Welcome Academic Research Coach Helene Starks!

“I am delighted to join the Division as the new Academic Research Coach. I am a Seattle native and have been at the UW as an undergraduate & graduate student as well as staff and faculty. In between a few of those roles, I was also a Peace Corps volunteer in Mali, where I dug wells and did maternal and child health. That work inspired me to get an MPH and then later, a PhD in health services research, so I could learn rigorous evaluation methods, which I've been using ever since for clinical, education, and community-based projects. I love teaching and coaching people to do their best work. My passion is directed toward workforce and program development for palliative care. I am co-Director of the Graduate Certificate in Palliative Care where I teach working clinicians how to design quality improvement and education projects. They finish the course with an implementation-ready proposal, which most go on to complete in the following year. My goal for the next year is to support Division faculty to do similar work. There is so much talent here and it is an honor to participate in other people's success."

Join us at the upcoming Cross Site Happy Hour!

Date: Thursday, July 17, 2019
Time: 5:30pm
Where: Optimism Brewing at 1158 Broadway, Seattle, WA

Billing Tip: Prolonged Services for patients admitted after midnight

When a nocturnist admits a patient or sees a consult after midnight, a Progress Note written by the day hospitalist on that same Date of Service is not usually billable and will appear as a “No Charge” on the Provider Activity Detail Report. In order to capture the hard work of both attendings, we encourage nocturnists to add their total time spent via a brief Time-based Addendum to their typical Admit/Consult Note (“Attn Statement - Time Spent INPT”), especially for complex patients seen after midnight.

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Remember: the typical time for high complexity (Level 3) admissions is 70 minutes and this total time includes all time spent managing the patient, including chart review, placing orders, counseling the patient about results or reason for admission, and coordination with the ED, nursing, and any specialists. The daytime attending should addend their daily note to call out that their time was above and beyond the time spent by the nocturnist and list their total time spent in extended counseling and coordinating care. To ensure your extra work qualifies for Prolonged Services, include start and stop times to account for at least 30 minutes of your time. If your note clearly describes your counseling and coordination, you do not have to repeat all the details in your Time-based addendum.

**Prolonged Direct Services (99256) Example:**
“In addition to the 70 minutes spent by Dr. X on admission, I personally spent an additional 40 minutes face to face with the patient from 14:00-14:40 in prolonged counseling about the scan results showing progression of disease and discussing goals of care.

**Prolonged Non-Face to Face (99258) Example:**
“In addition to the time spent by Dr. Y overnight during the initial evaluation of the patient, I personally spent an additional 30 minutes (from 13:00-13:30) in extensive coordination of care: discussing the workup and management of decompensated cirrhosis and volume overload with the Hepatology and Nephrology teams (see the Assessment and Plan above for further details), reviewing the treatment plan with the nurse, and coordinating with unit staff to obtain outside records.”

As always, please let me know if you have questions about this or other billing/documentation issues!

**Recent Publications**


Congratulations Jeff Redinger on receiving the 35th Annual Beeson Award!

Dr. Jeffrey Redinger received the 35th annual Paul B. Beeson Award and was honored at the Medicine Grand Rounds in May.

The award commemorates Dr. Paul Beeson, a distinguished physician at the Seattle VA in the 1970s, who was celebrated for his teaching skills.

To honor Dr. Beeson's legacy, each year an award is granted in his name to recognize outstanding clinical teaching by a faculty member who exemplifies scholarship, humility, compassion, and integrity. This award is considered a great honor among the faculty, and the winner of this award is chosen solely by the residents of the Internal Medicine Residency Program.

Congratulations to the following faculty for their promotions! Promotions effective July 1, 2019:

Maralyssa Bann  Clinical Assistant Professor
Meghaan Hawes (Walsh)  Clinical Assistant Professor
Carolyn Keller  Clinical Assistant Professor
Brian Robbins  Clinical Assistant Professor
Miriam Schwarz  Clinical Assistant Professor
Lindee Strizich  Clinical Assistant Professor

Kudos to 2019 UW CME in Hospital Medicine course leaders!

Don't forget to check out our Hospital Medicine twitter page at @UW_HospMed for more highlights of the 2019 UW CME in Hospital Medicine.

What is an interesting fact about you that many people don't know?
I rode a Go kart through the streets of Tokyo dressed as Mario.

What would you be if you were not a physician?
Sail boat captain.

Are you from Seattle, if not where are you from?
I am from Connecticut, the nutmeg state, otherwise known at the constitution state.

What was the last book you read?
Harrison's Internal Medicine.

Any favorite TV shows?
The Price is Right.

Do you have a favorite restaurant?
The VA Canteen. Always proximal, never distal.

Do you have any pets?
I have two plants. I think one of them may be dead.