

# For Your Information



June 2008

## Special points of interest:

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- Y **Standard Precautions**
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## Mercy Hospital Foundation

Mercy Hospital is in the developing stages of starting a foundation. Prior to this we have not had one. This will be a separate entity from the Hospital and will be used to support technology and other capital projects within the Hospital. We will be putting a brochure out to the community in the packets for the Devils Lake 125th Anniversary and School Reunion celebration. The initial brochure will focus on the Emergency Department.

In each mailing for the foundation, we will include a story of how Mercy Hospital has impacted the life of someone in our community. Many times the names will not be used. We are asking our employees to submit stories of people who have had a positive experience at our hospital. If the person consents to having their name used, we will use it, otherwise it is okay to remain anonymous.

If you have a story and want us to write it up, please contact Donna Langton. We appreciate your support!

Just a reminder ... It is very important that Payroll and Human Resources have correct address, phone number, and emergency contact information for all employees. If your information is not current, please arrange to update it as soon as possible. Thank you.

*Remember*

Please report needle stick or body fluid exposures as soon as possible to either the coordinator or Joanne Almen, RN. You need to be seen in the ER!

Occurrence reports also need to be reported as soon as possible.

## Standard Precautions

Everyone remember what these are?

- All blood, body fluids, secretions, and excretions except sweat, non-intact skin, and mucous membranes may contain transmissible infectious agents;
- These precautions apply to all patients regardless of suspected or confirmed infection status in any setting in which health care is delivered;
- These precautions include: wearing gloves, gowns, face protection when handling or coming in contact with body fluids.
- Complete list available in the Infection Control Manual or in each department.

## NEW FACES AT MERCY ... PLEASE WELCOME THEM TO THE MERCY FAMILY!



Brittany J., RN  
OR/SDS/Endo, FT  
Brittany joined us 6/16/08



Julie D.  
C.A.R.E. Medical Billing, Temp.  
Julie joined us 6/16/08



Natae H.  
Respiratory Therapy, FT  
Natae joined us 6/16/08



Robyn H., Surg. Tech.  
OR/SDS/Endo, FT  
Robyn joined us 6/16/08

## Fire & Smoke Safety In-Services

Annual Fire and Smoke Safety In-services were held June 12th in the hospital garages.

The hands-on demonstration was provided by Nardini Fire Equipment Company. Nardini provides the annual services for fire extinguishers and fire suppression systems. At Mercy Hospital, we have over 125 fire extinguishers on site.



Fire Safety will again be held on June 19th for those employees who have not attended the mandatory in-service.

## A note from the Employee Health Nurse

### Protecting Your Hands: Shielding Lotions

There are lotion products that help shield your hands from the drying that occurs when you use hand sanitizers along with frequent hand washing. This shield is in the form of a lotion that contains "humectants." This lotion keeps the moisture in your skin and also increases the skin's ability to absorb water. Look for a product that contains humectants. Examples of shielding lotions are:

- N** Skin MD (available at the Clinic Pharmacy)
- N** Liquid Glove
- N** Gly-Miracle Skin Humectant

You can use these lotions three times a day and then practice hand hygiene as you usually do.



This is the beginning of a new day. You have been given this day to use as you will. You can waste it or use it for good. What you do today is important because you are exchanging a day of your life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever; in its place is something that you have left behind...let it be something good.

—Author unknown

### FIRE IN YOUR AREA

- R: RESCUE
- A: ALARM
- C: CONTAIN
- E: EXTINGUISH

### FIRE NOT IN YOUR AREA

Close doors/windows, Follow your department's procedure.

## Reminder

Lost and found items are located in the Admissions area. If you have an item for lost and found, please bring it to Admissions as soon as possible. Calls regarding lost and found items should also be directed to Admissions.

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