DR. DEMING AWARDED NATIONAL MEDAL

MERCY CANCER CENTER MEDICAL DIRECTOR RICHARD DEMING, M.D., is a 2016 recipient of the American Cancer Society’s St. George National Medal. The St. George National Medal recognizes outstanding volunteers who have demonstrated ongoing leadership in community mission delivery and significantly contributed to furthering the American Cancer Society’s strategic goals and mission-driven programs. The award has been presented annually since 1949 to Society volunteers across the country.

Twenty-two awards were presented for 2016. Awardees were nominated by their divisions, approved by the St. George National Award Task Force, and presented to the American Cancer Society Board of Directors. Dr. Deming was one of two individuals recognized by the ACS Midwest Division.

“Dr. Deming has been a tireless volunteer for the American Cancer Society for more than a decade, serving at the local, regional and national levels. His passion, commitment and determination to defeating cancer have enabled him to be a catalyst for change to improve the quality of life for cancer patients and survivors. He remains committed to ensuring access to affordable health care for everyone. For his dedication to raising awareness and his instrumental support of advocacy, it is an honor and a privilege for the Midwest Division to present the prestigious St. George National Award to Richard L. Deming, M.D.,” said Dave Benson, American Cancer Society Executive Vice President and Midwest Division Operating Officer.

“These opportunities for recognition are truly a manifestation of the great work that is done by Mercy Cancer Center and the collaborative spirit at Mercy that allows individuals like me to become engaged at a high level with organizations like the American Cancer Society,” Dr. Deming said.

Dr. Deming joined Mercy Cancer Center in 1989. He is involved in many national, state and community organizations and has been the recipient of numerous local, regional and national awards.

DR. HAIDAR TO LEAVE MERCY FOR BON SECOURS

Dr. Wael Haidar, chief physician executive and president of Mercy Clinics, has accepted the role of Senior Vice President for Provider Networks at Bon Secours Health System, Inc., based in Marriottsville, Maryland.

His last day at Mercy will be Jan. 27, 2017. The search for his successor will begin immediately and a plan for interim leadership of Mercy Clinics will be announced soon.

Dr. Haidar joined Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines in 2007 as a staff physician in Hospital Medicine. A year later he was promoted to medical director of the Adult Hospitalist Program and, in 2012, he was promoted to vice president of hospital-based physicians. In 2013, he began his current role as chief physician executive and president of Mercy Clinics.

Under Dr. Haidar’s leadership, Mercy Clinics achieved growth in patient visits to both primary care and specialty clinics. The organization also grew in number of locations and services offered. Dr. Haidar led the NCQA certification of all primary care clinics and the introduction of value-based metrics into the compensation system for physicians. He also has been a leader in the Mercy ACO Clinically-Integrated Network and co-chaired the Mercy Health Network (MHN) Integration Team on Physician Enterprise.

In his new role, Dr. Haidar will lead and manage Bon Secours’ physician organization, which includes more than 1,000 physicians and advance practice clinicians in six states. Bon Secours is a $3.5 billion not-for-profit Catholic health ministry with 19 hospitals and about two dozen other health care facilities including nursing homes, assisted living facilities and hospice facilities.
HIGH RELIABILITY IN HEALTH CARE

THE JOINT COMMISSION CENTER FOR TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE aims to solve health care’s most critical safety and quality problems. Its mission is to transform health care into a high reliability industry by developing effective solutions to health care’s most critical safety and quality problems.

So, what exactly does high reliability mean? High reliability refers to the ability of complex, high-risk industries to go for long periods of time without accidents. Health care is complex and high risk. However, many patients experience preventable harm or lackluster care, causing the health care industry to not always be highly reliable.

Preoccupation with failure, reluctance to simplify their observations, sensitivity to operations, commitment to resilience and deference to expertise are the five characteristics of high reliability.

High reliability is an attractive concept for health care as it improves the following: organizational effectiveness, organizational efficiency, customer satisfaction, compliance, organizational culture and documentation.

And why does high reliability matter? Because, the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare, along with their participating hospitals and organizations, believes high reliability in health care means consistent excellence in quality and safety for every patient, every time. It’s a commitment to zero harm.

LIVING UP AT MERCY – SURGICAL AFFILIATES SAYS THANKS

Leading up to the Thanksgiving holiday, staff at Surgical Affiliates wanted to LiveUp to show their appreciation to many of the departments and individuals they regularly work with at Mercy.

The team created goodie trays with a thank you note from the Surgical Affiliates’ team for approximately 20 departments/individuals. All staff members at Surgical Affiliates participated by contributing three dozen cookies, bars and snacks. The idea to create goodie trays originated from team discussions during their department huddles on ways to recognize colleagues.

LeAnn Paulsen, practice manager at Surgical Affiliates, recognizes “LiveUp” as a team effort.

“We talk about the patient experience in our huddle and how it is the reason we do what we do. We recognize that it is more than just the physician/patient relationship. It crosses over to all people who are involved in helping patients – front office, nurses, surgery scheduling, billing and everyone we work with. We are all here for the patient and are grateful for the opportunity to be part of the healing ministry at Mercy,” LeAnn said.

Pictured are several Surgical Affiliates staff members (not all staff are pictured). Left to right: Gina Gedler, Michelle Schneider, Shari Ridgway, Laurie Williams, Laurel Stephens, Megan Steffens and Julie Bodkins.

Mercy Children’s Hospital & Clinics welcomes new director

Jody Timmins, RNC, MSN, ARNP, has been named the market director of the pediatric service line. She has been with Mercy for more than 21 years, and has succeeded in various roles on the Mercy Mother/Baby Unit. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Iowa in 2005, and her Master of Science in Nursing and Family Nurse Practitioner certification from the University of Iowa in 2013. Most recently, Jody served in the role of director for the Mother/Baby Unit.

Jody’s new role as market director of the pediatric service line is a newly formed position. It is a strategic leadership role meant to provide oversight and integration of all pediatric services across the Mercy continuum. Jody will be working directly with our physician and nursing teams, as well as with organizational and local community leaders to make Mercy a leader for the children of Des Moines. Areas that will report to Jody include: Newborn Nursery, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Pediatrics and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.

Congratulations to Jody on her new role with Mercy Children’s Hospital & Clinics!

CONTACT US

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If you are interested in submitting information to be printed in the Bulletin, send it to PR and Marketing or call 515-247-3050.

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