



# Physician Connection

July 2009

## Surgical Improvement Program Results Released

Bronson Methodist Hospital joined the American College of Surgeons' National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP) in 2007 to improve surgical care and lower healthcare costs. Mark Dittenbir, MD, medical director of surgery, is the surgeon champion for the program. Only about 230 U.S. hospitals, of the more than 4,000 eligible, are taking advantage of this risk-adjusted system to evaluate surgical outcomes.

### Results

Six months of data based on 135 variables was collected from more than 1,100 general and vascular surgery cases and compared to more than 200,000 cases in the national database. Bronson's semiannual performance report was

released first quarter 2009. Overall, Bronson performed "as expected" in the majority of areas related to mortality, morbidity and complications. Bronson did very well at preventing deep vein thrombosis in general surgery patients and by having a short length of stay for colon surgery patients.

The opportunity for improvement is to further prevent pneumonia in general surgery patients.

Dr. Dittenbir is currently sharing the results of the report internally for further evaluation and action. He is also meeting with the Michigan Quality Surgical Collaborative, the statewide collaborative of participating NSQIP hospitals, to share Bronson's best practices and learn what other hospitals are doing to improve care.

## Patient & Family Advisory Council Provides Input

The Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC) is one of the ways Bronson encourages patient and family involvement. The 39-member council collaborates with Bronson to enhance care and services across the health system by providing input in various ways. This includes the development of the blood conservation program and participating in processes (Kaizen events) for ED discharge, patient scheduling, cardiac cath lab, patient nourishment room, ED lab and Bronson Center for Women Nurse Navigator.

PFAC members also serve on several committees including the Patient Grievance Committee, the Patient Education Council and the CASE Oversight Team. If you have questions about the PFAC, contact Marilyn Potgiesser at (269) 341-7482.

## Antithrombotic Therapy and Pregnancy

The ACCP recommendations place an extremely high value on avoiding fetal risk. Warfarin crosses the placenta and has the potential to cause fetal wastage, bleeding in the fetus, and teratogenicity. Heparins don't cross the placenta. For women receiving warfarin who become pregnant, the recommendation is to switch to UFH or LMWH. For women on warfarin who are attempting pregnancy, ACCP suggests to perform frequent pregnancy tests and substitute UFH or LMWH when pregnancy is achieved. Contact the Bronson Anticoagulation Clinic (269) 341-7909 with questions.

## New Name & Leadership, Hyperial is now "VAST"

To better describe their responsibilities, the Hyperial Team will now be called the **Vascular Access Specialist Team (VAST)** for Bronson Methodist Hospital and outlying hospitals/agencies. Gabriel Pedraza, MD is the new medical director and Jackie Wahl is now the director. To contact the VAST, call 341-7573 or page 513-3368.

## '09 Quality Report Available

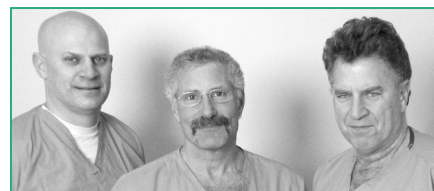
Bronson's 2009 Report on Quality, Safety & Innovation is now available online at [bronsonhealth.com/quality](http://bronsonhealth.com/quality) or by contacting Corporate Communications at 341-6328 for printed copies. The report demonstrates how Bronson has implemented the Institute of Medicine's six aims all hospitals need to follow to improve quality and service.

## Bronson Scores High Marks in Stroke Care

The American Heart Association and American Stroke Association recently recognized Bronson as the only hospital in southwest Michigan to receive the Get With The Guidelines<sup>SM</sup> (GWTG) Silver Performance Award for consistently following treatment guidelines to improve quality of care for stroke patients. Bronson scored higher than the minimum of 85 percent in seven key measures for 12 consecutive months. These measures include aggressive use of medications like clot-busting t-PA, cholesterol-lowering drugs and anticoagulants, as well as education for controlling stroke risk factors. As a Primary Stroke Center certified by the Joint Commission and a Stroke Center of Excellence designated by NeuStrategy, Bronson provides quality medical treatment for stroke.

## Trauma Physicians' Ultralight Aircraft Research to be Published

*The American Journal of Emergency Medicine* recently accepted for publication a trauma research manuscript titled, "Injury patterns related to ultralight aircraft crashes." Trauma physicians Dr. Scott Davidson, Dr. Paul Blostein, and Dr. Sheldon Maltz, in collaboration with Dr. George England and Dr. Tom Schaller, retrospectively reviewed injuries sustained in this popular recreational sport over a 17-year time span. The study catalogues the injury patterns, surgical procedures, and complications of patients involved in ultralight crashes. The publication date is pending.



