



Hospitalist Group of Southwest Florida

Providing inpatient services at:



Cape Coral
Hospital

Health Park
Medical
Center



Gulf Coast
Medical Center

Lee Memorial
Hospital



www.hgswf.com

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What is a hospitalist?**
Hospitalists are physicians whose primary professional focus is the general medical care of hospitalized patients. Their activities include patient care, teaching, research, and leadership related to Hospital Medicine.
- 2. Why am I cared for by someone other than my primary care doctor when I'm in the hospital?**
By focusing his or her practice on the care of the hospitalized patient, a hospitalist can gain a great deal of experience in the unique aspects of a patient's needs during the hospital stay. And hospitalists typically spend most or all of their work day in the hospital, and thus can be more readily available to a patient than a doctor who spends much of the day outside the hospital in an office or clinic setting.
- 3. How do the hospitalists know about my medical history?**
When you are admitted to the hospital, the doctors will communicate with your primary care physician to obtain your medical history and any other information necessary for your care.
- 4. Does my primary care doctor know what is going on with me?**
Yes. The hospitalist team will inform your primary care physician that you have been admitted, about any change in your condition, and at the time of your discharge from the hospital.
- 5. What happens when I am discharged from the hospital?**
At the time of your discharge, your primary care doctor will be informed. You will receive specific instructions about follow-up with your PCP and/or other specialists and prescriptions for any new or changed medication.

Hospitalist Group will be available to provide inpatient attending and medical consultative services at Cape Coral Hospital, Health Park Medical Center, Gulf Coast Medical Center and Lee Memorial Hospital. Attending services will also be available for medical subspecialties and selected surgical specialties.

Hospitalist Physicians



Rodrigo Torres, M.D.

Dr. Torres is from Cali, Colombia and has practiced medicine in Colombia, Europe and the United States. Dr. Torres trained in Internal Medicine at St. Francis Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA and has experience in hospitalist and occupational medicine. Dr. Torres is board certified in Internal Medicine and is a founding member of the Hospitalist Group of Southwest Florida.



Jorge L. Perez, M.D.

Dr. Perez hails from Puerto Rico and received his medical degree from Universidad Central del Caribe. He completed training in Internal Medicine at Cabrini Medical Center, an affiliate of Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY, in June 2005. Dr. Perez is board certified in Internal Medicine and has additional expertise in information technology. Dr. Perez is a founding member of the Hospitalist Group of Southwest Florida.



James Abraham, M.D.

Dr. Abraham is from Long Island, NY and is a graduate of Penn State University and Jefferson Medical College. Dr. Abraham completed training in Internal Medicine at Cabrini Medical Center, an affiliate of Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY, in June 2005. Dr. Abraham is board certified in Internal Medicine and a founding member of the Hospitalist Group of Southwest Florida.



Christina G. Flint-Lowe, ARNP

Ms. Flint-Lowe received her Bachelor of Science, Nursing and Masters of Science, Nursing from the University of Florida and practiced clinical nursing at both Shands Health Care System and Lee Memorial Health System prior to becoming certified as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner in 2008. She is the recipient of multiple accolades recognizing her exceptional delivery of health care. Ms. Flint-Lowe is a welcome addition to our group, working in tandem with our physicians to provide comprehensive inpatient medical care at Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center and Health Park Medical Center.



**Luis L. Silva, M.D.**

Dr. Silva received his Bachelor of Science from the University of Puerto Rico in 2000, his Doctor of Medicine from Universidad de Caribe in 2004. He then completed his Internal Medicine residency training at Cabrini Medical Center in New York, an affiliate of Mount Sinai School of Medicine, in 2007. Dr. Silva

has been in practice with the Hospitalist Group of Southwest Florida since December 2007 and is uniformly well regarded by colleagues, nursing and allied health staff. Dr. Silva is board certified in Internal Medicine and holds additional qualifications in ACLS and BCLS. While in training, Dr. Silva distinguished himself with many volunteer hours of medical care for the indigent populations of Hato Rey and Old San Juan, Puerto Rico. Dr. Silva practices hospitalist medicine at Cape Coral Hospital, Southwest Regional Medical Center and Health Park Medical Center. He is bilingual in English and Spanish.

