

Winter 2025-26

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# Progress Notes

METHODIST HEALTH SYSTEM MEDICAL STAFF NEWS



## New committee devoted to promoting work life of healthcare providers



**Martin L. Koonsman,**  
MD, FACS, CPE  
Chief Medical Officer

The Triple Aim is widely accepted as an imperative to optimize health system performance by enhancing patient experience, improving population health, and reducing costs. Yet burnout and dissatisfaction — widely reported among physicians and other members of the healthcare workforce — are associated with lower patient satisfaction, reduced health outcomes, physician and advanced practice provider turnover, and increased costs.

By saying “yes” to a fourth goal of improving the work life of healthcare providers, we improve our chances of achieving this *quadruple* aim.

To that end, Methodist Health System has embraced the goal of improving the work life of healthcare providers by forming the Medical Staff Wellness Committee. Joining a similar effort for clinicians under way at Methodist Medical Group, committee members held their first meeting on January 21.

The new committee is charged with promoting awareness of physician and APP wellness as an essential component of safe, high-quality patient care. At each campus, committee members will develop and recommend programs, policies, and resources that support the physical, emotional and professional well-being of our medical staff.

We will also facilitate education and training on stress management, resilience, communication, and work-life integration. At the system level, the committee will monitor and evaluate organizational factors that impact provider wellness, such as workload, process, and culture, while advocating for system improvements.

One way to monitor these organizational factors is through surveying the medical staff, and there will be an opportunity to provide this kind of feedback later this year. Another way is through less formal “listening sessions,” open to all physicians and APPs, currently held every Thursday at noon through the end of February during MHSCARES4DR virtual peer support meetings.

**System:** [Paul Lansdowne](#), MD, chair

**Dallas:** [Oluwadamilola Babaniji](#), DO

**Richardson:** [Jenevieve Hughes](#), MD

**Mansfield:** [Richard Miller](#), MD

**Midlothian:** [Benjamin Lo](#), MD

**Celina:** [Swapna Katipally](#), MD, and [Aritra Sen](#), MD

### Continuing Medical Education survey

If you attended a CME activity in 2025, please consider completing the survey below. It should take only a few minutes, and your input will help us improve continuing medical education now and in the future.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

The committee will occasionally be joined by Chief Medical Officer Martin Koonsman, hospital CMOs, and other medical staff leaders as they are able to join. If you do not have an email invitation with a ZOOM link for those meetings, please contact [PaulLansdowne@mhd.com](mailto:PaulLansdowne@mhd.com).

The committee will also serve as a resource and liaison to our medical staff leadership and the system's executive leadership. To achieve our goals, we will seek partners within the system who are also working to improve work-life balance. Those partners include Health Informatics in their effort to continually optimize EHR function, Human Resources, and Pastoral Care, sponsor of MHSCARES4DR.

The American Medical Association has developed an evidence-supported roadmap called the [Joy In Medicine](#) Health Systems Recognition Program. Following the AMA guide, combined with local learning and process improvement, we seek to make a sustainable difference and also to achieve “Joy In Medicine” recognition (akin to Magnet status).

Our overriding aim in all of these efforts is to be in service to you, our colleagues. If you have questions, ideas, or issues, please email Dr. Lansdowne or a member of the wellness committee from your campus by clicking on their names below.

## Methodist Charlton leads the way by sharing safety stories before every meeting

Care Commitments are a meaningful way to tell safety stories, spread awareness, and connect back to our values of Taking Care of Patients, Taking Care of Each Other, Taking Care of Ourselves, and Taking Care of Methodist.



Click [HERE](#) to read the RISE newsletter

Care Commitments were included in the opening presentations of The Joint Commission Stroke and Hip/Knee surveys, signaling to surveyors that safety is lived at every level of the organization.

At Methodist Charlton, the staff has hardwired Care Commitments into every meeting beyond frontline huddles to include physician-led committees, executive sessions, and hospital committee meetings. This intentional practice reflects how Methodist strives to provide a work climate that promotes patient and staff safety and has created a visible and consistent forcing function that reinforces safety as a cultural priority.

At Methodist Charlton — under the direction of Chief Medical Officer **Michael Finch**, MD, the Executive team, and Quality leaders — Care Commitment safety stories are now consistently shared at:

- Medical Staff Executive Committee (MEC)
- Medical Staff General Meetings
- OB/GYN Department Meetings
- Hospitalist Section Meetings
- Sepsis Steering Committee
- Stroke Steering Committee
- Advisory Board Meetings

By making Care Commitments a forcing function, Methodist Charlton's leaders are embedding safety into the DNA of their organization. And it is sending a powerful signal that safety is everyone's work.

