

Nurse Leader



In the Spotlight

Connie Fischman, BSN, RN
Title Goes Here

Personal details: 3 children ages 15, 12, and 3 yrs. Married for 17 wonderful years to Jeff Fischman.

Graduated from The Florida State University; practiced at MCH for 22 years, arriving as a graduate RN and have remained here ever since. I started my journey in the Special Care Nursery South, transferred to PICU in 1993 and then transitioned to CV in 1995. I have been a Nurse Manager for the Cardiac Care Center for 11 years, finalist for Clinical Excellence in Nursing for Leadership and Mentoring for Nursing Spectrum magazine in 2005. I was also the recipient of Nursing Excellence in Leadership recognition at Miami Children's Hospital for 2004-2005. Other highlights include serving as the American

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MRI Radiology Shines for the Holidays

By Mialing Velez, CPN, RN



For the fourth consecutive year, MRI/ Radiology was the winner of the hospital-wide 2010 Holiday Decorating Contest, bringing to life Disney's Main-Street within the department. Special thanks to all staff members who dressed in character and donated their time and monetary gifts for another successful year. We would like to give special recognition to our generous Santa, for his masterful effort in contributing to the "Magical Disney Holiday" experience for our patients, families, fellow employees, and Child Care Center.



Reaching Out to Children 'The MCH Way'

By Patricia Tavio, BSN, RN, CPN

The MCH Family reached out to the community with a "Back to School Event" held at the City of Miami Charles Hadley park in August. Representatives of different

disciplines, including nurses, doctors, security guards, volunteers and dieticians all joined together to inform children and their families about very important situations they might encounter on their journey back to school.

Some of the topics included seizure safety, diabetic teaching, diet do's and don'ts, what to know about sickle cell anemia, first aid and asthma, among other themes. The children were also given back-to-school physicals and eye exams, which many may not have received elsewhere. At the event, children were given bicycle helmets donated by the Epilepsy Foundation to help prevent head injuries. Overall, the event was a success and it empowered the children and their families by giving them important information they can also share with others in their neighborhoods.

Thanks to the MCH family for making a difference in the lives of these children and being where the children are.

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Heart Association team captain for the Heartwalk event in 2001, 2002, and 2009 and nominated “Star Walker”, American Heart Association, 2002. I have been instrumental in the development of the CARxE-dex Nursing Handoff tool. I am also an active member of the MCH Quality and Safety Council and MCH IT Council. My aspiration is to master a work and home-life balance. My goal is to continue to oversee the delivery of exceptional care in the Cardiac Unit while helping my staff to achieve a work-life balance.



From the Desk of Jackie Gonzalez

Dear Nursing Team:

The one certainty in the healthcare field in general and at Miami Children’s Hospital in particular is... (you guessed it!) change. And 2011 will be another year of exciting change and transformation at Miami Children’s as we work to advance projects that will enhance the healthcare experience at Miami Children’s.

As always, members of the nursing team will be front and center as major projects unfold. Nurses are playing a key role in bringing to life our PEDS electronic healthcare record system. The project is expected to go live in early 2012 and nursing teams are actively involved in working with Cerner, our vendor, to shape the design of the system, and will support training of staff to utilize this innovative technology.

The benefits of the PEDS system are significant for caregivers and patients alike. We will have all elements of the patient’s care history in one unified system that can be accessed by members of the care team. In addition, PEDS will provide checks and balances associated with drug allergies and interactions, helping serve as a safety net, identifying when patients are allergic to specific drugs or when prescriptions are at odds with an existing medication.

Nursing teams were instrumental in helping shape design plans for the new bed tower. The hospital will break ground this year to create the new tower, which will make it possible for us to offer private rooms to patients in our intensive care units. This will be a huge step forward in our care environment and I’m proud that nurses are helping lead the way.

Our 2011 Leadership Kick Off in February shared details of our organizational “dials” for 2011. These include initiatives to support service excellence, employee retention, growth, quality and support the hospital’s financial operating margin. Nursing staff will play a key role in moving all these dials in 2011.