**Juan J. Hernandez, M.D.**

Dr. Hernandez, originally from Cuba, has received extensive training in Internal Medicine and Family Practice, completing residencies in both Cuba and the United States. He joins us following the completion of his Family Practice residency at Baptist Medical Center South in Montgomery, Alabama and is board

eligible as well as certified in ACLS and PALS. Dr. Hernandez is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians and the American Medical Association. Bilingual in English and Spanish, Dr. Hernandez and his family are a welcome addition to our medical community.

**Ralph Rodriguez, M.D.**

Dr. Rodriguez received his Bachelor of Science in General Studeis in 1999 and Doctor of Medicine degree in 2004 from the University of Puerto Rico. He joins us following completion of his Internal Medicine residency training at University Hospital of the University of Puerto Rico in 2007. He is board

certified in Internal Medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine and licensed to practice medicine by the State of Florida. Dr. Rodriguez is a member of the American College of Physicians and has performed original research in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. Dr. Rodriguez is bilingual in English and Spanish.

**Jill L. Kerik, ARNP**

Ms. Kerik received her Bachelor of Science, Nursing from Florida State University and practiced clinical nursing for fifteen years prior to receiving her Masters of Nursing and becoming an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner. She has extensive experience in hospital medicine throughout her career and has been

a member of the Lee County medical community since 2001. Ms. Kerik is certified in BLS, ACLS and ENPC and joins our group providing comprehensive inpatient medical care at Cape Coral Hospital.

**Alexander E. Rodi, Jr., DO**

Dr. Rodi is a well-known and respected member of our medical community. Dr. Rodi received his Bachelor of Arts from LaSalle College and his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the Philadelphia College of Steopathic Medicine. Dr. Rodi has extensive clinical experience in hospital based medicine and is

board certified in both Emergency Medicine and Family Practice. Dr. Rodi holds multiple staff and community medicine leadership positions and is quite active with Lee County EMS as Medical Director of several fire rescue organizations. Dr. Rodi is an outstanding addition to our hospitalist practice and looks forward to continuing to provide excellent medical care in our community.

**Michael Haupt, M.D.**

Dr. Haupt has been a member of the medical staff in Lee County for many years and joins our group from his practice of Emergency Medicine in Cape Coral. Dr. Haupt received his medical degree from Northwestern University and trained in Internal Medicine and Emergency Medicine in Illinois.

Dr. Haupt is a well respected member of the Lee County medical community and uniquely qualified for the practice of hospitalist medicine. Dr. Haupt is also board certified in Emergency Medicine.

**Jinoo Tommy Lee, M.D.**

Dr. Lee joins our group from Bushnell, Florida, where he was engaged in a robust practice of outpatient and inpatient medicine at Paso Regional Medical Center. Dr. Lee received his medical degree from St. Matthew's University School of Medicine and completed his Family Medicine residency at the

Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center in Greenville, South Carolina. Dr. Lee has graduate training in Health Services Administration and a special interest in information technology and medical mission trips. Dr. Lee is certified in ACLS, PALS and neonatal resuscitation.

**C. Billy Morris, PA-C**

Mr. Morris is well versed in the expedient evaluation and treatment of acutely ill patients. He joins the Hospitalist Group after several years of practice with the Cape Coral Emergency Physicians Group. During this time, Mr. Morris was very highly regarded by the medical staff at large and frequently asked for by name

by nursing and medical staff alike. Mr. Morris is a graduate of Miami Dade College Physician Assistant program and the Nova Southeastern Master of Medical Science program and practiced physical therapy for eight years prior to certifying as a Physicians Assistant.

**Cesar A. Escudero, M.D.**

Dr. Escudero received his medical degree from Escuela de Medicina - Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos in Lima, Peru. He completed his residency in Family Medicine at the University of Puerto Rico in San Juan in 2008 and a fellowship in Hospitalist Medicine at the University of Florida,

Gainesville in 2009. Dr. Escudero has been published in the field of community medicine and has practiced in a wide range of clinical environments throughout his career. Dr. Escudero is certified in ATLS and ACLS.

