

Which Jelly Bean are You?



In a recent effort to give our terrific ER Team a realistic idea of how many lives they touched in 2008, I hoped to find something that could be used to represent the total number of 2008 ER Patients. I found what I was looking for in a jar of jelly beans...

Although they are similar, they are not the same...

There are many flavors, many colors, and no two are exactly alike...

Some are sweet and we are sorry when they are gone, and some catch us off guard because they are spicy or sour...

Either way, we are excited to have them and they add flavor and meaning to our experience...

With an idea in my head, I went to a local hardware store to get the materials to construct our "Jelly Bean Tubes." While there a nice salesman offered to help fill them as I was struggling to do it alone and didn't know how many tubes I would need to complete the project. As you can imagine, he asked how many there were and, when told, why would anyone want to put 3,689 jelly beans in clear tubes? I explained that these 3,689 jelly beans represented all the patients we saw in the Snoqualmie Valley ER in 2008. To this he smiled and shared, "Then one of them is my son." We approached the checkout counter to looks of curiosity and again I explained the meaning of the Jelly Bean Tubes, and to my surprise, one of the sales staff said, "Well, then two of those are my grandkids." Then, before the kind woman checking me through could add what I knew would be her remark, I looked at her, smiled and pointed to a red, cinnamon jelly bean saying, "This one here is your mother." We both laughed, knowing it was true... I had the great privilege of treating her myself as my patient recently and was touched and inspired by her unforgettable personality and "spicy" attitude despite feeling ill.

So, on behalf of every nurse, tech and provider at Snoqualmie Valley Hospital Emergency Department, we thank you. It has been, and continues to be our commitment to provide you with timely and appropriate care that exceeds your expectations.

Beverly Chabot, RN
Snoqualmie Valley Hospital ER Nurse Manager and Staff

