



Petersburg Medical Center

Chief of Staff Report October 2023

Workforce Wellness

Dr. Alice Hulebak is now a designated Aviation Medical Examiner for the FAA which allows pilots to schedule appointments locally for their class 2 and 3 medical exams. Dr. Burt has become a certified Medical Review Officer for workplace drug testing.

Dr. Hess, Dr. Hulebak and Jennifer Bryner attended a CALS course in Anchorage October 13-15. CALS stands for Comprehensive Advanced Life Support and is a course designed to provide additional education to rural and/or resource limited healthcare professionals working in the emergency setting. It was a wonderful course with hands-on training. We hope that the remainder of the medical staff and additional nursing staff will be able to attend this course in the future.

We have broadened our visiting specialty providers. We welcomed general surgeon Dr. Garrison and Kelly Gebler CRNA to Petersburg at the end of September. Dr. Garrison performed colonoscopies as well as upper endoscopies and plans to return in January. Cameron French, PA-C will be here from Idaho providing dermatology consultation/services October 23-25 and the plan is for him to return at regular intervals. A contract was signed with Dr. Tarim, a psychiatrist, who will soon be able to provide consultations on our patients including our long term care residents. We continue to have otolaryngology (Dr. Raster) and optometry (Dr. Kapp) at regular intervals.

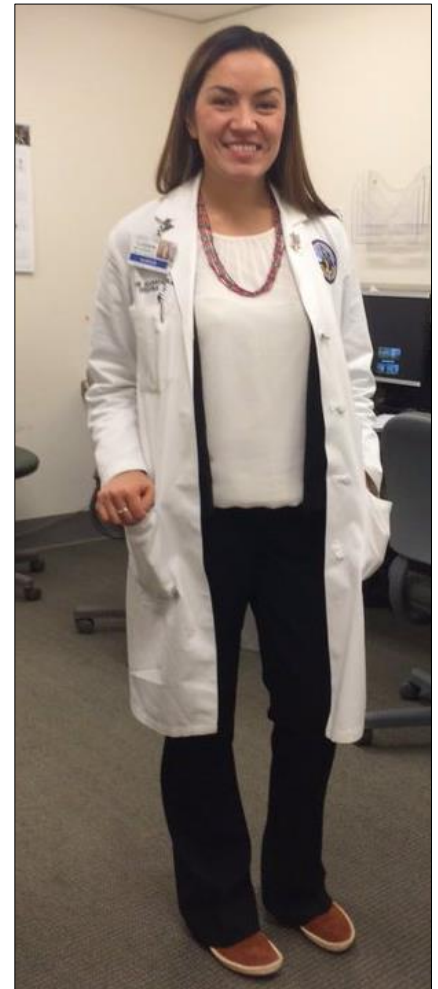
Dr. Hyer's last day was 8/31/2023. We are actively recruiting to fill her full-time position. Dr. Hess and Dr. Hulebak visited the Alaska Family Medicine Residency Program in Anchorage (while there for CALS) as part of the recruitment process. In the interim we are using, and looking for, locum providers. Dr. Ehret, a doctor who previously worked in Dutch Harbor, was here in October. Dr. Tuccillo will fill some emergency room shifts while we continue to recruit.

Community Engagement

Our providers continue to be actively involved in teaching. Erik Hulebak had a PA student for 4 months. This student graduated in August and accepted a job in Dutch Harbor. Dr. Hess and Dr. Hulebak continue to teach UW School of Medicine 3rd year medical students. Dr. Hess recently attended the UW Family Medicine Clerkship quarterly meeting which encompasses clinical preceptors (doctors) from the WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho) region.

Patient Centered Care

The providers continue to work in collaboration with our patients' subspecialists including oncology, rheumatology and gastroenterology to provide specialized outpatient treatments here at PMC. These therapies include chemotherapy and monoclonal antibody infusions which are usually only administered at an infusion center. Our patients (and some from Wrangell) are pleased they do not have to travel for these repeated treatments.



Dr. Garrison from Mt Edgecumbe Medical Center

Facility

Dr. Hess is serving on the steering committee for the new facility and provides input on behalf of the medical staff.

Financial Wellness

The providers are working with the financial office to develop a workflow for transitional care management and chronic care management. We want to ensure that we are meeting the specific documentation requirements determined by CMS. Our hope is to better capture charges for work that we are already doing.

Submitted by: Alice Hulebak, MD
