

# PHYSICIAN

## **NEWS BRIEF**

News about Covenant HealthCare from the Office of Physician Relations  
December 17, 2012

### **NEW TECHNOLOGY**

#### **PICC Team News**

The PICC team is now utilizing a new technology called 3CG in addition to the ultrasound and Sherlock technologies currently in use to ensure the PICC line is pointing downward to the distal SVC/Cavo-atrial junction. The 3CG technology allows the PICC team nurses real-time feedback of the PICC tip location using ECG waveforms. Patients whose ECG P-wave is difficult to interpret will not be candidates for 3CG. In most cases, 3CG technology eliminates the need for a post-procedure chest X-ray - saving the patient the charge for an X-ray and exposure to radiation, and will allow for immediate use of the PICC. The team will continue to order chest X-rays on those patients whose P-wave is difficult to assess during the 3CG procedure & those patients where 3CG was not used.

### **BUSINESS UPDATES**

#### **VBP Performance**

Covenant will receive a higher payment for each Medicare discharge in FY13 as a result of good performance on Value Based Purchasing. VBP is a Budget Neutral Program where CMS takes one percent of all hospitals Medicare payments away, and then re-pays none, some, all, or more than the one percent based on how the hospital performs related to quality of care and patient satisfaction. Covenant HealthCare's Total Performance Score was 61.1, outpacing the state average of 53.9 and the national average of 55.4.

### **NEW FACES**

**Vivian Onyewuche, MD**, Anesthesiology, Saginaw Anesthesia Services, Anesthesia Department, Harrison Campus. The office number is 989.583.4583.

**Marvin A. Alviso, MD**, Family Medicine, Generations Family Care, 1575 Tittabawassee, Saginaw. The office number is 989.583.6800.

#### **Covenant Welcomes Dr. Colleen Linehan**

Dr. Linehan has joined Covenant Center for Advanced Orthopaedics and will be practicing, along with her Physician Assistant, Lindsey Pilling at 4701 Towne Centre, Suite 301. Her official start date was December 1. Dr. Linehan's office number is 989.921.3500.