



Golden West Newsline

SUMMER 2011

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Letter from the President, Huy Hong

As my term as President of Golden West Central Service and Healthcare Chapter comes to an end I would like to first thank all of you who voted and supported me over the past couple of years. I would like to share with you that as President of GWCSHC I have learned and grown a lot. For one thing, I have grown out of my shell. Those of you who have been with Golden West a long time probably remembered when I first started participating, I hardly spoke a word. Today I am able to stand in front of all of you and make a speech. To some people that might seem a small step, but for someone like me it is truly a milestone. I remember when Paula Price, our past president and my manager, tried to get me involved in Golden West and I dreaded coming to all of the meetings. When she tried to get me to go up and talk in front of the crowd I was terrified and couldn't utter a single word. Now after so many years working with all the Board Members and volunteers I look forward to attending our meetings. It's a chance to see good friends. Thanks to this group of people, their support and encouragement I am where I'm at today. I would like to thank them for all of their hard work. If it wasn't for you and your dedication we would not be able to put up a seminar like we do every year. Lastly, I would like to encourage you, members of Golden West, to step up and volunteer your time or come to our general membership meeting to see what we are all about. We always welcome new faces to become volunteers and board members. Come share with us new ideas or suggestions on how to make our seminar even better than it already is. Again, thank you all for giving me an opportunity to serve you as President of Golden West. Hope to see you all at this year's Seminar in October.

Huy Hong
President
GWCSHC

Save the Date!

Golden West 41st Educational Seminar

October 5-7, 2011

**To be held at Atlantis Resort
3800 S. Virginia St. Reno, NV 89502**

More details will be provided at www.goldenwestcshe.org
as they become available.

2011-2012 Board of Directors

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Theme for the 2011 Seminar has Been Chosen

Every year Golden West chooses a theme that is both fun and relevant to the topic of focus. This year the theme is... drum roll please, "CSI: Central Sterile Intelligence." With a plethora of information available to Sterile Processing employees and frequent changes, it seems fitting to involve intelligence in our field as the theme this year. Thank you, Chuck Hughes with SPS Medical, for the suggestion.

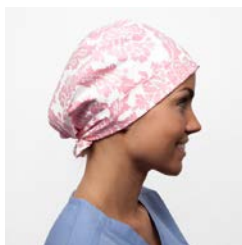
Who and What is a Member-at-Large

If any of the members of GWCSHC has a question, you would contact the Member-at-Large. As Member-at-Large it is my responsibility to field those questions and get them to the right people, specifically Board Members, for answers. The Board Members then contact the individual directly or get back to me to pass the information on.

We, as Board Members, always encourage the members of GWCSHC to come to the general meetings and give input and make suggestions on how to better our organization, after all it is your organization. We would also encourage members to volunteer some of their time to GWCSHC and help keep this organization one of the top educational programs on the west coast.

Lee Kopasek
Member-at -Large
Seminar Chair

Need a Gift for a Fellow Employee?



GWCSHC is proud to offer various items available for a small donation. Items include pens, shirts, scrub jackets, and scrub hats. All proceeds go directly into the GWCSHC fund for use in seminar fees and other related items. Surprise a friend or pamper yourself and support Golden West.

To purchase an item before the seminar or for more information, including pictures, please email [Kim Rivas](#). Items will be mailed directly to purchaser unless otherwise noted.

Lemon as a Cure for Cancer

There has been an email circulating since March 2011 about the possibility of lemons and other citrus curing cancer. The email states:

*Institute of Health Sciences, 819 N. L.L.C. Charles Street Baltimore , MD 1201.
This is the latest in medicine, effective for cancer!*

Read carefully & you be the judge.

Lemon (Citrus) is a miraculous product to kill cancer cells. It is 10,000 times stronger than chemotherapy.

... This plant is a proven remedy against cancers of all types. Some say it is very useful in all variants of cancer. It is considered also as an anti microbial spectrum against bacterial infections and fungi, effective against internal parasites and worms, it regulates blood pressure which is too high and acts as an antidepressant, combating stress and nervous disorders.

While there are many benefits to lemons (as noted in an article in a previous Golden West Newsliner) this email seems to be a hoax. Don't worry though, citrus can be an anti-cancer agent. Several scientific studies are looking at the flavonoids and limonoids in citrus, which give the fruit its color and flavor, as having an effect of slowing cancerous cells. For more information go to <http://www.hoax-slayer.com/lemon-cancer-cells.shtml>. This website gives a list of cited scientific studies with excerpts on the promising use of citrus on cancer cells.

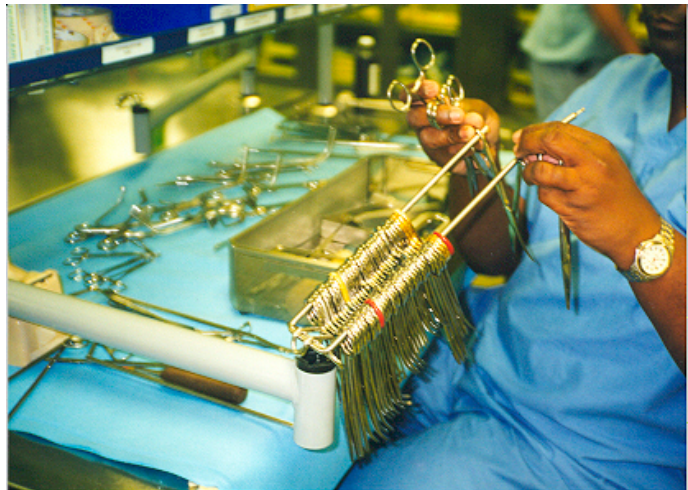


Preparing for the Survey

In order for hospitals and other healthcare facilities to receive Medicare/Medicaid payments they must be deemed compliant according to the requirements described in the Medicare Conditions of Participation (CoP). Compliance can be determined by about eight different Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved accreditation organizations, including Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP) and The Joint Commission (TJC). Contrary to popular belief, accreditation by an accreditation organization such as TJC is voluntary. The use of such AOs allows the facility "to be exempt from routine surveys by State survey agencies to determine compliance with Medicare conditions."

