

CANCER CARE NEWS

SHC Cancer Care Newsletter

January 2018



*Happy New Year
From SHC Cancer Care!*

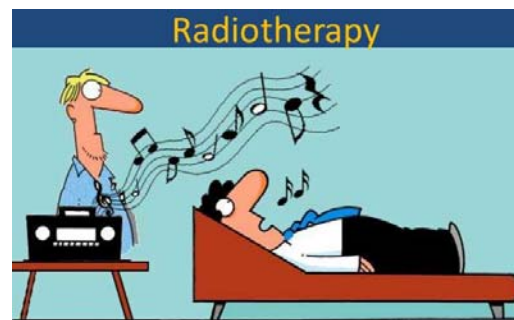
News, and more News!



By Kathy Jensen, Director

Sidney Health Center (SHC) Cancer Care is ever-changing to serve our patients. For starters, SHC would like to welcome Dr. Ralf Kiehl, Radiation Oncologist, to the Cancer Care team full-time. Read his Bio inside. Stacy Liudahl, RT(R)(T) (North Dakota) and Carrie Rawlins RT(T) (Virginia), radiation therapists, are now treating radiation patients. Welcome Brenda Kringen, BSN, (see more inside) as Dr. Chad Pedersen's oncology registered nurse. Dr. Pedersen's medical oncology clinic started in December and SHC is very fortunate to have him serve our patients full-time. And, please welcome Amber Gabel, B.S. Psychology, as the Cancer Care Coordinator. Amber joined our team in October. Katharine King, BSN recently joined our team as an infusion nurse per diem. Katherine has been at SHC since 2005.

The two patient lodging rooms have been at full occupancy. Cancer patients can stay at Big Sky Loft and Prairie Place rooms within Sidney Health Center for a nominal fee while receiving treatment at SHC Cancer Care. With winter weather and travel conditions, having this option available for patients has been advantageous. The rooms have queen beds, a twin fold out chair, recliner, television, microwave, handicapped showers, and dining services. To donate to SHC Cancer Care, contact the Foundation for Community Care.



George sang along to the tune, wondering what the big deal was about Radiotherapy

In This Issue

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JANUARY 2018 DR. RALF KIEHL JOINS SHC CANCER CARE

Sidney Health Center is pleased to announce the addition of Ralf Kiehl, M.D. Dr. Kiehl joins the medical staff as a Radiation Oncologist. Dr. Kiehl, who has provided temporary coverage at Sidney Health Center since 2011, recently committed to working full-time at Sidney Health Center's Cancer Care. As a Radiation Oncologist, Dr. Kiehl specializes in the treatment of cancer patients, using radiation therapy as the main method of treatment. His practice utilizes the technology of TomoTherapy, Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT), Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT), Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS), and CT scanning equipment to adapt the treatment plan of cancerous tumors.

In addition, he partners with area physicians including Dr. Chad Pedersen, Medical Oncologist to provide comprehensive cancer care to folks living in the MonDak region. As part of the multi-disciplinary team, Dr. Kiehl works with the medical physicist, Tim Stack, to develop a radiation plan that ensures safe exposure to normal structures.

Originally from Germany, Dr. Kiehl has been practicing medicine for more than 20 years in the New York area. He started his career serving in the United States Army before going onto receive degrees in Psychology and Biology from the State University of New York and University of the State of New York respectively. He then returned to Germany to get his Doctor of Medicine from the Universitaet des Saalandes in Homburg/Saar. He completed residencies in Internal Medicine in Germany as well as the United States at St. Louis University Medical Center, St. Louis, MO before specializing in oncology. Branches of specialization included doing Hematology and Medical Oncology Fellowships and completing his Radiation Oncology Residency at Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, CT.



