

PPG PROVIDER LIAISON NEWS

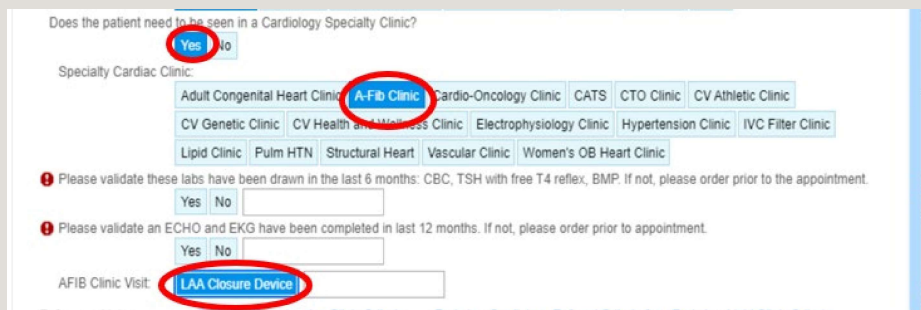
AFib Awareness Month

Did you know that for patients with AFib, more than 90% of stroke-causing clots that come from the heart are formed in the left atrial appendage?

The **WATCHMAN Implant** is a one-time, minimally invasive procedure for people with atrial fibrillation who need an alternative to blood thinners.

Appropriate candidates can be identified by looking at both stroke and bleed risk. Patients are eligible for Watchman/LAAO if their CHA2DS2 score is greater than two or CHA2DS2-VASc score is greater than three. The attached resource outlines factors relative to scoring.

To refer a patient via Epic, be sure to indicate AFib clinic & LAA Closure Device. Referrals can also be faxed to 260-266-5700.



National Falls Prevention Awareness Week (Sept 23-27)

Falling is the number one cause of trauma-related injuries for people ages 65 and older. **Parkview's Fall Prevention Clinic** can help your patients reduce the risk of falling.

Collaborative care management:

- Individualized treatment plans
- Multidisciplinary experts from neurology, physical therapy and pharmacy

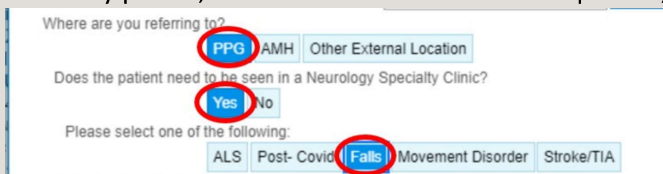


Convenience:

- Assessed by multiple team members in one visit

To refer patients via Epic, place an ambulatory referral to Neurology (REF46) and select the Falls Clinic after answering "Yes" to needing to be seen in a Neurology Specialty Clinic. Referrals can also be faxed to 260-266-9424.

To reach the clinic by phone, call 260-425-6780 and select option 5, option 4.



Welcoming New Providers



Kevin Bui, MD
Neurocritical Care



Carter Chase, MD
Family Medicine, Auburn



Stephen Clingman, MD
Family Medicine, Peru



Audra Deardorf, NP
Family Medicine, Albion



Kristen Dettmer, CPNP-PC
Pediatric Hospital & Critical Care Medicine



Christopher Dougherty, AA
Anesthesiology



Mehnoor Durrani, MD
Hospital Medicine



Richard George, MD
Trauma & Acute Care Surgery



Simhachalam Gurugubelli, MD
Hospital Medicine



Rowann Hassan, CPNP-PC
Pediatric Hospital & Critical Care Medicine



Natalie Huynh, DO
Hospital Medicine



Tamara Kermani, DO
Family Medicine, Goshen



Caitlin Krouse, DNP
Psychiatry

PPG PROVIDER LIAISON NEWS

New Treatment for Sleep Apnea – Inspire Device

[Michael Nosanov, MD](#) and [Courtney Martin, NP](#) with [PPG Otolaryngology](#) in Bryan and Archbold, Ohio are now offering [Inspire](#) sleep apnea technology for patients.

Safe Outpatient Procedure

- 2 small incisions
- Fast recovery, OTC medications and can return to nonstrenuous activities within a few days
- 11-year battery
- MRI compatible device



Criteria

- Patients that can't tolerate CPAP (4 hours a night >70% of the time)
- BMI requirement: Less than 35 (Medicare) / 40 and under (other payors)
- AHI (apnea hypoxia index): 15 - 30
- Must be obstructive sleep apnea (central & mixed apneas)

Referrals can be faxed to **419-633-8903**.

Patients are welcome to call **419-633-7389** to schedule.

Specialty Communication

❖ Sleep Medicine

- [Insurance requires an office visit prior to sleep study orders.](#)
Unfortunately, if the study is ordered based off a phone call or MyChart message, the **durable medical equipment companies will not set patients up on therapy** if the tests indicate it's needed. This roadblock is not until **after** the patient has completed a sleep study. What this means is when the sleep study is ordered without office visit documentation, it requires them to **redo the process** starting with a visit and **repeat study**.

PPG Changes

❖ Retirement

- Jerry Dearth, MD – Family Medicine – effective 8/2/24

❖ Leaving

- Steven Behrendsen, DO – Rheumatology – effective 8/14/24
- William Geisert, MD – Orthopedics – effective 8/2/24
- Vernon Maes, DO – OB/GYN – effective 8/9/24
- Tessa Offerle, NP – Cardiology – effective 8/23/24
- Charles Pattan, MD – Oncology – effective 8/1/24

❖ New Offices

- PPG – Endocrinology, Lagrange (virtual)
207 N. Townline Rd, Lagrange, IN 46761
- PPG – Family Medicine, Goshen
1111 Lighthouse Lane, Goshen, IN 46526
- Parkview – Rheumatology, Lagrange (virtual)
207 N. Townline Rd, Lagrange, IN 46761



David Lankford, DO
Pediatric Hospital Medicine



Cristina Lucas, NP
*Occupational Health
Employer Solutions*



Jody Neer, MD
Neurology



Andrea Patterson, MD
Psychiatry



Nathan Richards, AA
Anesthesiology



Tyler Schwartz, AA
Anesthesiology



Sujan Srestha Karki, MD
Hospital Medicine



Harbinder Singh, MD
Cardiovascular Surgery



Jacquelyn Small, DO
Walk-In Clinic



Jenna Smith, NP
Urology



Courtney Steffensmeier, PA
Urology



Ahmad Taftaf, MD
Hospital Medicine



Barton Williams, MD
Cardiovascular Surgery