St. John Medical Center is a nonprofit hospital located in Longview, Washington which was founded in 1943. The hospital has grown to a 193 bed acute care facility with level III trauma designation, which serves Cowlitz County that includes over 85,000 people. Despite 175 active medical staff, the challenges of recruiting cardiologists to the region limited the ability to provide cardiovascular services to the community.

In 2005, St. John had two cardiologists who provided all ambulatory and inpatient cardiovascular care. Between 2005 and 2007, OHSU and St. John agreed on developing a joint cardiovascular program based on the following principles:

- Coordination of clinical services.
- Enhancement of local clinical capabilities including increased capacity and new clinical services.
- Joint physician recruitment.

The initial steps focused on increasing the capacity of the ambulatory specialty clinics to see outpatient cardiology patients by having OHSU based cardiologists providing consultative cardiology care at St. John. This has led to the addition of an electrophysiology clinic and three general cardiology clinics per week staffed by Drs. Stajduhar, Wei, Chadderdon, and Cigarroa. In addition, a telemedicine agreement has allowed the implantation of remote interpretation of noninvasive cardiology tests including echocardiography.

continued on page 2
Coordination of clinical services started with the implementation of a ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) program that has allowed standardization of care based on a protocol developed by the St. John emergency department physicians and the OHSU STEMI group. This immediately resulted in the ability to provide primary percutaneous coronary intervention to these patients with door to balloon transfer times which consistently are less than 90 minutes and are 30 minutes less than the national average.

In addition, coordination of care has allowed the post-MI and post-operative patients to be enrolled into a cardiac rehabilitation program in Longview. Since the inception of this program, the number of patients has doubled with a capture rate of 42%, which exceeds the national average by 12%.

The enhancement of local clinical capabilities has led to the approval by the state of Washington of a certificate of need to provide percutaneous coronary intervention services at St. John Hospital. In preparation for this program, the hospital built a state-of-the-art cardiac catheterization laboratory and initiated training of local staff in order to comply with strict quality measures based on national standards established by the Society for Coronary Angiography and Intervention. The program was inaugurated on June 14th, 2010.

The joint vision provided by OHSU and St. John has facilitated the recruitment of superb physicians to complement Dr. Noel Santo-Domingo. Over the last 6 months, we have successfully recruited Dr. Mark Hattenhauer, Dr. Arun Kuchela, and Dr. Allan Harrelson. In addition, Dr. Raghu Reddy, who is currently a fellow in cardiovascular medicine at OHSU, will join in the summer of 2011.

Learn about the OHSU-Longview physicians, page 3

Our 2010 Graduating Fellows

Shaun Ageno, MD, completed a 3-year general cardiology fellowship and is now starting in our clinical cardiac electrophysiology fellowship program.

Brian Nolan, MD, completed a 3-year general cardiology fellowship and will be joining a private practice group in Boise, Idaho.

Ignatius G.E. “Randy” Zarraga, MD, completed a 2-year fellowship in electrophysiology and will join the faculty at Portland VA Medical Center and OHSU as an Assistant Professor of Medicine.

2010-2011 GRAND ROUNDS SCHEDULE

9/16/2010, George Beller, MD
Professor of Cardiology, University of Virginia
New Developments in Cardiovascular Radionuclide Imaging
5:00pm, Vey Conference Center, 11th floor
Doernbecher Children's Hospital

10/28/2010, TBA

1/13/2011, L. David Hillis, MD
Professor of Medicine and Chair, Department of Medicine, University of Texas San Antonio
Vascular Physiology in the Cath Lab
5:00pm, Vey Conference Center, 11th floor
Doernbecher Children's Hospital

2/8/2011, Michael Lauer, MD (Bristow Memorial Lecture)
Director, Division of Cardiovascular Sciences, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
National Institutes of Health
Title TBA

4/28/2011, Francois M. Abboud, MD
Professor and Director, Cardiovascular Research Center-University of Iowa
Sympathetic Nervous System and the Heart
5:00pm, Vey Conference Center, 11th floor
Doernbecher Children’s Hosp.

5/19/2011, TBA

Target Audience: OHSU physicians in cardiovascular medicine, other interested physicians and health care providers, and students.

Course Objectives: By the conclusion of this series, physicians should have a better understanding of recent developments in cardiovascular medicine which in turn should lead to improvements in clinical practice.

Accreditation: Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

Credit: OHSU School of Medicine, Division of CME, designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ per session. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.
Meet our OHSU-Longview Cardiology Physicians

Dr. Harrelson is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at OHSU. He received his B.S. from Reed College in Portland and his Ph.D. in Biology from Rockefeller University in New York. He moved to California to complete his post-doctoral training at Stanford and Berkley before relocating to the University of Missouri as an Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences. During this period he published in the most prestigious basic science journals such as PNAS, Cell, and Science. He then decided on a career change and went to Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine from which he graduated in 2002. He completed internal medicine and a year of cardiovascular research training at the University of Iowa and clinical cardiovascular medicine training at the University of Cincinnati before joining the OHSU faculty. He practices general cardiology.

Dr. Hattenhauer is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at OHSU. He received his Bachelor’s degree from Portland State University and his MD degree from OHSU. He completed internship in internal medicine at the Hennepin County Hospital in Minneapolis followed by residency in internal medicine as well as cardiology fellowship at OHSU. For many years he practiced as a general and interventional cardiologist in Portland before joining the faculty at OHSU in 2003. He was the first person to perform percutaneous coronary balloon angioplasty in Oregon and trained many other physicians in the procedure. While on faculty at OHSU he received many teaching awards as well as The Marion L Krippaehe MD Humanism Award in recognition of exceptional compassion in caring for patients. He and his wife have endowed a medical school scholarship at OHSU.

Dr. Kuchela is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at OHSU. He obtained an MD degree from the University of Toronto in Canada following which he completed a residency in internal medicine at the Mayo Clinic. He then went to Boston to do general cardiology fellowship at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and then to Vancouver at the University of British Columbia for an additional 2 years of interventional fellowship. From 2005 to 2007 he was Assistant Professor of Medicine at University of Washington in Seattle before moving to Portland to join the OHSU faculty. He is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Diseases and practices as a general and interventional cardiologist.

Dr. Santo-Domingo has been practicing in Longview for 10 years. He received a bachelor’s degree from the University of California at San Diego and an MD degree from the University of California at Davis. He completed his internship in internal medicine at Rush-Presbyterian St. Luke’s Hospital in Chicago and his residency in internal medicine at University of Illinois in Urbana. He then moved back to California to complete a fellowship in cardiovascular medicine at the University of California at Irvine. After his fellowship, Dr Santo-Domingo practiced as an invasive cardiologist for 3 years in New Mexico before moving to Longview, where he now practices as a genera cardiologist.
Recent Publications From OHSU Cardiovascular Division:


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