Memo: Methodist University Hospital Pharmacy Managed PCA Pilot Service

What: A post-operative pharmacy managed service focused on patient controlled analgesia (PCA) has been requested by several physicians at Methodist University Hospital. This is an optional service for prescribers with postoperative patients transferred to the units/floors listed below. Approved by P&T committee on January 5, 2012.

When: February 14, 2012 (3 month pilot)

Why: Appropriate postoperative pain management encourages earlier mobilization, decreases length of stay, reduces complications including risk of VTE, development of chronic pain, improves patient satisfaction and reduces overall cost of care1. Joint Commission pain standards were enacted on January 1, 2001. These standards require organizations to recognize the right of patients to appropriate assessment and management of pain, screen patients for pain during their initial assessment and, when clinically required, during ongoing, periodic re-assessments, educate patients suffering from pain and their families about pain management2.

Where: 4A tower, 4 East and 6A tower

Process:
PCA orders will be initiated by the prescriber, and they will have the option of choosing to have pharmacy manage the PCA and pain at that time. If the prescriber elects pharmacy to manage the PCA, a pain consult will automatically generate to pharmacy. The pharmacist on call will assess the patient and leave a daily progress note in the electronic medical record. The pharmacist on call will make all pain medication adjustments and managing adverse effects related to therapy.

Any questions or concerns should be directed to the pharmacist managing the PCA.

On call pharmacists include:
• Leonette Kemp, PharmD, CPE
• Laleh Azari, PharmD
• Sundae Stelts, PharmD, BCOP
• Oncology Pharmacy Resident

| Contact Information for the Pharmacy Managed PCA Service |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                 | Hours           | Pharmacist      | Pager Number   |
| Monday – Friday                | 0800 – 1600     | Leonette Kemp   | 901-418-3072   |
| After Hours, Weekends/Holidays  | All day/night   | Pharmacist on call (oncology pager #) | 800-206-1283  |