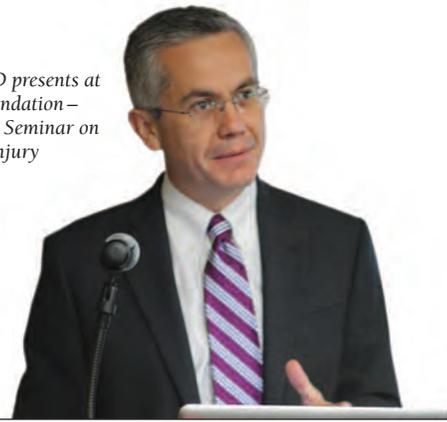


L. Fernando Gonzalez, MD presents at  
The Tuttleman Family Foundation –  
Dr. Guy Fried Educational Seminar on  
Topics in Acquired Brain Injury



# MAGEE HIGHLIGHTS

## **MAGEE NAMED U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT BEST HOSPITAL:**

Magee Rehabilitation Hospital was ranked 16th in Rehabilitation in the *U.S. News & World Report's* annual 2012-2013 Best Hospital rankings. This year's Best Hospitals, the 23rd annual edition, showcased more than 720 of the nation's roughly 5,000 hospitals. Magee Rehabilitation Hospital was one of fewer than 150 hospitals to be nationally ranked in at least one of 16 medical specialties.

"We are both thrilled and humbled to once again be recognized as one of the country's Best Hospitals," said Dr. Jack Carroll, President and CEO of Magee Rehabilitation Hospital. "At Magee, we have always strived to maintain a culture of excellence. Exceeding the safety, quality and outcome expectations of the patients and families we have the privilege to serve requires the best of the best in both clinical and support services personnel. At Magee, that is accomplished by everyone always offering the difference that truly caring can make."

The hospital rankings, said *U.S. News Health Rankings* Editor Avery Comarow, are like a GPS-type aid to help steer patients to hospitals with strong skills in the procedures and medical conditions that present the biggest challenges. "All of these hospitals are the kinds of medical centers that should be on your list when you need the best care," said Comarow. "They are where other hospitals send the toughest cases."

The rankings were published by *U.S. News* in collaboration with RTI International, a research organization based in Research Triangle Park, N.C.

## **TUTTLEMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION – DR. GUY FRIED EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR:**

Each year, the Tuttleman Family Foundation – Dr. Guy Fried Educational Seminar focuses on cutting-edge rehabilitation topics. This year's program, on October 5 at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital and on November 2 at the Sands Resort and Casino, focused on acquired brain injury (ABI) and the challenge of the treatment team in dealing with the cognitive and behavioral sequelae following injury.

Issues explored included visual problems after acquired brain injury, the importance of addressing psychosocial issues with ABI patients and their families, as well as new advances in activity-based therapies that aid in the patients' functional recovery. A big challenge for the ABI survivor (and family) is often funding—or lack thereof. Traditional and creative ways to gain additional funding for the ABI survivors' long-term rehab needs were also discussed. Other topics discussed included: community re-engagement, canine facilitated therapy and new neuro-surgical technologies and techniques being used for the newly brain injured patient. The day concluded with a case study presentation of a severely brain injured young man and the approach the neurorecovery team took to help him through coma emergence with an ultimate discharge to home.

## **INTRODUCING MAGEE'S FACILITY DOG PROGRAM:**

Magee Rehabilitation Hospital is dedicated to improving the quality of life for persons with disabilities by providing high quality physical and cognitive rehabilitation services—and sometimes, that means thinking beyond traditional therapies. Through the support of the Casey Feldman Memorial Foundation, Magee established its first Facility Dog program, adding a new official member to the Magee team: Ford, the Golden Retriever. Through Magee's Facility Dog program, Ford works alongside trained health and human service professionals to support patients in their therapy and facilitate the rehabilitation process. This program was recognized as part of the Casey Feldman Memorial Foundation's third annual "Angelversary" Day of Service on July 17, 2012 at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital.

