Longtime Stevens Vascular Surgeon Bids Farewell

In 1984 the first infomercial appeared on TV, the summer Olympics were in Los Angeles and Dr. Michael Zammit, vascular surgeon, was launching his practice and at a crossroads. Dr. Zammit made two choices that would affect his future and that of Stevens Hospital.

1. He would devote his career exclusively to vascular surgery and treating diseases of the arteries and veins.
2. He would join the team of physicians at Stevens Hospital.

Two and a half decades later, and years of service to the Edmonds and Seattle communities, Dr. Zammit is facing a new crossroad and once more looking ahead to a new opportunity. He says it wasn't an easy decision, but he is leaving Stevens after an old friend at Yakima Regional Medical Center 150 miles away convinced him to make the move.

"My friend told me there was only one vascular surgeon serving an area of nearly 200,000 people," says Dr. Zammit. "The hospital in Yakima needs another surgeon to keep their vascular program going and to meet the healthcare needs of the community."

Dr. Zammit says he'll do in Yakima what he's always strived to do at Stevens – build bridges to work with other physicians and extend his efforts into services related to vascular surgery.

"My first priority was to work with everyone," he says. "My second priority was to do things out of the box."

Out of the box thinking is how Dr. Zammit approached establishing an endovascular trans-specialty at Stevens in 1992. Dr. Zammit underwent extra training and created credentialing for various specialties to participate in percutaneous endovascular revascularization – the use of medical devices such as stents, tiny wire mesh tubes, to open up blood flow or rebuild diseased arteries.

"Beyond being occupied by a busy practice, I am always looking for new ways to do things," he says.

Dr. Zammit says he'll miss the camaraderie he experienced at Stevens the most.

"This being a smaller hospital you know everyone by name," says Dr. Zammit. "But apart from that, I will miss the exceptional support from Stevens intensive care unit (ICU) nurses. They would help each other to help me and they've been good to me and my patients."

"He had high standards and held nurses to those high standards," says Sandy Tetzlaff, charge RN for ICU. Sandy worked with Dr. Zammit for more than 20 years. "He was always rock solid under extreme pressure, always calm, and he could also be fun-loving. He's a great surgeon and he's going to be so missed."



Dr. Zammit hopes this isn't goodbye. He says he'd welcome an opportunity for Stevens and Yakima Regional to work together and share information on issues such as quality assurance that could benefit both hospitals. Dr. Zammit is also planning an informal, fun get together in Yakima for members of the Stevens medical staff in a few months.

Stevens thanks you and wishes you well Dr. Zammit!

## Don't Forget!

**January 19** Stevens is implementing an optically-imaged electronic health record using the Enterprise Document Management (EDM)/Soarian HIM system. Inpatient and ambulatory surgery patient records will be available to physicians electronically following discharge.

## Congratulations...

These individuals were mentioned by name in the October Press Ganey Patient Satisfaction Surveys and complimented for their great work.

*Bradley Karr, MD*  
Pacific Anesthesia

*Catherine Rogers, MD*  
Sound Women's Care

*Catherine Zeh, MD*  
Birth & Family Clinic

*D.J. Wardle, DPM*  
Stevens Foot & Ankle Clinic

*Daniel Timmons, MD*  
Sound Women's Care

*David Kuechle, MD*  
Kruger Clinic Orthopedics

*David Spiro, MD*  
Birth & Family Clinic

*Deborah Sciscoe, MD*  
Sound Women's Care

*Gretchen Lockard, MD*  
Birth & Family Clinic

*Jeffrey Bray, MD*  
Sound Women's Care

*Joe Skariah, DO*  
Birth & Family Clinic

*John Little, MD*  
Radia Medical Imaging

*Judith Babcock, MD*  
Birth & Family Clinic

*Keith Luther, MD*  
SCIM

*Kevin Keating, PAC*  
Emergency Department

*Khanh Nguyen, MD*  
SCIM

*Kimberly Dickey, DO*  
Sound Women's Care

*Linda Brunson, MD*  
SCIM

*Matthew Matko, MD*  
SCIM

*Maurene Cronyn, MD*  
Birth & Family Clinic

*Melissa Chinn, DO*  
Sound Women's Care

*Rajni Jutla, MD*

*Randolph Bourne, MD*  
Sound Women's Care

## New Equipment, Faster Results for Vitamin D Testing

Physicians referring patients for vitamin D testing can now receive test results faster and more efficiently with new equipment purchased by Stevens Laboratory Services.

With the new equipment, vitamin D results are available in less than two hours. It's valuable time saved when you consider the laboratory tests more than 800 blood samples each month for vitamin D and more than half are deficient.

## CPDI Report: December

Total Reviews: 706

Total Queries: 66

Response Rate: 97%

December's Top 5 Queries:

1. Documentation Clarification
2. Present on Admission
3. Pneumonia
4. Malnutrition
5. Acute Renal Failure

Most Effective Query:

Malnutrition

Impact of most effective query:

Revenue: \$39,291

Case mix: .09

Thank you to the medical and surgical staff for taking the time to respond to these queries. Please contact Loree McGill, RN, CDS, CPDI program manager, at 425.640.4869 with any questions.