I thank the entire nursing team for being leaders in our organization who work steadfastly to advance us toward our future while ensuring care excellence today and every day. As always, you make me proud.

Sincerely,

Jackie Gonzalez, ARNP, MSN, NEA-BC, FAAN

Senior Vice President / Chief Nursing Officer / Patient Safety Officer



Camp Boggy Creek 2010

By Aileen Sanchez RN, BSN

Participants: Aileen Sanchez, BSN, RN; Cindy Ayala, BSN, RN; Pat Dean, ARNP; Elizabeth Roman, RN, and Ian Miller, MD

This past July, four nurses and one neurologist from 3 South scheduled a week out of their PTO to share with their patients at Camp Boggy Creek. This camp is referred to as a “Hole in the Wall Camp” and is located in the middle of Florida in a tiny town called Eustis, which is about one hour north of Orlando. The camp is entirely free for the campers and is made possible by generous donations from sponsors and volunteers.

The Mission of Camp Boggy Creek is to enrich the lives of children who have chronic or life-threatening illnesses by creating camping experiences that are memorable, exciting, fun, empowering, physically safe and medically sound.

We four nurses attended epilepsy week where we provided care for about 120 children who have been diagnosed with seizures. As camp nurses, we were responsible for administering the camper’s medications and staffing the Patch (the mini hospital). When we were not performing nursing duties, we were able to participate in activities

with the campers such as horseback riding, swimming, boating, fishing and woodshop, just to mention a few. The campers also organize a dance and talent show in which they participate. During that week we saw what this camp meant to these children. We usually only see our patients during their most stressful times when their seizures are uncontrollable, but at camp, they can enjoy normal summer activities. They can have fun with their friends with whom they have much in common, without the worries about being embarrassed if they have a seizure. We witnessed firsthand how camp allows these children to be free for one week a year. Many of the parents are somewhat over protective and the children are never far from their sides, so camp is usually the children’s one and only time away from their parents.

Meals are served family style and each of the campers takes a turn setting the tables and cleaning up afterwards. Every meal also includes some dance time. The dining hall is also effective as the camp center. The campers are divided by age group into different prides (red, yellow, blue and green) which serve as the basis for their chants and songs. Each meal is similar to a mini pep rally.

It is interesting to see how the children blossom from the first day of camp to the last day. During the talent show we were able to witness all of the amazing talents displayed by the children, many of whom will tell you that camp is the only place where they feel normal and where they can be themselves. It is an amazing experience as a nurse to see my patients happy, having a wonderful time and being able to share those memories with them.

Volunteering at camp was an amazing experience for all of us. Camp has been my way into talking and building a rapport with sometimes difficult patients who usually do not open up to talking and sharing. However, once they know that I was at camp they begin to feel more comfortable. Camp builds a network that is impossible to break for these children. I have heard patients referring to their neurologist as their “friend” and not as their “doctor,” simply because he attended camp with them and they feel more comfortable with him. We all hope to be able to share those wonderful experiences again next summer.

HYGREEN® System

By Katarina Fernandez, RN

As healthcare workers, hand hygiene is ingrained in our practice. To ensure complete compliance, a team of doctors at the University of Florida invented Xhale Innovation Inc.’s Hygreen System. The Hygreen system was first trialed at Shand’s Hospital in Gainesville and is now being trialed here on 3 North at Miami Children’s.

This innovative system has the ability to detect the healthcare workers’ hand hygiene status and reminds staff members when they need to wash their hands again. With this system, each healthcare



worker is required to wear a badge, often called “shield.” There is a sensor in every patient’s room, that each caregiver is required to place their hands under. The sensor can detect alcohol-based hand wash products such as our soap and gel. Once

the sensor detects that hands are clean, the badge will light green indicating that the caregiver has performed hand hygiene and can approach the patient. If the badge doesn’t flash green, the caregiver will be “buzzed” as a reminder to go and wash hands. Xhale Inc. has gone one step further to design a system that “accurately and elegantly records handwashing events and the handwash status of interactions between healthcare workers and patients.” In other words the system reports back where the employee is and with which patient he/she is interacting with clean/dirty hands. In August 2010 the Hygreen System was put into effect at MCH.

