

CARE

LEADERS IN



Shriners Hospitals
for Children® —
Philadelphia

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Philadelphia

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Administratively Speaking

What a great year 2014 is turning out to be. Shriners Hospitals for Children — Philadelphia has launched both an urgent pediatric fracture clinic and a subacute rehabilitation program. There has been a real need in our community for these programs, and they're already serving new and current patients.

The first part of each morning at the urgent pediatric fracture and orthopaedic clinic is dedicated to treating patients with stable fractures. During this time, patients can receive total care for their fractures, which may include surgery, casting, postfracture follow-up and rehabilitative care, if needed. We've streamlined the entire process, making it easy for any patient to walk in Monday through Friday and be examined by a pediatric orthopaedic specialist.

The new comprehensive sub-acute rehabilitation program was created to help children who are being discharged from the hospital, but who are not well enough to return home. Our interdisciplinary teams first assess a child's strengths and areas of need, and then work with the family and patient to create a plan to improve specific skills and abilities, and to achieve the best possible outcomes. The ultimate goal of the program is to return children to their homes and schools, ready to participate. We understand the unique requirements of children in need of rehabilitation and are pleased to provide an even higher level of care to these patients.

We are always looking for new and innovative ways to serve our patients. These two programs are great examples of how we are continuing our mission to provide the highest quality care in a compassionate, family-centered and collaborative environment.

Ernest N. Perilli, M.B.A.
Administrator



Hero of the Month **Steven Segers**

Steven Segers, a 14-year-old with cerebral palsy who receives care at Shriners Hospitals for Children® — Philadelphia, was recently honored as Hero of the Month by Kids Wish Network.

Steven loves music; you will often see him dancing. He can even get his therapists to dance. To make his award presentation especially memorable, several members of the rehabilitation department flash-mobbed him as he entered the area for his therapy session. Led by music therapist Jackie Macri, the group danced a specially choreographed routine to the song *Countdown* by Beyoncé.

It was our honor to present Steven with the Hero of the Month award. He has had some setbacks in his treatment, but he always pushes past difficulties and works very hard. His dedication is paying off — he is now walking short distances with a walker and minimal help. We are proud of his efforts, and the way he keeps smiling, no matter how difficult the situation. Steven has shown that hard work, determination and a positive attitude can result in great things.

Shriners Hospitals for Children — Philadelphia is pleased to partner with Kids Wish Network to recognize Steven and other kids through its Hero of the Month program.

DID YOU KNOW?
Cerebral palsy affects

XX
XX
in the U.S.
Source: cdc.gov



LEARN MORE

Stay in touch with Shriners Hospitals for Children on Facebook and Twitter and be among the first to learn the news of our latest success stories and advancements in technology.

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Patient Safety Is Our Priority

by Drs James and Maria Zuccaro

Specialized surgeons at Shriners Hospitals for Children — Philadelphia treat the most complex cases of spinal deformity. This type of complicated surgery requires that every precaution be taken to ensure the safety of the patient. One of the most important safety measures is called Intraoperative Neuromonitoring (IONM).

IONM monitors the patient's nervous system during surgery when there is a risk of damage to the nervous system. IONM allows the surgeon to know in real time if nerve tissue is being injured or is at risk for being injured. This allows any potential problems to be corrected immediately. Surgeons can also assess nerve tissue function while the surgery is taking place. Many potential complications involving the nervous system can be avoided with careful monitoring during surgery.

UNIQUE LEVEL OF ATTENTION

At the end of 2011, the Philadelphia Shriners Hospital elected to develop its own IONM department under the leadership of Drs. James and Maria Zuccaro. It is currently fully staffed with board certified individuals. What makes this department unique is that all of the data is interpreted in the room as the surgical procedure is happening. This allows immediate feedback to the surgical team to allow for corrective actions if they need to be taken. It also allows surgeons to maximize the amount of correction they can achieve.

The vast majority of hospitals have a technologist in the operating room and other individuals working offsite interpreting the data. Usually this professional is monitoring more than one case at a time and, consequently, no single case has his or her full attention. Also, the remotely located professional does not have access to pre-operative clinical findings, current conditions in the procedure, and is not in communication with the surgeon.

Under this scenario, monitoring is limited by the knowledge of the technologist in the room, who does



Dr. James and Dr. Maria Zuccaro

not have the same level of expertise as a board certified individual who can interpret the data as it becomes available. There can also be a delay in sending data to the remotely located professional due to slow connection speeds or technical problems. Unfortunately, there is a small window of opportunity to respond to changes in IONM data before any potential problems become irreversible and create lasting complications, which is another strong reason for the level of attention of the Philadelphia Shriners Hospitals.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEAM RECEIVED NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Shriners Hospitals for Children — Philadelphia is the only Shriners Hospital to have this kind of in-house program, and one of the few children's hospitals in the country to have one. Our highly

qualified team has received national recognition as being experts in the field of pediatric neuromonitoring, and team members have spoken at national conferences, teaching others how to monitor surgery.

Through innovative approaches to patient monitoring, the IONM department at Philadelphia Shriners Hospital is making safety an even higher priority.

LEARN MORE

Shriners Hospitals for Children has been a leader in clinical research for decades. Our research has translated into treatment protocols that have been adopted worldwide. To see our research in action, please visit shrinershospitalsforchildren.org and click "Research."

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Thank You to Our Donors

We are proud to report that Shriners Hospitals now has a four-star rating with Charity Navigator. This is the highest rating attainable, and an indicator that we exceed industry standards and outperform other charities across America.

All of the work done every day at Shriners Hospitals for Children — Philadelphia depends on the generosity of our supporters. We would like to express our gratitude for those who bring their Love to the rescue in a very real way.

As a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, Shriners Hospitals for Children relies on the kindness of donors to continue improving the lives of children. Approximately 90 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to helping a child in need.

DONATE

Would you like to be a part of changing someone's world? Please call donor development director, Ms. Terry Diamond at **215-430-4055** or visit **donate2shc.org**. To inquire about care for your child or to make a referral, call **215-430-4140** or e-mail **phlnewappts@shrinenet.org**.