Their commitment is helping to ensure Care Commitments aren't just something we do before a huddle, but a way we practice medicine, make decisions, and lead the way at Methodist.

## Built for Success

### Ambulatory Surgical Centers expand access to patients in Keller and Richardson



#### Methodist Richardson

### ASC offers a wide range of specialties

The new Ambulatory Surgical Center at Methodist Richardson held its grand opening in January. The new facility is designed for outpatient procedures that don't require an overnight hospital stay.

"This facility brings together the strength of trusted, experienced specialty surgeons and the expertise of Surgery Partners to offer cost-effective, high-quality care close to home," said Methodist Richardson President **Ken Hutchenrider**, FACHE.

Located in the building next to the main hospital, the new Methodist Surgery Center - Richardson features two operating rooms, two procedure rooms, and a cardiac catheterization lab.

The ASC's service specialties are cardiology, vascular, interventional radiology, interventional nephrology, general surgery, podiatry, orthopedics, including total joints, urology, and gastrointestinal.



#### Methodist Southlake

### Orthopedic care is focus of Keller center

Methodist Southlake opened a new surgical center in Keller to provide high-quality outpatient surgical care for advanced foot and joint care.

The multispecialty Methodist Keller Surgery Center includes two operating rooms, technologically advanced medical equipment, and a medical staff offering superior clinical expertise in a convenient and comfortable setting.

"The expansion of the Methodist brand in our region is exciting to see and experience as more and more residents share their stories about trusting Methodist," said **Benson Chacko**, FACHE, President, Methodist of Southlake. The investment in the community is another way we grow to meet the needs of our patients and physicians."

The center offers specialties in orthopedics and podiatry.



#### Methodist Celina

### Two clinics open in professional building

Methodist Celina is expanding its footprint with two new clinics in the professional building next to the hospital.

A ribbon-cutting was followed by a tour of Methodist Family Health Center - Celina Campus and the MMG Multi-Specialty Clinic with members of the medical staff and system leaders.

The 3,800-square-foot health center, with seven exam rooms, is staffed by board-certified family medicine physician **Annie Nguyen**, MD.

The multi-specialty clinic will provide women's health services, surgical care, cardiovascular consultants, and orthopedic specialists.

# Equipped to Care

Methodist Dallas

## Sammons Tower adds 2 new ORs

Methodist Dallas expanded its surgical capabilities by opening two new operating rooms in Sammons Tower.

The addition of two ORs enhances availability to meet the demand the hospital's surgical teams are experiencing. Construction crews put the final touches on Rooms 23 and 24 and added six additional PACU bays in late 2025.

Additionally, a \$15 million capital request was approved in late 2025 to create a hybrid electrophysiology (EP) operating room. This addition will similarly provide additional space for advancing cardiovascular care at Methodist Dallas.



## ECMO case highlights seamless continuum of care stretching across the system

A complex ECMO case involving a young woman with a life-threatening case of COVID-19 showcased the partnership between hospitals and the need for advanced treatment.

When a 19-year-old woman's case worsened, Methodist Richardson partnered with Methodist Dallas to cannulate the patient and bring her to the Dallas campus for ECMO care, also known as extracorporeal membrane oxygenation. ECMO provides oxygen to the blood and removes carbon dioxide when lung function is inadequate and ventilator support is inadequate to sustain life.

"ECMO itself does not make people better; it gives a patient's organs time to recover and for us to provide therapies to improve the underlying problems," said **David Mason, MD**, cardiothoracic surgeon on the medical staff at Methodist Dallas.

The teen's excellent health history created a unique case for the medical team. The physicians involved in her care consulted with colleagues across the country for advice and ideas.

"Many specialties were called in to collaborate, and this case showcases excellent teamwork," said **Tanazul Pariswala, MD**, nephrologist on the medical staff at Methodist Dallas.



The woman spent more than 50 days on ECMO, about four times as long as a typical ECMO run. Her diagnosis of cardiorenal syndrome and vasculitis, an autoimmune disorder that inflames blood vessels, required around-the-clock care, newly approved medication, and a short period of time on dialysis.

The team says the odds were stacked against her, but with constant monitoring and teamwork, she grew stronger and was discharged after months in ICU. Now, her lung function is excellent.