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DAISY Award Celebration

The following are recent DAISY award winners. Congratulations to these nurses for making a difference in the lives of the patients they serve.

- **Damaris Sanchez, RN**, 3 South
- **Annie Urbay, RN**, ED
- **Zoila Infante**, 2 East
- **Sherry Lanthier, RN**, NICU
- **Mayra Mendez, RN**, NICU
- **Maria Penate, ARNP**, NeuroSurgery (posthumously awarded)



N U R S I N G N E W S

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following nurses from CVICU obtained certifications

- **Emily Zubiria, CPN**
- **Liuba Camejo, CPN**
- **January Landaeta, CPN**
- **Nahir Rojas, CCRN**

Congratulations to **Jacqueline Whyte, RN**, from 2NE who earned her BSN

NEW HIRES

- **Dania Cardona, RN**, CVICU
- **Janine Carr, RN**, CVICU
- **Lisa Lesniak, RN**, CVICU
- **Jessica Miller, RN**, CVICU
- **Melissa Salvatore, RN**, CVICU
- **Mary Anna Harden, RN**, CVICU
- **Jodi Aldstadt, RN**, CVICU
- **Stavroula Ferranova, RN**, CVICU
- **Angela Felix, CVICU**



Life Alliance Organ Recovery Agency: Saving Lives One Day at a Time

By Rose Jimeno, RN, University of Miami

Life Alliance Organ Recovery Agency (LAORA) is a division of the University of Miami, DeWitt Daughtry Family Department of Surgery, and functions as a non-profit community service organization that obtains organs for clinical transplantation throughout southeast Florida, which are then transported to transplant centers within the United States. LAORA is dedicated to procuring and fairly distributing organs and tissues for transplantation, providing comfort and assistance to bereaved donor families, educating healthcare professionals and the community about organ donation. LAORA's area of certification is designated by the Department of Health and Human Services and is comprised of seven counties in South Florida; Miami-Dade, Broward, Monroe, Palm Beach, Collier, St. Lucie and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. LAORA provides services to over 80 hospitals in this area and the responsibilities range from evaluating potential organ donors, coordinating all procurement activities, maintaining the donor after brain death declaration, recovering, preserving and allocation of organs.

In order for an optimal donation case to occur, collaboration between LAORA and all of the local hospitals has to take place. Collaboration is essential for success in any relationship. At the core of collaboration is the identification of best practices currently implemented within our hospitals, promoting the replication of these processes and celebration and recognition of their success. The process of organ donation involves intense collaboration among many members of the healthcare team working toward the same common goal. Hospital staff involved in organ donation often deals with the difficult situations when interacting with donor families. There is no single best approach to a successful case, however, a common set of principals has been developed that appears to help increase rates of recovery. A successful process involves the optimization of all aspects of the process including the proper identification of a potential donor, proper and appropriate consent and efficient and timely recovery of transplantation.

A common set of principals has emerged across various Organ

Procurement Organizations (OPO's), and hospitals that appears to contribute to donation success.

1. Complete integration of organ donation into the hospital's culture
2. High standards and expectations for measuring donation performance
3. Involvement and communication between OPO and hospital staff
4. Proper accountability for OPO and hospital staff for achieving set standards and recognizing staff accordingly
5. Meeting the various needs of potential donor families
6. Conducting data collection and feedback

Many lives have been saved due to Miami Children's excellent collaborative efforts with LAORA. When prompt referrals are made, the lives of others are changed. In 2009 and 2010, MCH had seven organ donors who collectively saved the lives of 19 people through organ donation and enhanced the lives of 250 people through tissue donation. Thank you, Miami Children's Hospital, for your support of our mission to save lives.