**Enrique J. Aymerich, M.D.**

Dr. Aymerich joins the Hospitalist Group from his St. Petersburg practice, where he divided his time between outpatient urgent care and inpatient care of complex medical patients at Kindred Hospital. Dr. Aymerich is a uniquely qualified physician, having trained and practiced as a general surgeon in Havana,

Cuba prior to emigrating to the United States. Dr. Aymerich entered and completed training in Family Medicine at St. Petersburg's Bayfront Medical Center. Dr. Aymerich received his medical degree from Instituto Superior de Ciencias Medicas de la Habana and practiced general surgery for 15 years prior to coming to the United States. He is BLS, ACLS, PALS and ALSO certified.

**Jose Francisco Perez, M.D.**

Dr. Perez, trained and originally practicing in Havana City, Cuba, emigrated to the United States and completed Internal Medicine residency training at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, El Paso, Texas. Dr. Perez received his medical degree with honors from the Instituto Superior de Ciencias

Medicas de la Habana, trained in Family and Pulmonary Medicine in Cuba and practiced for several years prior to seeking additional training in the US. Dr. Perez is a member of the American College of Physicians and American Medical Association.

**W. Lane Edwards, Jr., MSN, ARNP, ANP**

Mr. Edwards has practiced as a nurse practitioner in internal medicine for over 25 years. Mr. Edwards began his career as an orderly, has been an LPN, RN, Critical Care Nurse, head nurse and nursing administrator prior to his role as a primary care clinician. He was trained at the University of South

Alabama where he received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees. Lane worked for the last 12 years in primary care with Lee Physician Group, Department of Internal Medicine specializing in the care of patients with cardiovascular diseases and diabetes for many years. Lane serves as Affiliate Professor of Nursing for the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at the University of Alaska in Anchorage.

**Khaza Chowdhury, M.D.**

Dr. Chowdhury is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and is an experienced hospitalist. Following completion of his medical training at Dhaka University in 1997 in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Dr. Chowdhury practiced medicine in a variety of capacities in both Pakistan and the United States. After

completion of his Internal Medicine residency at Atlanticare Regional Medical Center, Atlantic City, NJ, Dr. Chowdhury entered practice as a hospitalist in the same 567 bed facility. Dr. Chowdhury is well regarded by his peers and patients and has been active in the affairs of the medical staff throughout his career.

**Nallu S. Reddy, M.D.**

Dr. Reddy is a widely experienced physician with both academic and private practice credentials. Dr. Reddy has been practicing in Lee County as a hospitalist since March 2008. He received his medical degree from Ross University in 1999. Dr. Reddy trained in Internal Medicine and Family Practice and completed

a geriatric fellowship at the Carle Foundation Hospital in Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Ph.D. in Physiology and Dairy Cattle Nutrition and previously practiced large animal veterinary medicine, as well as held positions in clinical laboratory science in Kansas City, MO. Dr. Reddy was a Fullbright Scholar at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Reddy remains active in the practice of geriatric medicine throughout the Lee County area.

**Francisco J. Quiles Cruz, M.D.**

Dr. Quiles received his medical degree from Ponce School of Medicine in 2005 and completed Internal Medicine residency at the San Juan VA Medical Center in 2008. During his training, Dr. Quiles participated in molecular genetics investigation, community health outreach programs in the

Dominican Republic and spearheaded numerous educational initiatives at the Ponce School of Medicine. Dr. Quiles holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico and was a National Science Foundation grant recipient.

**Lenni R. Fugazy, PA-C**

Ms. Fugazy is a highly respected Physicians Assistant with extensive experience in management of acute illness. Ms. Fugazy received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Washington State University and her Masters of Medical Science from Midwestern University in Illinois. Her professional career includes

orthopedics, occupational and emergency medicine. She has been a member of the Lee County medical community since 2007 and is familiar to many from her role with Cape Coral Emergency Physicians at Cape Coral Hospital.