

Mount Sinai Beth Israel PCA Makes a ‘Special Delivery’

Barbara Jonas, a Patient Care Associate at Mount Sinai Beth Israel’s 11 Dazian Cardiac Catheterization Lab, was early for work on Wednesday, June 18. It was 5:30 am, and as she walked toward 16th St. and First Ave., she heard a woman, shouting, “Help, help, my baby!” Turning to look, Ms. Jonas saw that **Mei Zheng** was about to give birth near the hospital.

Her instincts instantly took over. “I told Mei to lie down on the sidewalk. Then I took off my sweater to use as a blanket for the baby,” she says.

The delivery happened quickly, but the newborn girl was in distress because the umbilical cord was wrapped around her neck. “I placed two fingers on the baby’s neck, and carefully unwrapped the cord, one coil at a time,” says Ms. Jonas.

The baby then began to cry, and Ms. Jonas stayed with Ms. Zheng until the baby was brought into the hospital. The new baby is named **Jemma Wen Ye**, and she weighed in at six pounds, three ounces.

One of Ms. Zheng’s first visitors on the Maternity Unit was Beth Israel President **Susan Somerville, RN**, who described the birth as “very special.”

“This shows that our staff doesn’t see work as a job, but as taking care of patients,” she says. “That’s what we do here.”

Ms. Jonas now calls Jemma Wen her “third granddaughter.” Ms. Zheng hopes the new baby girl grows up to “do something wonderful, maybe be a doctor or a nurse, but hopefully, helping people like Barbara did.”



Mount Sinai Beth Israel Patient Care Associate **Barbara Jonas**, left, with new mother **Mei Zheng** and baby **Jemma Wen Ye**.

UMPA Now Offers Vascular Testing

In order to better serve referring providers and patients, Mount Sinai St. Luke’s and Mount Sinai Roosevelt’s University Medical Practice Associates (UMPA) Cardiology is offering vascular testing services, beginning **Monday, July 7**. The following vascular studies will be performed at UMPA’s 425 W. 59th St., suite 9C, office—carotid duplex ultrasound, venous duplex ultrasound, arterial duplex ultrasound, and ankle-brachial index.

Common indications for vascular testing include, but are not limited to, atherosclerosis of native lower extremity arteries, bruit, carotid stenosis with TIA/CVA of unknown etiology, deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, suspect subclavian steal, limb pain, limb swelling, transient visual loss, lower extremity ulcer, and varicose veins.

For any testing, a prescription with indication/diagnosis is required. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (212) 492-5590 or (212) 492-5550.

Joanne Meyer, MS, PharmD, Appointed Chief Pharmacy Officer

Joanne Meyer, MS, PharmD, has been appointed Chief Pharmacy Officer for the Mount Sinai Health System. Since 2002, Dr. Meyer has served as Senior Director of Pharmacy for The Mount Sinai Hospital, where she was responsible for overall leadership, planning, administration, and management of Pharmacy Services for the hospital, ambulatory clinics, and school-based programs.

In her new position, Dr. Meyer will be responsible for developing and integrating Pharmacy Services for the Mount Sinai Health System and implementing its objectives and policies. She will report to the Senior Vice President of Corporate Services, with a collaborative reporting relationship to the Chief Medical Officer, Senior Vice President of Finance, and Senior Vice President of Nursing, as well as the hospital presidents, departmental physician leaders, and the Dean of Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

Dr. Meyer previously held positions at the Jewish Home and Hospital, Mount Sinai Beth Israel and Valley Hospital. She earned a PharmD from the University of Florida; an MS in Pharmacy Administration and a BS, with a major in pharmacy, from St. John’s University; and a BA, with a major in biology, from City University of New York/Lehman College.

Icahn School of Medicine Joins ‘Autism BrainNet’ Tissue Bank

The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai recently joined “Autism BrainNet,” a new network of research institutions that collect, store, and distribute postmortem brain tissue resources to help scientists gain a deeper understanding of the cause, treatment, and cure of autism spectrum disorder, which now affects an estimated one in 68 children.

The Seaver Autism Center at the Icahn School of Medicine will serve as the collection and storage site for brain tissue samples from the metropolitan New York area and beyond.

Autism BrainNet was launched by the Simons Foundation and Autism Speaks. Other inaugural members include the University of California MIND Institute, Harvard University/Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and the University of Texas at Southwestern Medical School.

Autism BrainNet recently launched its new donor registration site, *It Takes Brains*, to encourage families affected by the disorder to register as future donors. To learn more, call (877) 333-0990 or visit www.autismbrainnet.org and www.takesbrains.org.

Send Us Your News!

Is something significant about to happen in your department or area? Do you need to get a message out about a lecture, seminar, award or event? If you have information that employees need to know, announce it in *Connections*.