## Methodist Midlothian

### Mako robot adds precision to new joints

Methodist Midlothian expanded access to advanced orthopedic care by adding Mako SmartRobotics for knee and hip replacements. This innovative technology supports a more personalized surgical approach by using 3D CT-based planning and increased procedural precision, helping surgeons tailor care to each patient's unique anatomy.

"This technology is a game-changer for how we care for patients needing joint replacement," said **Edward Mairura, MD, FAAOS**, orthopedic surgeon on the medical staff at Methodist Midlothian. "We are excited to bring this advanced option to our community so we can continue improving outcomes and helping patients return to doing what they love — faster and with greater confidence."

The investment reflects the hospital's ongoing commitment to bringing leading-edge technology to Ellis County and improving the experience of patients in need of total joint replacement.



## Methodist Mansfield

### New program allows transfusions in field

Methodist Mansfield and the local EMS launched a whole-blood transfusion program that begins before the patient ever reaches the hospital.

This initiative allows paramedics to administer whole blood at the scene or on the way to the hospital, enhancing the chance of survival for patients in severe trauma, hemorrhagic shock, or critical bleeding emergencies.

"This program represents a major advancement in emergency care," said Methodist Mansfield President **Juan Fresquez, MBA**. "Our trauma team and EMS partners are working together to provide critical care outside the hospital and save lives in real time."

**Thomas Goaley, MD**, medical director of the trauma team, added, "Field transfusions allow us to stabilize patients faster, enhancing survival and improving overall outcomes for critically injured patients."

# Setting the Standard

## Methodist Midlothian

### Hospital earns Joint Commission certification as Primary Stroke Center



Methodist Midlothian has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval and the American Stroke Association's Heart-Check certification as a Primary Stroke Center, recognizing the hospital's commitment to delivering high-quality, evidence-based stroke care close to home.

The designation follows a rigorous onsite review, during which surveyors evaluated program leadership, emergency and inpatient stroke care, use of evidence-based clinical guidelines, staff education, performance improvement, and coordination across the continuum of care.

"Earning Primary Stroke Center certification is a significant milestone for our hospital and a reflection of our team's unwavering commitment to delivering high-quality, timely, and compassionate care," Methodist Midlothian President **Jary Ganske** said. "When someone is experiencing a stroke, every minute matters, and this certification demonstrates that our physicians, nurses, and clinical teams are prepared to provide the right care at the right time."

## Methodist Charlton

### Clinic wins first Age-Friendly honor

Methodist Charlton's Family Practice Residency Clinic has received the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's Age-Friendly Level 1 Recognition, becoming the first clinic in Methodist Health System to achieve this honor.

This designation reflects a commitment to evidence-based care that prioritizes safety, avoids harm, and centers on what matters most to older adults and their caregivers.

The four essential elements of an Age-Friendly Health System are Mentation, Medication, Mobility, and What Matters. Improving the care of older adults makes a lasting change in our communities.





Methodist Celina

## Hunter named Emerging Healthcare Professional of the Year

Methodist Celina President **Cody Hunter**, FACHE, was named Emerging Healthcare Professional of the year at the *D CEO Excellence in Healthcare Awards 2025*.

Methodist Celina debuted in March as northern Collin County's first hospital in one of America's fastest-growing cities. But Hunter's work as president began well before that: He recruited the leadership team, helped to hire 200 employees, and developed partnerships with first responders, school districts, and local businesses.

The achievement reflects the strength of Methodist Health System, which was recently recognized on *Time* magazine's 2026 Best Companies for Future Leaders list for the second consecutive year.

## Epic Strides

### How Clinical Data Management sets the standard for others to follow



**Brian Kenjarski,**  
MD, MBA, FACEP SVP,  
Health Informatics and  
Medical Affairs Chief Health  
Informatics Officer

#### Simplifying respiratory analytics

The Clinical Data Management team presented at Epic XGM for a fourth year in a row in 2025, showing off a new dashboard for respiratory services.

The team developed a first-of-its-kind solution for RT leadership to provide a centralized, standardized platform to support quality monitoring and performance improvement across respiratory services.

The dashboard includes clinical and revenue-related reports and metrics including:

- oral care completion
- missing charges on respiratory flowsheet data
- respiratory treatment orders
- ABG protocol orders
- timely flowsheet documentation

What began as a local departmental request has since evolved into a scalable standard for RT analytics, positioning the organization as a leader in clinical reporting and providing a blueprint for health systems worldwide.



