

NewsNotes



DRH STROKE PROGRAM

Durham Regional is developing a Stroke Program in preparation for application for the Joint Commission Primary Stroke Center Certification. In the last few months, we:

- Completed Nursing Bedside Dysphagia Screening.
- Updated Physician Order Sets available in CPOE for patients with Ischemic Stroke and updated downtime forms available for Patients with Ischemic Stroke, with a target date available at November 2008.
- Held National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale Training for nursing units (ED, Critical Care, 5-3 and 5-1)
- Included the Rapid Response Team as a resource to respond to possible acute, inpatient strokes.
- Continued offering the monthly stroke survivor support group meetings.

We plan to apply for Joint Commission Primary Stroke Center Certification in Summer 2009.

IS YOUR LIFE WORTH 20 MINUTES?

That's about how long it takes to complete a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) through Duke Prospective Health. What you learn could save your life. Too often people only think of their health after they begin having problems. Duke Prospective Health is focused on helping you identify your health risks and do something about them before you end up in the emergency room.

Start by completing a brief Health Risk Assessment (HRA) online, and you'll receive a free \$25 Harris Teeter gift card. You'll also be entered into a monthly drawing for a prize package valued at \$250. Take your HRA at: <http://www.dukeprospectivehealth.org/>.

DURHAM CONNECTS CONTINUES NEWBORN CARE THROUGH HOME VISITING

A program providing free in-home nurse visits to all parents of newborns in Durham County launched this summer. Durham Connects' mission is to increase child-well being by bridging the gap between new parent needs and community resources. Research shows that a child's brain architecture develops early in life. Durham Connects intends to improve a child's foundation to benefit the community's future health and success.

Durham Connects' nurses will provide a physical assessment of the baby and mother, as well as answer questions, assist with health issues and make referrals to other community agencies. The visit takes place in the

parent's home when the baby is about one-month-old.

Durham Connects is a collaboration of the Durham Family Initiative and the Durham County Health Department. It is funded by The Duke Endowment. For more information, visit www.durhamconnects.org or call 919-668-3279.

PROJECT ACCESS OF DURHAM COUNTY

Project Access of Durham County (PADC) provides specialty care and diagnostic pharmacy services at no charge to uninsured and underinsured Durham residents living at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. These residents have access to primary care through Lincoln Community Health Center, but specialty care is often a challenge.

Launched this summer, PADC and its administrative offices are housed at DRH's Health Services Center on Crutchfield Street. Durham Regional also provides technical support for the program. PADC emerged out of commitment from The Partnership for a Healthy Durham; Durham Congregations, Associations and Neighborhoods; NC Institute of Medicine; Durham County Government; Duke University Health System; Lincoln Community Health Center; The Durham-Orange Medical Society; Prima Health; NC Specialty Hospital; The Durham Academy of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmacy; and Community Physicians of Durham County.

EMPLOYEE PARKING POLICY TO BE ENFORCED

As of January 1, 2009, corrective action will be taken against employees who park in patient and visitor parking areas. But, don't wait until then to do the right thing. If you are parking in visitor parking, please begin to park in reserved staff parking today, even when off the clock.

Remember to:

- Park only in designated employee parking.
- Do not park in Emergency Department parking lot or the visitor parking lot.
- If you do not have your badge at the ready, park in the Wisteria lot.
- If you do not have a parking placard for your car, please have it replaced at Human Resources (Watts Building, 2nd floor) between now and January 1, 2009.
- Security is available to escort people to their cars after hours by calling x 4262.