Send news items to **Donald Maxton** by e-mail at dmaxton@chpnet.org; by fax at (212) 523-7885; or by phone at (212) 523-4046.

Post-Stroke Patients and Caregivers Can ‘Sing Along’ at LACMM

The Louis Armstrong Center for Music and Medicine (LACMM) at Mount Sinai Beth Israel is offering an innovative group singing program to help post-stroke patients and their caregivers.

“We are only beginning to understand music’s impact on the brain,” says **Joanne Loewy, DA, LCAT, MT-BC**, Director of LACMM. “Songs, especially when selected by patients, prompt neural activity and spark emotional referencing.”

Physicians and other staff, as well as friends and neighbors, are invited to refer people who have suffered a stroke—and their caregivers—to join the choir being assembled for weekly singing get-togethers. “We hope that this activity will have a beneficial effect for both patients and those who care for them,” Dr. Loewy says.

“It’s a way for patients and caregivers to have a community by singing their favorite songs,” adds **Amy Walker**, Stroke Program Coordinator, Beth Israel.

The choir will meet weekly on **Mondays** in the Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Conference Center second-floor auditorium at Phillips Ambulatory Care Center, 10 Union Square East. No experience is necessary, and there is no fee to join. There is no music reading, but lots of singing by ear and improvisation.

For more information, contact Dr. Loewy by e-mail at JLoewy@chpnet.org, or call (212) 420-3484.

New Mount Sinai *Inside* Published

The latest issue of *Inside*, a biweekly newsletter devoted to news and information about the Mount Sinai Health System, is now available on conveniently located newspaper racks at the System’s main campuses.

The current issue features stories on a novel vaccine to fight lymphoma, a new program to provide hospital-level care at home, the presentation of a special pin and certificate of recognition to a D-Day veteran, the naming of a renowned Mount Sinai microbiologist to the American Academy of Arts and Science, and more.

Inside also is available on the Intranet at chip.chpnet.org. Click on “*Inside*, *Connections*, *HealthBytes*, and “Daily Media Clips.”



Have You Read ‘Health Bytes’?

Health Bytes is our multi-author health blog, featuring writers from Mount Sinai Beth Israel, Mount Sinai St. Luke’s, and Mount Sinai Roosevelt.

The content is updated multiple times each week, so check back often, or subscribe.

Visit www.HealthBytesNYC.com and follow @HealthBytesNYC on Twitter for more information. Get involved by emailing blog@chpnet.org.



Several of **Teresita Ignacio**’s colleagues posed for this award-winning photo. Standing, from left, are **Maria Macahilig, ORT**, **Evayin Gauw, RN**, **Aurora Escobedo, RN**, and **Maximel Sorio, NA**. The “patient” is **Irish Robles, ORT**. The photo was taken by **Ana Josephine Marana, ORT**, and **Emerald Rica Zamayla, ORT**.

NYEE Nurse Wins Photo Contest

Teresita Ignacio, RN, Nursing Care Coordinator, Fourth-Floor Operating Room, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai, recently won the Ansell Sandel Medical Solutions LLC “TIME OUT” Day photo contest. Ms. Ignacio asked her colleagues to create a simulated photo and video of nursing staff following “Time Out” patient safety procedures.

Ansell selected the above photo as its favorite, beating out the competition because of its “originality, creativity, and use of TIME OUT products.”

Ansell Sandel Medical Solutions LLC manufactures medical and ergonomic safety products for the health care industry.

Are You Female and Overweight?

If so, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study, titled, “Screening for Endometrial Abnormalities in Overweight and Obese Women,” conducted by **Lisa Anderson, MD**, and **Manal El Daouk, MD**, Mount Sinai Roosevelt’s Department of OB/GYN.

Being overweight or obese can cause cancer of the uterus. Study participants will be examined for uterine cancer and whether or not they are at risk for getting it at a later date, providing an opportunity for early intervention or prevention.

To be eligible, participants must be 18 years of age or older; must have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 25 or higher; are a Mount Sinai St. Luke’s or Mount Sinai Roosevelt employee or gynecology patient; are considering or are having bariatric surgery; have completed a full medical history, including a detailed menstrual and/or postmenopausal bleeding history; have completed an endometrial biopsy; have a negative pregnancy test; have signed a written informed consent document; and are willing to comply with the study’s requirements.

Participants are ineligible if they have a BMI below 25; are a normal weight or are thin; have had a hysterectomy; are pregnant; have an untreated vaginal, cervical, or pelvic infection; or were recently treated for a sexually transmitted disease.

If you would like to participate, contact study coordinator **Sandra Sarpong, MA**, at ssarpong@chpnet.org or call (212) 523-5609.