

To the Point



From the desk of
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Chief Medical and Quality Officer



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Quality Update

Quality Assurance Performance Improvement (QAPI) teams are focusing on MEANINGFUL data. You should be seeing that the traditional “quality meetings” have undergone a transformation, meeting time is focused on real opportunities – and YOUR input is valued.

Medical Director in the Spotlight

Dr. John Mielke has been serving as the medical director at the University Good Samaritan Center in Robbinsdale, MN for nearly thirty years. He has provided exceptional leadership in caring for a series of diverse challenging populations over the years, including a pediatric unit, a geriatric chemical dependency unit, a unit for aggressive men and a Huntington’s unit. He was one of the first physicians to become a certified medical director through AMDA and has served as the President of Minnesota’s Medical Director Association, as well as being a long-term member of the Good Samaritan Medical Director Advisory Group. He values being part of a team that is focused on a mission of delivering excellent care in Christ’s love. Dr. Mielke also has a passion for cycling and spending time with his wife, Wendy, and their 3 children and 9 grandchildren.



Prescriber’s Corner

Sliding scale insulin is getting a lot of negative attention in long-term care, for good reasons; it doesn’t control glucose very well and often leads to dangerous episodes of hypoglycemia. Click on the link below to earn CME while brushing up on your skills treating diabetes in older adults. <http://diabetesandtheolderadult.com/> Your residents, nurses and administrator will thank you!

Technology Updates

The Good Samaritan Society is participating in a number of exciting projects across the nation. The implementation of PointClickCare (PCC) is complete in every center and we are testing pharmacy integration options and onsite dispensing units for medications. We are also taking steps to improve the workflow of PCC, with better search options for lab tests and consult notes and offsite access to PCC and electronic signatures. **Please tell your administrator if you would like offsite access.**

Respecting Choices

Good Samaritan Society has recently committed to giving the people we serve and their families the opportunity to talk about what matters most to them in life and partnering on how we can best support them in living life as fully in alignment with their wishes as possible. For some people, this may mean relaxing stringent diets, for others it may mean simplifying complex medication regimens. Others may indicate that they don’t want to have high risk life prolonging treatments, such as dialysis. Honoring our community members by taking time to fully understand what their wishes are is one way to live our mission of helping each person feel “loved, valued and at peace.” We are using the highly acclaimed Gundersen Lutheran model to ensure each center has staff members who are trained in facilitating these important conversations. For more information, click the following link: <http://www.gundersenhealth.org/respecting-choices>.

Questions, Comments or Suggestions?
Contact me directly at vwalker3@good-sam.com

Our vision: To create an environment where people are loved, valued and at peace.

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