# Stevens Hospital Welcomes New Hospitalists



**Kenji Asakura, MD**

A graduate of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Dr. Kenji Asakura is Board Certified in Internal Medicine. He completed his residency at the University of Washington Medical Center where he was nominated for the Resident Teaching Award in

2007. Dr. Asakura says he enjoys being a hospitalist because it allows him to partner with primary care physicians to provide seamless care for patients when they're very ill.



**Monica Marton, MD, PhD**

Fluent in English, Romanian and Hungarian, Dr. Monica Marton was born in Arad, Romania. She received her medical degree from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Mures, Romania and a PhD from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Târgu Mures,

Romania. Dr. Marton is a member of the American College of Physicians.



**Adam Corson, MD**

A graduate of Indiana University School of Medicine, Dr. Adam Corson is from Indianapolis. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Washington and is a member of the American College of Physicians. Dr. Corson chose his specialty because

he says he was intrigued by internal medicine. In his spare time he enjoys trivia, traveling, skiing and finding a good buy on Craigslist.



**Sadia Saleem, MD**

Dr. Sadia Saleem is from Pakistan and received her bachelor's in medicine and surgery from Aga Khan University Medical School, Karachi, Pakistan. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. Dr. Saleem is a

member of the American College of Physicians. Her community involvement has included volunteering with Falah – a patient welfare organization at Aga Khan University.



**Angela Hanson, MD**

Dr. Angela Hanson received her medical degree from the University of Colorado and completed her residency in Internal Medicine from the University of Washington. She is a member of the American College of Physicians. Her interests include geriatric medicine and Alzheimer's

research and she plans to complete a geriatric fellowship at the University of Washington. Dr. Hanson's volunteer work has included providing medical care to the uninsured, volunteering with Big Brothers Big Sisters and donating her time to serve food at homeless shelters. Reading, traveling and playing the piano are among her hobbies.

## Stevens Hospitalist Team Photos Posted on Hospital Floors

Soon it will be easier than ever to recognize these physicians in the event you need their assistance. Photos of each hospitalist are will be posted on hospital floors three, five and eight by the end of January. Please take a moment to stop and familiarize yourself with the photos and the hospitalist team.



# CME Corner

John Arveson  
CME Program Coordinator

## Grand Rounds Scheduled for 2010, Details Coming Soon

During December, the CME Program conducted a survey to learn about the topics that members of the medical staff would find interesting and relevant presentations for Grand Rounds. The survey was conducted electronically and members of the medical staff were asked to complete the survey via e-mail with a link to the survey. The survey asked if there is high, moderate, little or no interest in a list of 21 topics.

The topics that received the highest interest include vitamin D deficiency, a GI update, risk

management/informed consent, sports injuries, a dermatology update, sleep problems/apnea, physician health and well being, medical ethics and a urology update.

The Stevens Hospital CME Program will be planning quarterly Grand Rounds programs during 2010 and will be incorporating as many of these topics as possible. The first two will likely address vitamin D deficiency and physician stress, burnout and its effect on patient safety. Details will be e-mailed and posted as soon as they are finalized.

Dates for 2010 Grand Rounds are:

- February 3, 12:30 – 2 p.m.
- April 7, 12:30 – 2 p.m.
- September 29, 12:30 – 2 p.m.
- November 2, 12:30 – 2 p.m.

## November Hospital Statistics

	<u>November-09</u>	<u>November-08</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Average Daily Census	88.5	92.4	-4%
Admissions	602	594	1%
Total ER Visits	3,517	3,309	6%
Total Surgeries	407	394	3%
Deliveries	82	85	-4%
Days of Cash	50.6	39.3	29%

**Newsletter Access**  
Vital Signs is available  
on our website.

Select "For Physicians"  
from left menu of our  
home page:  
[www.stevenshospital.org](http://www.stevenshospital.org)  
then click "Printable  
Documents" on the right  
menu.

**Contributions**

Any medical staff  
member with an article or  
item for the newsletter  
should contact Amy  
Morrow, marketing  
copywriter, at  
(425) 640-4036 or  
[amorrow@stevenshospital.org](mailto:amorrow@stevenshospital.org)  
by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month.

## WELCOME New Stevens Medical Staff – December 2009

Name	Group	Specialty
Carol Czop, MD	Pacific Anesthesia	Anesthesiology
Adam Corson, MD	Hospitalist Service	Hospitalist
Louisa V. Lavy, MD	Puget Sound Neurology (On-call)	Neurology
Gregory T. Summers, MD	Pacific Anesthesia	Anesthesiology
Andrew R. Ting, MD	First Hill Surgeons	General Surgery (Spine)

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**To Admit a Patient to Stevens, Call 425.640.4444**