

Petersburg Medical Center

Alice Hulebak, MD Chief of Staff Report May 2024

Workforce Wellness

In recent months, PMC has employed locum providers to help with coverage for hospital and emergency room call. Among them, Mark Tuccillo, MD, Tae Ok, PA-C, and Emily Harvey, MD, have worked on multiple occasions. Additionally, we are pleased to announce the recruitment of Justin Morgan, MD, who is set to graduate from the Tacoma Family Medicine Residency Program in July. He is scheduled to start on August 1, Dr. Morgan has committed to a one-year contract with PMC.

Community Engagement

Medical staff assisted with the Petersburg community health fair in March. Angela Menish, FNP gave a presentation on hypertension. Erik Hulebak, PA-C presented on hyperlipidemia. Alice Hulebak, MD spoke on interpreting health fair results. Alexandra Gutierrez Gomez, third-year medical student from UW, helped educate our youth on the dangers of nicotine at the teen health fair held at the school earlier this month.

Patient Centered Care

We have improved our Transitional Care Management Services with the help of Kelly Zweifel and Amy Hollis as well as our inpatient nursing staff. We are ensuring that our patients who are hospitalized here in Petersburg or at an outside facility are contacted after discharge and scheduled for outpatient follow-up. After a hospitalization a patient may be dealing with a severe medical condition, a new diagnosis or new medications and we want to make sure their ongoing healthcare needs are being addressed.

We continue to offer additional specialty care here at the medical center to reduce the need for patient travel. Cameron French, PA-C will be providing dermatology services at the end of the month (May 2024). John Raster, MD will be returning this month (May 2024) for ENT consultations. Jennifer Hyer, MD is providing Integrative Medicine consultations via Telehealth.

Unfortunately, Dr Erik Woelber an orthopedic surgeon from JBJC had to cancel his scheduled clinic in February. Phil Hofstetter has been in contact with Ketchikan Peach Health where an orthopedic surgeon has voiced interest in consulting on patients here in Petersburg.

Selina Burt, DO traveled to Sitka earlier this month to participate in CALS training. We hope that all our providers and our nursing staff can attend this course which is designed to improve the care we provide to our critically ill and injured patients.

Facility and Financial Wellness

Kelly Zweifel and Angela Bertagnoli have been working on the implementation of a med scanning device to improve charge capturing of the medications and immunizations administered in the clinic.

Some of the medical staff are using an AI software program called DAX Nuance for charting. This program is designed to make charting faster and more efficient for both patient care and billing purposes.