

Warning system to gauge patient progress, improve care

Le Bonheur has launched a new warning system designed to effectively gauge a patient's progress, reduce the number of patient codes and improve the outcome of care.

The Pediatric Early Warning System has been implemented in the hospital's Direct Admit and Emergency departments, along with all non-critical care inpatient units.

With PEWS, patient condition is measured in three categories. The patient is assessed for behavior, cardiovascular and respiratory function, and given a numerical score ranging from 0-3 for each category based on the level of distress. For each category, zero indicates appropriate behavior, no cardiovascular or respiratory distress, and three indicates the highest level of concern. Le Bonheur's PEWS incorporates additional scoring if the patient is medically fragile, has unrelieved pain or is vomiting persistently post-operatively. The sum of the scores from each category total the patient's PEWS score.

PEWS will better equip Associates to assess a patient's condition upon admittance to the hospital. The system also helps track the improvement or decline of a patient, as PEWS is used throughout a patient's stay.

"PEWS is a measure toward standardizing the way we assess children," said Jan Genke, administrative director of nursing clinical operations. "It's a valuable tool to make sure caregivers speak the same language regarding a child's condition."

A Le Bonheur trial study showed that PEWS can help to identify signs and symptoms indicative of deteriorating patient health. If a patient is consistently rated with the PEWS scale, he is more likely to show signs of decline before undergoing health failure. PEWS highlights warning signs and helps Associates to take the necessary, preventive measures.

In addition to fostering more consistent communication among physicians, Associates and caregivers, PEWS helps patient families to better understand the severity of a condition. PEWS will play an important role in helping families feel informed and involved regarding the care of their child.



Clinical trial to study type 2 diabetes treatment

Le Bonheur Children's Division of Pediatric Endocrinology has been selected by Eli Lilly & Co. as the fourth national site to participate in the latest clinical trial of Byetta (exenatide), protocol H80-MC-GWBQ(a).

This randomized, placebo-controlled trial enrolls type 2 diabetic patients ages 10-16 years old. At enrollment, eligible subjects must display hemoglobin A1c level between 6.5-10 percent, can be taking metformin or a sulfonylurea, but cannot have received insulin for more than one week during the three months prior to enrollment. Further information about this trial and other activities in the division can be obtained by calling 901-448-2030.

Le Bonheur Children's provides comprehensive dietary, educational and medical services to obese or diabetic children and adolescents. Staff and faculty of the Division of Pediatric Endocrinology include registered and licensed dietitians, certified diabetes educators, registered nurses and pediatric endocrinologists. Referrals can be made by calling 901-448-2030.

Lakin named to Ray E. Helfer Society



Karen Lakin, MD

Karen Lakin, MD, was recently accepted as a member of the Ray E. Helfer Society, an elite group of doctors who specialize in child maltreatment. Lakin, medical director of Le Bonheur's Child Assessment Program, is an expert and leader in the field of child abuse and neglect.

After leaving private practice in 1999, Dr. Lakin joined UT Medical Group, Inc. and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Department of Pediatrics. There, she gradually took on more and more cases involving child abuse. As her involvement with these cases grew, so did Lakin's interest in learning more about child maltreatment and devoting her career to the field. In her role with the Child Assessment Program (CAP), Lakin works with a dedicated team addressing child abuse and neglect in our community.

"We are fortunate to have a physician working with our Child Assessment Program who has the experience and enthusiasm of Dr. Lakin," said CAP Program Director Susan Steppe, LMSW. "She has built the credibility of our team by approaching every case in a neutral way, evaluating information and aggressively looking for alternative explanations in suspicious cases."

Founded in 1999, the Helfer Society of physicians is dedicated to preventing, diagnosing, and treating child abuse and neglect.

Heart Institute presents at annual meeting

The Le Bonheur Children's Heart Institute was represented at the 41st Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Pediatric Cardiology Society on Sept. 11-13, with abstract presentations and poster presentations.

Ken Knecht, MD, a third-year cardiology fellow, presented his abstract, "Actions of Angiotensin II in Neonatal Cerebrovascular Circulation." His co-author is Charles W. Leffler, PhD in the Physiology department of University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

Mohammed Alsheikh-Ali, MD, second-year cardiology fellow, presented a poster titled, "Anomalous Aortic Origin of the Left Coronary Artery." His co-authors are Craig Mathis, NP, and Nancy Chase, MD, from the departments of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Pediatric Cardiology at UTHSC.

