



*'Delivering High Quality Care One Patient at a Time'*

## Board Election Results

The election to fill two primary care class physician seats and one specialist class physician seat on the Inspira Health Partners Board of Managers has concluded. The results are as follows.

### Primary care candidates:

- Seat 1: Olga Kaczaj, MD—South Main Medical Associates (34 votes)
- Seat 2: Lee Ann Van Houten-Sauter, DO—Pine Street Family Practice (26 votes)
- Daniel Pedersen, DO—Pedersen Family Medicine (16 votes)
- Donald Huston, DO—Medical Alliance of Southern New Jersey (15 votes)

### Specialist candidates:

- Seat 1: Kush Sachdeva, MD—Southern Oncology Hematology Associates (63 votes)
- Trina Banerjee, MD—Banerjee Kidney Center (23 votes)

Thank you to the outgoing managers, Drs. Jill Mortensen, Chris Ballas, and Jack Kanoff, for their service on the board.

## Inspira Facilities Launch 'Enhanced Discharge Program'

Originally created as part of Inspira's COVID surge plan to address capacity constraints in the Inspira hospitals and emergency departments (ED), the Enhanced Discharge Program is an episodic program designed to ensure a smooth transition from hospital to home and stability after discharge. The program has recently expanded to accept non-COVID patients as well.

To date, the program has transitioned 58 hospital discharges and 20 ED discharges to the home setting with only 3 hospital patients and 2 ED patients requiring a return to the hospital. Those that did return were identified quickly and advised to do so to avoid further decompensation.

The target population for the program includes patients with hypertension, diabetes, COPD, and CHF. It involves a two-part touch for a patient who agrees to participate. On the day after discharge, the patient will receive a video visit with a provider to ensure that they are transitioning successfully. Then, for 5-7 days post-discharge (or until stability is reached), the patient will use a remote monitoring kit to transmit biometric data, and an i-Pad-like device to answer a series of questions about how they are feeling. This information is sent to a centralized command center staffed by nurses, who will respond to values requiring attention. Upon program graduation, the patient's community provider will receive a handoff for continued primary care. Please see the attached Patient Welcome Letter for additional information.

This program was created in partnership with Thais Health and includes the following remote monitoring devices: blood pressure cuff, pulse oximeter, thermometer, scale, and glucometer. In addition to the 'Enhanced Discharge' model, the program has existed in the ambulatory setting since October 2019, which includes both remote patient monitoring (RPM) and chronic care management (CCM) services. In the coming months, IHP practices will be offered the option of joining the ambulatory program (called Inspira Health+ Technology-assisted Care Management) to assist in providing RPM/CCM services to their patients.

## Welcome to the Enhanced Discharge Program

Dear Patient,

Inspira is discharging you today and would like to continue to monitor you from home. Here is what you can expect over the next few days.

- You will receive a call from an Inspira nurse to schedule a follow up **virtual visit** with a physician who will check in on how you are feeling. The Inspira nurse will explain to you how to utilize the technology, and if you are unable, the visit can be done on the telephone.
- Additionally, you are being provided a **remote monitoring kit** so that your condition can be monitored from home. Once you are home, a different nurse from Inspira's partner, Thais Health, will reach out to you to explain how to use the kit. Make sure you have a support person available during this time who can learn how to use it along with you. The call will come from 1-800-903-1791.
- You will be asked to use the remote monitoring devices **three times per day** and answer a few questions using the tablet device in the kit. Your readings will automatically transmit to the nurse who will call you if your levels are out of range. The nurse will also alert the physician who did your virtual visit who will advise of any actions that need to be taken.
- We expect the average patient to keep the kit for **five days**. This kit is on loan to you. You will be contacted once your readings are consistently stable so the kit can be picked up and returned to Thais Health. Each kit is sanitized with a UV light before another patient uses it. Please **DO NOT** return kits to the hospital or the emergency department.
- Your insurance company may be billed for the service and you may have a financial responsibility depending on your insurance plan.
- This program does not take the place of your relationship with your PCP. If you have a change in condition outside of Thais coverage hours (7:00am-10:30pm), please contact your PCP directly or seek emergency care.

Thank you for choosing Inspira. We wish you the best of health.



Questions??

Regarding your follow up virtual visit: (856) 641-6299

Regarding your remote monitoring: (800) 903-1791