#### Webinar spotlights OPPE/FPPE dashboard

The Clinical Data Management team showcased the OPPE/FPPE dashboard at an Epic webinar attended by healthcare analysts nationwide this month.

The OPPE/FPPE dashboard:

- Addresses credentialing, privileging, and quality improvement
- Promotes data accuracy by reducing manual chart review
- Standardizes data across service lines
- Identifies provider performance trends
- Complies with the Joint Commission regulatory requirements

The dashboard was presented by **Aleida Gamez, Saira Khan,** and **Ornella Mizero.**

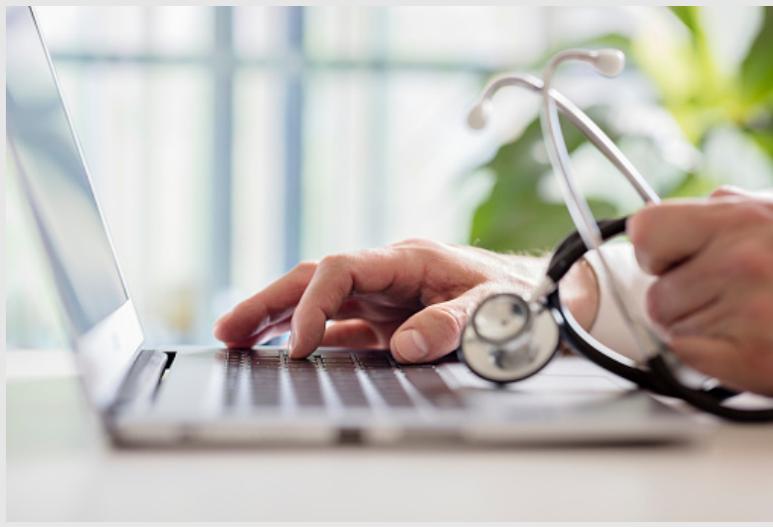
#### Hello World texts improve patient outreach

Methodist launched Hello World, a new digital tool to enhance how we communicate with patients and their families around surgery.

Hello World went live last month. Patients receive automated reminders seven days before surgery and again the day prior to their procedure.

During surgery, families can receive real-time updates tied to normal OR workflow, helping reduce anxiety and minimize inbound calls while keeping nursing teams fully in control of messaging.

### Well-being initiative targets 'note bloat' with critical care note-writing templates



As part of the MHS Physician Well-Being initiative, standardized critical care note templates have been introduced in Epic, developed in collaboration with Health Informatics, Coding, Compliance, HIM, and Critical Care Cabinet representatives.

These templates are intended to streamline documentation, reduce duplication and "note bloat," and support required documentation standards in the critical care setting. The goal is to make note-writing more efficient and better aligned with your workflows.

Providers are encouraged to begin using the new templates as they become available. Existing Critical Care note templates will be gradually retired over time to support consistency across the system.

New note templates in Epic are as follows:

- Progress Note Template: MHSIPCCPROGRESSNOTE (140225)
- Consult Note Template: MHSIPCONSULTNOTE (140241)
- H&P Note Template: MHSIPCCHPNOTE (140274)
- Procedure Note Template: MHSIPPROCEDURENOTE (140275)
- DC Note Template: MHSIPCCDISCHARGENOTE (140273)

## Epic Trainers are here, whenever there's a question — or a suggestion

The Epic Training team is always available to answer your questions and provide guidance on how to use Epic more efficiently.

We have a trainer posted at each campus to help with anything you may want to know about Epic, including taking your suggestions about how to improve clinical workflows in Epic for all physicians.

**Dallas:** 214-933-3742 (3-EPIC)  
or EpicMDMC@mhd.com

**Richardson:** 469-204-3742 (4-EPIC)  
or EpicMRMC@mhd.com

**Charlton:** 214-947-3742 (7-EPIC)  
or EpicMCMC@mhd.com

**Mansfield:** 682-242-3742 (2-EPIC)  
or EpicMMMC@mhd.com

**Midlothian:** 469-846-3742 (6-EPIC)  
or EpicMLMC@mhd.com

**Southlake:** 682-335-3742 (5-EPIC)  
or EpicMSMC@mhd.com

**Celina:** 945-677-8833  
or EpicMCEL@mhd.com

Texas law prohibits hospitals from practicing medicine. The physicians on the Methodist Health System medical staff are independent practitioners who are not employees or agents of Methodist Health System.