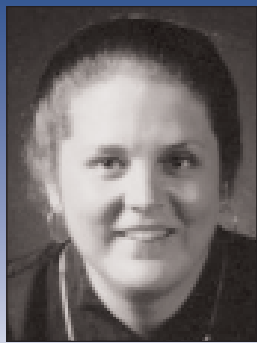


New 457(b) retirement savings plans offered. TIAA-CREF and CitiStreet programs allow up to \$12,000/year in tax-deferred contributions – over and above any 403(b) contributions. Using both plans, participants can save/defer \$24,000 this year (\$26,000 for those 50-plus). Plan available to full-time Sinai physicians, executives and directors earning \$85,000-plus. Program sponsors will outline options and risks at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, in NR 118; 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 21, in Conference Room E; and 9 a.m. and noon Wednesday, Aug. 27, in Glasser Auditorium. Individual meetings also can be arranged. For details, contact **Pam Gockerman**, HR, 773/257-6332.



Kathryn Stewart, MD

Off-site tests/procedures for inpatients must be approved. Kathryn Stewart, MD, Care Management, says that when hospitalized patients are sent elsewhere for services not offered here, Sinai is charged, but gets no reimbursement. Examples include patients transported by ambulance for PET scans. Care management now will review such orders before patient is sent. Separately, Dr. Stewart notes that Sinai is not reimbursed for post-discharge tests or procedures done on day of discharge, regardless of location. Such appointments should be scheduled for another day, she says.

“Caring for Our Future” updates now available via Sinai DocLink. Sinai CEO **Benn Greenspan’s latest** report on the financial-improvement effort focuses on comprehensive nature of the program and how growth initiatives and other moves play a major role.

Inservice set on revamped JCAHO process. Mount Sinai and Schwab will be among first hospitals surveyed under new format that focuses on continuous compliance with patient care and safety standards. Training and Organizational Development briefing is at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, in Glasser. For info, call **Jerry Cholewa**, 773/257-5713, or **Susan Morelli**, 773/257-6423. For an overview of changes, go to www.jcaho.org.

Meditech to flag duplicate imaging requests. Effective Aug. 18, system will alert users if a requested test has been ordered within 24 hours. The notice will not prevent orders for needed tests, but clinical justification will have to be provided for documentation. Feedback on this system is encouraged. Contact Radiology Chairman **Alan Hecht**, MD, 773/257-6498, or Imaging Services Director **Mike Cvengros**, 773/257-5458.

Brain Stem Auditory Evoked Potential testing resumes in Electrophysiology lab. Appointments currently limited to Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, due to availability of pediatric nurses for sedation. To schedule a test, call 773/257-6737.

Sinai Health System

Department of
Public Affairs
Room NR-326
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Urologist Lynn Blunt Jr., MD, joins Mount Sinai as attending in Surgery. He received his medical degree from Tulane, and recently was chief resident at Northwestern's McGaw Medical Center Hospitals. Clinical interests include general urology, minimally invasive techniques, endourology, and urological oncology. Appointments at Kling Surgery Clinic can be made through Central Scheduling or 773/257-6702. His pager is 1-6290.

Nuclear Medicine Department closed Monday, Aug. 18. Cameras will be calibrated that day, and no patients can be seen. For info, call **Glenda Roberts**, 773/257-6673.

Daphne Mitchell, RN, takes over as periop director, overseeing ORs, PACU and related units. Former interim director **Jerry Biala**, RN, is working with her during the transition. They can be reached at 773/257-5689. Mitchell's pager is 2-6549.

Mount Sinai hosts ACS Advanced Trauma Life Support Course Nov. 10-11. Director of the course is Sinai trauma director **Michele Holevar**, MD. ACS fee: \$650. For details, contact trauma coordinator **Kim Choe**, 773/257-6735.

Kudos, etc...

- **Paula Butler**, MD, and **Maurice Schwartz**, MD, were recognized by the American Diabetes Association for providing patients with quality diabetes management and care that meets ADA medical standards.
- **Lisa Thornton**, MD, KidsRehab at Schwab, co-authored the article "Injury Prevention for Children With Disabilities" in the journal of the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Clinics of North America.
- **Kathryn Stewart**, MD, Care Management, spoke to [FPReport](#), a newsletter for family physicians, about ways HIPAA privacy rules can cause family-communication issues.
- Schwab's **Michelle Gittler**, MD; **Jeanne Mervine**, RN; and **Kris Balfanz-Vertiz**, manager, Extended Care Services, presented at the National Spinal Cord Association annual educational conference. Balfanz-Vertiz also was on the planning committee.
- **Jackie Conrad**, RN, VP/Patient Care, talked to *Hospital News Chicago* about [innovations in nursing management](#).
- **Daniel Johnson**, MD, chairman, Pediatrics, provided information on symptoms and treatment of kids' sore throats to *Homelife Magazine*.
- **Nancy Glick**, MD, Infectious Diseases, was interviewed by *HIV Plus Magazine* about the Centers for Disease Control's new emphasis on getting more people tested for HIV.
- **Norell Rosado**, MD, Access Pediatrics, spoke to the *iVillage.com* newsletter about childhood obesity as a risk factor for diabetes.
- **Patrick Conlon**, MSN, director, Diabetes Ambulatory Care, completed work on the revised "Scope & Standards of Diabetes Advanced Practice," in conjunction with the American Nurses Association and American Association of Diabetes Educators.

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