

# Lourdes Hospitalists At Your Service

Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center now provides hospitalist care for its inpatients. Learn about the benefits for referring doctors and their patients:

## Hospitalists—partnering with you and your patients

Primary care physicians and other referring doctors are busy. Managing complex daily inpatient care for their hospitalized patients—especially doing so in person—has become increasingly difficult for them. That's where Lourdes full-time dedicated hospitalists help out. **They ensure that care is optimally managed**, and they:

- make the hospital stay more personalized and service oriented;
- adjust care more promptly when needed;
- provide the benefit of their complete familiarity with the medical center's procedures and resources.

Hospitalists also help to make sure that the referrer's preferences for specialists are honored during the patient's stay. (See enclosed letter.)

*Lourdes' hospitalists care for admitted patients Monday to Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Contact them at Lourdes' dedicated hospitalist number: 856-912-2402.*

## Making staff care better

Tens of thousands of hospitalists now practice in thousands of hospitals in the U.S. for a reason—they fill a need for **enhanced medical-staff attention** to the inpatient. Lourdes offers a depth of staff coverage that includes house staff and attending physicians 24/7. Hospitalists serve as an adjunct to this structure that increases physician oversight of each case.

Hospitalists help to coordinate and achieve consensus promptly when needed. They serve to:

- follow up on all orders and prevent unnecessary duplication of care;
- monitor that care follows accepted, evidence-based care pathways;
- improve responsiveness of all aspects of care for staff, family and the referring physician.

Hospitalists provide **advocacy in the interest of patients and referring physicians.**

### *The Hospitalist:*

- *improves continuity and quality of care*
- *makes care consistent with the referring doctor's input*
- *keeps the referring doctor informed.*

*Hospitalists are an asset for the referring physician.*

## Attending with honed hospital skills—throughout the patient stay

Hospitalists help to **coordinate the transition** into hospital care and back out to the primary care physician, or to specialist care for follow-up. The hospitalist turns to referrers for their detailed knowledge of the patient and makes sure that the community doctor has access to the details of hospital care.

Patients in intensive care units benefit from the care of the intensivist and the hospitalist. However, the hospitalist continues with the case as the patient steps down to regular hospital units. This preserves **continuity in the care team**. These staff members also order home healthcare, such as visiting nurses or therapists, for transition to the primary clinician's attention thereafter.

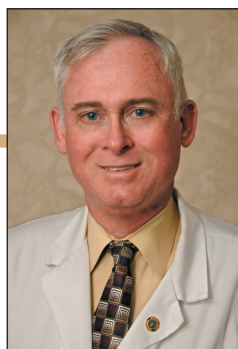
The hospitalist improves communication to patients, increases patient safety and helps to **prevent avoidable readmissions**.

*Research shows that the hospitalist's role can reduce length of stay and treatment costs, and improve overall efficiency of care for hospitalized patients.*

## Lourdes hospitalists—here for you and your patients

Hospitalists have strong internal medicine backgrounds and concentrated experience in inpatient and consultative care, and hospice and palliative care as well as operational aspects of medicine. Though their field is relatively new, Lourdes' hospitalists trained at university hospitals and are **board-certified internists** with a concentration in hospital care.

Lourdes' hospitalists encourage referring physicians to provide contact information directly to them and specify their wishes on how, and how often, they would like updates on their patients. They are happy to meet personally with referring physicians and to hear from them. **Referrers may specifically request Drs. McGann or Coleman for their patients.**



Bruce McGann, MD



Ashley Coleman, DO

### Lourdes hospitalists

856-912-2402