Newborn seminar scheduled for January

The Mid-South Seminar on the Care of The Complex Newborn is scheduled for Jan. 23-24 at The Westin Memphis Beale Street.

The seminar will feature keynote speaker Richard J. Schanler, associate chairman of the Department of Pediatrics and chief of neonatal-perinatal medicine at Schneider Children's Hospital at North Shore in Manhasset, New York. He also serves as a professor at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in Bronx, New York.

The course, which will run from 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. on Friday and 7:30a.m.-noon on Saturday, is designed for neonatologists, pediatricians, family physicians and other professionals involved in treating newborns.

Seminar topics include human milk in preterm infants, Ebstein's Anomaly, fetal therapy, peri-operative concerns, parenteral nutrition, ELBW, vitamin D, newborn screening, thyroid function, ROP and more.

For more information and a full brochure, call 901-516-8933 or visit www.methodistmd.org.

Le Bonheur Educational Offerings

Presentation Title	Credit/Contact	Day, Date Time	Host Location	Presenter
Pediatric Grand Rounds: “Chromosomal Microarray Analysis has Revolutionized Cytogenetic Diagnosis”	CME	Wednesday December 3 8:00 - 9:00 AM	Le Bonheur Auditorium	Arthur L. Beaudet, M.D. Professor of Pediatrics and Cell Biology Chairman, Department of Molecular and Human Genetics Baylor College of Medicine Houston, TX
Pediatric Grand Rounds “Vitamin D: Why do we need it and how much do we need”	CME	Wednesday December 10 8:00 – 9:00 AM	Le Bonheur Auditorium	Russell W. Chesney, M.D. Chairman, Division of Pediatrics University of Tennessee Health Science Center Memphis, TN
Speakers Bureau: “Pediatric Cardiac Care – More than Just Surgery”	CME	Friday December 12 9:00 AM	North Mississippi Medical Center North Education Wing Room 6 Tupelo, MS	Christopher J. Knott-Craig, M.D. Co-Director, Le Bonheur Children’s Heart Institute Chief, Pediatric Cardiovascular Surgery University of Tennessee Health Science Center Memphis, TN
Pediatric Grand Rounds “Genetic Ocular Syndromes of Pediatric Interest”	CME	Wednesday December 17 8:00 – 9:00 AM	Le Bonheur Auditorium	Alex Iannaccone, M.D. Associate Professor of Ophthalmology Director of Retinal Degeneration & Ophthalmic Genetics Service Hamilton Eye Institute at University of Tennessee Health Science Center Memphis, TN

MRT partnership helps involve families in care

Families at Le Bonheur are now working with the hospital’s Medical Response Team (MRT) – a partnership that allows families to call the MRT just like they would call 911 when their child’s condition needs immediate attention or when they have a gut feeling that something is wrong.

The option to call the MRT offers families an additional sense of support and security. Le Bonheur’s collaborative work implementing this system is an active step toward creating a more communicative and family-involved hospital.

Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. All presentations should be evidence based and contain content without commercial bias. Content should include a balanced view of all therapeutic options.

Physician and Referral Services

Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center
777 Washington Ave., Ste. 440
Memphis, TN 38105

Non-Profit Org.
U S POSTAGE
PAID
Memphis, TN
Permit No. 3093

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Pediatric urologist Giel joins team



Dana Giel, MD

Dana Giel, MD, has joined Le Bonheur's pediatric urology team.

Giel has joined Pediatric Urology Group Practice, after recently completing a fellowship in pediatric urology at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

Her interests include urologic reconstructive surgery for congenital anomalies, as well as endoscopic and laparoscopic surgeries for urologic diseases.

She has been active in clinical research at Le Bonheur, with an interest in outcomes research and establishing patient databases. Specifically, she has studied vesicoureteral reflux, Wilms' tumor, renal trauma, and the use of Botox for treatment of neurogenic bladder in pediatric patients.

In addition to serving as an assistant professor of pediatric urology, Giel is also the associate program director of the Pediatric Urology Fellowship program at UTHSC.