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HYGREEN® System

3 North is the first floor trialing this product, and if proven successful, it will be implemented on other Med/Surg floors. As per CDC guidelines, healthcare workers are required to wash hands upon entering the patient's room and leaving. The system is designed to work specifically to these guidelines. 3 North, also known as the Hematology/Oncology unit, deals primarily with immuno-suppressed-patients who are more at risk for hospital acquired and nosocomial infections. Infection control



on our floor is always top priority. The Hygreen system aids in changing your routine as a healthcare provider to be safer to the patient and yourself. Parents are educated on the system on admission, and their overall opinion of it has been positive so far. Hand hygiene is the easiest way to prevent and minimize hospitalizations due to infection and thus decrease hospital expenses.

Nursing Matters is produced quarterly by and for the nursing staff of Miami Children's Hospital in collaboration with the Marketing department

Jackie Gonzalez, MSN, ARNP, CNAA
Senior Vice President
Chief Nursing Officer

Marcia Díaz de Villegas
Director of Marketing and Public Relations

Marketing Editor:
Rachel Perry

Nursing Editors:
Joy Ortiz, RN, CCRN
Monica Brown, RN, MSN, CPN

Contributing Writers:
The nursing staff of
Miami Children's
Hospital

Layout: **Roberto Perez**

Photography:
Edgar Estrada,
Steven Llanes,
Juan Carlos Rabionet

Food for the Soul

Food for the Soul is a regular feature of the Nursing Matters Newsletter. MCH nurses share favorite recipes such as this one by Vicky So, RN.

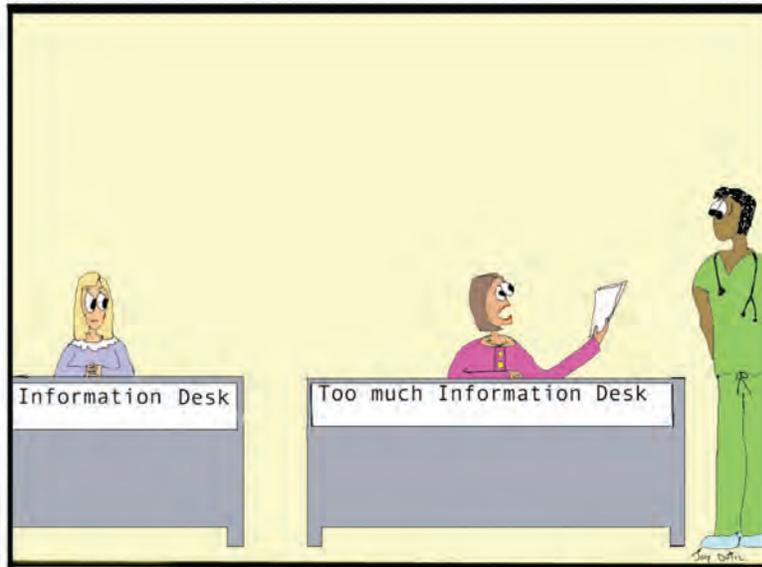
PANCIT BIJON (RICE NOODLE) GUISADO

You will need:

- 1/4 cup cooking oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 cup. boiled pork or chicken, sliced
- 1 small cabbage, shredded
- 1 large carrot, thin sliced
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 1/2 cup chicken broth
- 1 bundle bijon (rice sticks)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 pieces Chinese sausage, fried and sliced
- Spring onion, chopped

Directions: Saute garlic in cooking oil, add onions, pork, carrot and cabbage. Season with soy sauce and cook for 2 minutes. Add broth and simmer for 5 minutes. Mix in soaked and drained bijon and season with salt. Garnish with Chinese sausage and spring onions. Serve with calamansi or lemon.

Enjoy!



"Well, you're a nurse, you'll understand this. Take a look at what they found when they went in and did my colonoscopy..."

Reminder Box

To submit news and information to the **Nursing Matters** newsletter, please email joy.ortiz@mch.com or monica.brown@mch.com.

Articles accepted must be written by MCH nurses, previously unpublished and don't forget to include your full credentials for credit.