Facility Dogs work side by side with health and human service professionals to engage patients in sessions designed to improve functional outcomes, stimulate healing and recovery, and provide comfort and unconditional love. While many health care facilities may have animals visit with patients, these animals are generally handled by volunteers and are not used to help patients meet specific, planned treatment goals. Through Magee's Facility Dog program, the treatment providers are health and human service professionals, not volunteers. Patients' sessions with Ford, who is highly trained and educated, are goal-directed, and functional outcomes are measured, recorded and documented. The average Facility Dog knows around 40 commands, all of which can be utilized during therapy. Ford has

*continued on page 8*



## MEET FORD, THE GOLDEN RETRIEVER.

Ford, Magee's first facility dog, works alongside trained health and human service professionals to support patients in their therapy and facilitate the rehabilitation process. Originally trained as a service dog, Ford knows more than 90 commands, including turning lights off and on, pulling manual wheelchairs, retrieving drinks from the fridge and tugging socks off feet, to name just a few.

The Myomo mPower 1000 combines EMG sensing and myoelectric technology to restore movement to weakened arms



also completed training as a Service Dog, which means he knows more than 90 commands, including turning lights off and on, pulling manual wheelchairs, retrieving drinks from the fridge and tugging socks off feet to name a few. Working with Ford educates patients on the potential benefits of applying for a Service Dog after they are discharged.

Despite the many benefits of animal-assisted therapy, the training, management and continued support of a Facility Dog can be cost-prohibitive for many institutions. The Casey Feldman Memorial Foundation understood the potential of animal-assisted therapy for patients and their recovery, and approached Magee Rehabilitation with a pledge of support. The Foundation honors Casey Feldman, who passed away on July 17, 2009 at the age of 21 after being struck by a distracted driver. To remember their daughter, Casey's parents started the Foundation to provide financial support to individuals, groups and institutions whose interests and goals align with those of Casey.

"Casey loved animals, especially dogs—she even volunteered at a no-kill animal shelter," said Joel Feldman, Casey's father and one of the founders of the Casey Feldman Memorial Foundation. "At the Foundation, we have spent so much time focusing on preventing distracted driving, which is important—but I could always hear Casey saying, 'Dad, what about the animals?' On the third anniversary of her death, it is so fitting that we remember her through this gift to Magee, a gift that will help those facing life-altering changes adapt to their challenges. We are so thankful to Magee for allowing us to remember Casey in such a special way."

The event was heavily attended by media, and Ford and the Facility Dog Program were featured on CBS 3, ABC 6, FOX 29 and on the front page of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and Philly.com.

**NEW AT MAGEE: New Technology** This summer, Magee Rehab began enhancing traditional therapies with a new piece of technology: the Myomo mPower 1000. The Myomo mPower 1000, a portable, lightweight functional arm brace that restores movement to a weakened arm as a result of neuromuscular damage, provides a new modality through which Magee can continue to deliver top-quality therapy from the hospital's nationally-recognized rehabilitation programs. Magee is the only facility in the Philadelphia area with this technology.

"The Myomo mPower 1000 is an innovative and fascinating technology that adds an additional dimension to the rehabilitation of our patients with neurological impairments," said Paula Bonsall, MS, OTR/L, team leader at the Neuro-Rehabilitation Center at Magee. "The combination of EMG Sensing and Myoelectric Technology allows us to teach clients not only how to increase desired movement, but also to inhibit unwanted muscle activity. But the benefits aren't just physical. To see your arm move for the first time after a period of non-use helps our patients see that with the right therapy and technology, recovery is possible."

The Myomo mPower 1000 has sensors that sit on the skin's surface and detect even a very faint muscle signal. When the patient tries to move his or her arm and a muscle signal fires, the motor in the mPower 1000 engages, translating that small signal into actual movement. The

portable arm brace has been proven effective in helping with functional repetitive tasks practiced during therapy and assists patients in daily living activities in the home.

The Myomo mPower 1000 wasn't the only piece of technology Magee acquired over the summer. Check out the article on page 10 to find out more about our latest acquisition: the Ekso.

**New Look** Magee received a top-notch beautification over the summer. The 5th floor spinal cord injury unit was renovated, as was the Gaspar Outpatient Center. The Locomotor Training room also has a new look, with a much larger space on the 5th floor. The garage attached to the hospital was also given a facelift. If you haven't visited us in a while, make a point to stop by—you won't believe how we've changed!

#### 12TH ANNUAL NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS:

On May 4, 2012, Magee Rehabilitation Hospital held its 12th Annual Night of Champions fundraiser. The event raised more than \$180,000 for Patient Programs, including wheelchair sports, horticultural therapy, art therapy, pastoral care and the patient resource center. The event featured dinner, drinks, live and silent auctions, award presentation, live entertainment, local sports celebrities including Eagles head coach Andy Reid and Magee's wheelchair sports athletes.

