



## Teamwork Trendsetters

# New iSecure Syringes

### Simplify Process, Save Dollars



The Departments of Pharmacy and Nursing have been working together on a project to switch from the old carpject syringe system to a cost-saving, “all-in-one” iSecure syringe. These syringes contain heparin and lorazepam and are used for any indications for these medications.

Although they are the same size as the old syringes, the new syringes come with a plastic applicator attached for easy insertion, and the entire unit is disposable. The outgoing syringes required a separate reusable device, called a carpject, to administer injectable medications.

*“The new syringes are more cost-effective, saving PPMC approximately \$10,000 annually,” said Nishaminy Kasbekar PharmD, Director of PPMC’s Pharmacy. “They also simplify the injection process by eliminating the need for carpjects.”*

This new system is part of the Joint Commission 2008 Patient Safety Initiative to reduce the likelihood of patient harm associated with the use of anticoagulant therapy. In addition, the iSecure syringe can help to prevent needlestick injuries.

The new syringes were rolled out to all patient care units, effective July 1.

## *In the News*

### **PPMC Addiction Unit Nurses Featured in *ADVANCE for Nurses Magazine***

The nurses on the addiction unit at Penn Presbyterian have been recognized for their extraordinary work in helping addicts on their road to recovery and appear in the cover story of this month’s *ADVANCE for Nurses* magazine.

The story features nurse manager Margorie H. Lehigh, MHA, MEd, BSN, RN, CHES, Miriam P. Yorkman, BSN, RN, CARN, and David Childs, a former addict so grateful for his treatment at PPMC that he is now a part of the addiction unit team as an alumni volunteer.

“Nurses on the floor were the ones who helped me the most,” said a reflective Childs. “They saw I was ill and helped me address my health issues. They showed me my addiction was a disease. They turned a light on for me. They showed me kindness but spoke the truth. They saw the person beyond the addict, and that’s when I started to see David, too. I saw I could live life with a purpose.”

To view the article online, go to <http://nursing.advanceweb.com/Article/A-Life-Reclaimed-3.aspx?prg=13>.



## Join the UPHS/Penn Team for Bike MS City to Shore on Oct 3 & 4



Stop by the Bike MS Info Table today – Friday, July 17 – and register for only \$20! Regular registration is now up to \$45, that's a **\$25 discount** you can't pass up! Kert and Danielle, PPMC representatives for the UPHS/Penn team, will be on site to answer any questions.

**Date:** Friday, July 17, 2009

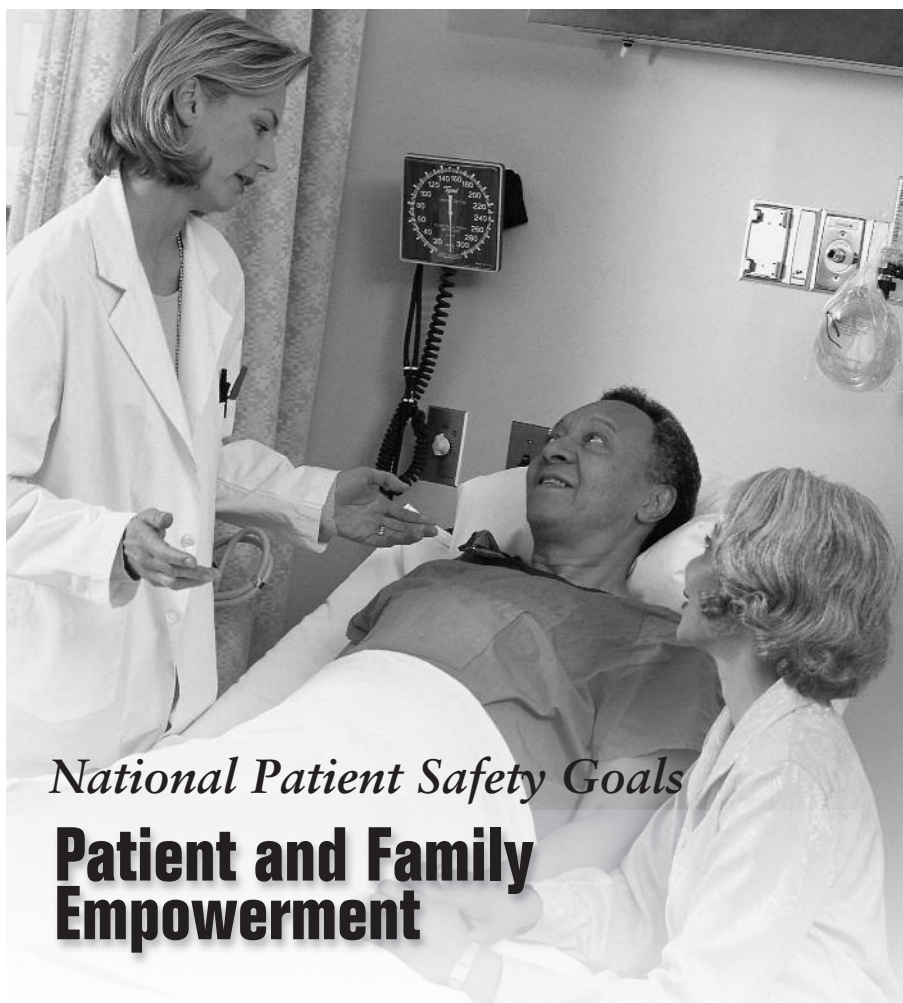
**Time:** 11:00 am to 1:30 pm

**Location:** PPMC Cafeteria Entrance

Bike MS is a weekend adventure for all ages and abilities with various route options to ensure that everyone can participate. Named by *Bicycling Magazine* as the "Best Cycling Getaway in NJ," enjoy the flat terrain of Southern New Jersey as the ride travels through the blueberry fields of Hammonton, the region's Pine Barrens and into the sweet smells of salt water taffy and ocean air in historic Ocean City. For more information, please visit [www.MScycling.org](http://www.MScycling.org).

Can't make it to the Bike MS Info Table today? Please contact us!

- PPMC Team Reps, Kert Emperado at [Kert.Emperado@uphs.upenn.edu](mailto:Kert.Emperado@uphs.upenn.edu) and Danielle Smith at [Danielle.Smith@uphs.upenn.edu](mailto:Danielle.Smith@uphs.upenn.edu) or Cupp 5 South 215-662-8599
- UPHS/PENN Team Captain, Dan Wilson for more information: [WilsonD@uphs.upenn.edu](mailto:WilsonD@uphs.upenn.edu)



## National Patient Safety Goals

# Patient and Family Empowerment

*PPMC has a standing campaign focusing on the National Patient Safety Goals, to raise awareness of patient safety and to ensure that all staff can explain each goal and promote these safety behaviors at Penn Presbyterian. This week, it's all in the family: **Actively Involving the Patient and Family.***

### 1. Encourage your patient's active involvement in their own care by:

- Educating patients and families
  - to **report concerns** related to care, treatment, services, and patient safety issues
  - about **infection control practices** for hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, and contact precautions upon admission
- Educating surgical patients about the steps we take to **prevent adverse surgical events**, such as:
  - Patient ID practices
  - Prevention of surgical infections
  - Marking surgical sites

### 2. Evaluate and document the patient and family's understanding of this education.