Trauma physicians Dr. Scott Davidson, Dr. Paul Blostein and Dr. Sheldon Maltz

## Bronson Welcomes New Physicians

**Orhan K. Atay, MD**Bronson Pediatric  
Gastroenterology**Board Certified:**

Pediatrics

**Board Eligible:**Pediatric Gastro-  
enterology**Special Interests:**

Pediatric therapeutic

and diagnostic endoscopy, video capsule endoscopy, inflammatory bowel disease, recurrent abdominal pain, feeding disorders, failure to thrive, gastroesophageal reflux disease, eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders, food allergies, chronic diarrhea, celiac disease, liver disease, gastrointestinal motility, biofeedback for chronic constipation and fecal incontinence.

**Fellowship:** Pediatric Gastroenterology – Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio

**Residency:** Pediatrics – Michigan State University/Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan

**Degrees:** MD – Howard University College of Medicine, Washington, D.C.

BS – Towson University, Towson, Maryland

**Awards:** Alpha Omega Alpha – Graduated with Honors from medical school  
Pediatric Research Award – The Cleveland Clinic (2008, 2009)

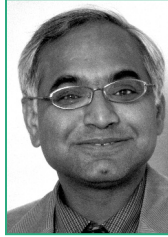
**Practice/Contact:** Bronson Pediatric Gastroenterology (269) 341-7784

### In Memoriam

**William Pryor Marshall, MD**, passed away on April 12, 2009. Dr. Marshall was a member of Bronson Methodist Hospital medical staff from 1946 to 1977.

**John A. Azevedo, MD**, passed away on May 22, 2009. Dr. Azevedo was a member of Bronson Methodist Hospital medical staff from 1988 to 2009. He was a cardiologist with Kalamazoo Cardiology, P.C.

*Physician Connection is published monthly by Bronson Healthcare Group. If you have a topic you would like addressed in this publication, or would like to submit news about a Bronson medical staff member or his or her practice, please e-mail [gowenj@bronsonhg.org](mailto:gowenj@bronsonhg.org) or call Jodi Gowen at (269) 341-8603 or send your request to Practice Administration, Box 57, 601 John Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007.*

*Manish Sharma, MD***Manish Sharma, MD**Bronson Internal Medicine  
Hospital Specialists**Board Certified:**

Internal Medicine

**Fellowship:** Nuclear Medicine – University of Michigan Medical Center

**Residency:** Internal Medicine – Saint Joseph

Mercy Hospital, Nuclear Medicine – Stanford University School of Medicine Internship, Internal Medicine – Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital, Psychiatry – University of Michigan Medical Center

**Degrees:** MD – University of Michigan Medical School, BA – Kalamazoo College  
Prior to joining Bronson, Dr. Sharma was a hospitalist at Borgess.

**Contact:** Bronson Internal Medicine Hospital Specialists at (269) 341-8481.

*Andrea Allman, DO***Andrea Allman, DO**SW Michigan  
Emergency Services, PC

**Residency:** Midwestern University, Medical School: Midwestern

University

**Practice/Contact:** SW Michigan Emergency Services, (269) 343-3900.

*Pratima Boinepalli, MD***Pratima Boinepalli, MD**Family Health Center, PC  
Residency: Sparrow

Edward Hospital

**Medical School:**

Kakatiya Medical College, Osmania

**Practice/Contact:** Family Health Center, PC, (269) 349-2641

*Nathan Johnson, MD***Nathaniel Johnson, MD**SW Michigan  
Emergency Services, PC

**Residency:** MSU/ Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies

**Medical School:** University of South Dakota School of Medicine

**Practice/Contact:** SW Michigan Emergency Services, (269) 343-3900.

*Kelli Dodson, DO***Kelli Dodson, DO**Bronson Rambling Road  
Pediatrics (Oshtemo)**Board Eligible:**

Pediatrics

**Residency:** Pediatrics – Michigan State University/ Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies

**Degrees:** DO – Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine,

BS – University of Michigan

**Contact:** Bronson Rambling Road Pediatrics at (269) 372-1000.

*Ryan Smith, MD***Ryan Smith, MD**SW Michigan  
Emergency Services, PC

**Residency:** MSU/ Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies,

**Medical School:** University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine

**Practice/Contact:** SW Michigan Emergency Services, (269) 343-3900

## Hand Signed Rx Required for Skilled Nursing Facilities

Pharmacies that supply medications to skilled nursing facilities are mandated to have a hand signed prescription for C-II narcotics and controlled substances. Therefore, please write a prescription and place the document in the discharge paperwork section of the chart if your patient is being discharged to a skilled nursing facility. Some examples of commonly prescribed C-II medications include oxycodone, morphine, hydro-morphone, fentanyl, methylphenidate, dextroamphetamine and methadone.

### Quarterly Medical Staff Meeting

**Wednesday, September 2, 2009**Bronson Gilmore Center  
Forum Rooms ABC  
(Breakfast provided)

Presentation subject pending