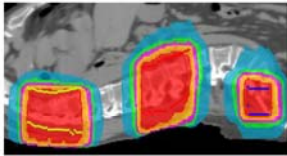
From Radiation Oncology: From left, Kristen Wicorek, Medical Assistant, Stacy Liudahl, June Ross, and Carrie Rawlins, Radiation Therapists, and Tim Stack, Physicist. Kristen has worked at SHC Cancer Care for a few years. Stacy and Carrie are new to our team. Stacy is from Kensal, North Dakota, and Carrie Rawlins is from Woodbridge, Virginia. June, from Pocatello, Idaho, helps us with training, and covering vacations & educational opportunities. Tim, our full-time physicist, is from Boise, Idaho.

The Tomotherapy Hi-ART accelerator at Sidney Health Cancer Care is being upgraded to the latest available options. These include Dynamic Jaws, Accuray Precision Treatment Planning, iDMS Data Management System, PreciseART Adaptive Radiation Therapy, Remote Software Solutions, PreciseRTX Retreatment Option and Advance TQA Onboard Quality Assurance Software.

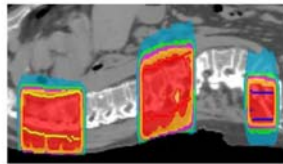
The Dynamic Jaw upgrade will allow us to use larger fields while treating less normal tissue at the same time. This will reduce the treatment times to about one half of the current time needed while simultaneously delivering an improved treatment. The follow diagram shows the dose and time differences.

TomoEDGE™ Dynamic Jaws

TomoEDGE for Multiple Metastases



Fixed Jaw Mode
5cm jaw used to achieve clinically acceptable plan allowing delivery within 15 minute scheduling window (11.5 min/fraction)



Dynamic Jaw Mode
The plans is improved and delivery time reduced to 7.2 min/fraction

TomoEDGE allows better treatments to be delivered in less time

This upgrade will bring SHC Cancer Care up-to-date on the latest available features for the Tomotherapy Unit. These improvements will decrease the time the patient spends in the treatment room, while providing better treatments overall. We are excited to be receiving this upgrade and look forward to providing continued quality treatments right here in the MonDak area. *Tim Stack, Physicist*

PreciseART is an improved planning system that will allow us to plan more efficiently with improved calculation speeds, more than 10 times faster dose calculations. The system also has additional features for contouring and plan comparisons. This new planning system along with the Remote Software Solutions will provide easier access to planning for the physicist and physician from offsite locations. The Retreatment Option compares daily treatment images and follows changes and then allows for improved tracking of changes in the patient's anatomy and speeds up the process of re-planning by automatically deforming and copying the original plan's data to the new CT Scan. Advance TQA (Tomo Quality Assurance) is a streamlined package that measures and analyzes the accelerator's dose, image and mechanical parameters using built in detectors in the unit.



Welcome Brenda!!!



Brenda Kringen, RN



Dr. Chad Pedersen



Judy C., RN



Judy R., LPN



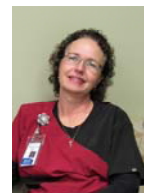
Amber, CC



Claire, SW



Deb, RN



Tracy, RN

More Team Members!

Brenda Kringen, BSN has joined the Cancer Care Team as Dr. Pedersen's oncology nurse. Brenda graduated from MSU-Bozeman, however her work for Sidney Health Center started in high school as a respiratory therapy assistant. Since then Brenda has filled many roles such as a staff RN on Med Surg, the ER, OR, Home Health, a clinic nurse, patient care coordinator, infection control, employee health and disaster preparedness. With all this vast experience, Brenda will be an asset to oncology.

Did You Know?

???



Did you know the Sidney Health Center Cancer Care has its own pharmacy, in which pharmacists like Erin Ellingson, pictured above, prepare medications for patients? Anticancer medications are hazardous, and must be stored and handled in a safe manner to reduce exposure to non-cancer patients. As safety is a top priority for us, our pharmacy has a special hood in which the medications are prepped. We also use Closed-System-Transfer-Devices to prevent medication exposure to the environment. We love having pharmacists as part of the cancer center care team because their knowledge and expertise are vital to providing excellent care to our patients.

Contact Us

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www.sidneyhealth.org

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