(http://www.cms.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/07_Accreditation.asp)

Each AO has similar requirements for accreditation as laid out by CMS. The Joint Commission has a list of requirements listed on their website that is frequently updated. So what exactly are AOs looking for that relate to Sterile Processing? The following is taken from TJC's *Revisions to Standard IC.02.02.01*:



IC.02.02.01

The [organization] reduces the risk of infections associated with medical equipment, devices, and supplies.

Rationale for Standard IC.02.02.01

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that 46.5 million surgical procedures are performed in hospitals and ambulatory settings each year; this includes approximately 5 million gastrointestinal endoscopies. Each of these procedures involves contact with a medical device or surgical instrument. A major risk of all such procedures is the introduction of pathogens that can lead to infection.*

Additionally, many more people are at risk of developing an infection from contact with medical equipment, devices, or supplies while seeking other health services. Failure to properly clean, disinfect, or sterilize, and use or store medical equipment, devices, and supplies not only poses risks for the person seeking health services, but also carries the risk for person-to-person transmission of infections.

There are numerous steps involved in the cleaning, disinfecting, and

sterilizing of medical equipment, devices, and supplies. It is critical that health care workers follow standardized practices to minimize infection risks related to medical equipment, devices, and supplies. In order to maintain a reliable system for controlling this process, organizations pay attention to the following:

- *Orientation, training, and competency of health care workers who are processing medical equipment, devices, and supplies*
- *Levels of staffing and supervision of the health care workers who are processing medical equipment, devices, and supplies*
- *Standardization of process regardless of whether it is centralized or decentralized*
- *Reinforcing the process (for example, the use of placards which list the steps to be followed, according to manufacturer's guidelines)*
- *Ongoing quality monitoring*

The document goes on to explain when to use low-level and high-level disinfectant, and sterilization.

During the survey, surveyors focus on a check-list of items including: safe environment and processes, staff education about equipment/supplies, cleaning and inspection of equipment and may other things. During this walk through surveyors may interview staff in relation to items on the checklist.

Infection control is also included in SP's survey. Surveyors may use a tracer method to evaluate the organization's process for infection control. Tracer methods can trace back to prevention and control including cleaning and disinfection of equipment, as well as sterilization of instrumentation. It is critical to keep organized records of sterilized items especially implants in order for traced infection cases to be researched effectively.

Resources:

http://www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/joint_commission_requirements.aspx

<http://www.cms.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/AOContactInformation.pdf>

<http://homecaremag.com/accreditation/apply-medicare-accreditation-requirements-customers-200902/>

http://www.cms.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/07_Accreditation.asp

http://www.premierinc.com/quality-safety/tools-services/safety/topics/guidelines/downloads/som107ap_a_hospitals.pdf

ATTENTION MEMBERS !!!

**Read your Golden West Constitution and Bylaws
NOW**

You have the right as a member in good standing to vote on these revised
Bylaws.

[Click Here to open a PDF copy of the 2011 Revision of the bylaws.](#)

Kim's Simple ShortCake

2 cups flour
¼ cup sugar
3 t. baking powder
½ t. salt
½ cup butter
1 cup milk

Put butter in a pie tin or similar sized pan in oven to melt while preheating at 375°

Once butter is melted add the rest of ingredients, mixing to get most of the lumps out.

Bake 25-30 minutes until slightly brown.

Serve warm with fresh strawberries or other fruit and whip cream.

*Works great in standard size muffin pans. Just mix ingredients in a separate bowl and drop into greased muffin cups. Makes about 8 single serve shortcakes. *

Potential Speakers and their Sponsors for 2011

Wednesday October 5th

Mary Olivera – [Getinge](#)
Diane Gosser – Healthmark

There are more speakers for Wednesday but they are not confirmed as yet

Thursday October 6th

Rose Seavey – [Bioseal](#)
Charles Ciulo – [Potomac Labs](#)

Vendor Introductions
Lunch with vendors
Vendor Exhibits

Friday October 7th

Peggy Spitzer - [Certol](#)
David Jagrosse - ??

**It's never too early!
Nominate your department for the Central Service Department of the Year Award. Or a co-worker for Technician, Manager, or Educator of the Year. Golden West will present these awards during the upcoming seminar.**

Forms will be available soon at
www.goldenwestcshc.org

California Central Service Association presents
The 26th Annual Education Conference and
Vendor Show
July 23 & 24 in Madera, CA

[Click this link to go to the CCSA website for details.](http://www.ccsa1.org/)
<http://www.ccsa1.org/>

Coming up in the next issue...

A Survey Prospective

By Barbara Hill

As always, please send any questions, comments, or suggestions about the Golden West Newsline to [Kim Rivas](mailto:Kim.Rivas@goldenwestcshc.org), or newsletter@goldenwestcshc.org

Contact information

Check us out online www.goldenwestcshc.org for upcoming dates, educational information, and much more!

Web links

Be sure to check out our sponsors:

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Bronze:

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[BellMed](#)

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[Medline Industries](#)

[Getinge](#)