

# Medical Staff News

Newsletter for the Medical Staff of Bridgeport Hospital | January 2022

Yale  
NewHaven  
**Health**  
Bridgeport  
Hospital

## The Wellness Corner

### A message from the Chief Wellness Officer

Many of us think of January as the time for new beginnings, on opportunity to reflect on the past and set new goals for the year ahead. In the spirit of New Year's Resolutions, I had planned to use January's column to highlight Bridgeport Hospital's new "Golden Hour" initiative, an effort to address the lost transition time that zoom meetings have created by setting a cultural norm to shorten regular committee meetings to 50 minutes.

But if COVID has taught us nothing else, it is that plans must often be abandoned or postponed in favor of the problem at hand. As we all know, the problem at hand is a surge in omicron patients that is catching like wildfire, straining our exhausted staff beyond what we expected at this point in the pandemic. While improving meeting efficiency is always a valid effort for organizational wellness, our focus must necessarily shift in an acute crisis.

In crisis mode, we appropriately return to the fundamentals. Both the organization and individuals can focus on core wellbeing needs: adequate sleep, nutritious food, stress relieving movement and social connection. As an organization, Bridgeport has prioritized the needs of our busiest medical staff to help address those needs: We have partnered with the Foundation to bring meals to our staff. The senior leadership team has made efforts to ease the staffing shortages by bringing on additional help through per diem, voluntary reassignment, and short term incentives.

As an individual, there are things you can do to prioritize your wellbeing as well. Know that this is temporary. Use whatever time you have off to prioritize your sleep, food, exercise and key social connections. Re-connect with your buddy so that at least one other person is checking on you regularly. Use the strengths you have found in previous surges (and other life challenges) and return to those basics to ground you. Reach out for help. Due to the pandemic, Yale New Haven Health is able to offer its Employee and

Family Resources to all, including community medical staff, for free confidential counseling and other services.

Most of all, remember that the phoenix will rise from the ashes, and the forest fire allows for new growth to emerge. Above all the basics, the most important wellness fundamental is to find and share purpose, connection, and hope.

In gratitude,  
Kristin Edwards, MD, Chief Wellness Officer

## Wellbeing Resources

### Medical Staff Portal

<https://myappsmd.ynhh.org/>

Includes more Wellbeing Resources and remote access for EPIC. The Wellness Hub is found on the right under "Quick Clicks."

### Employee and Family Resources

Call 877-275-6226 (24/7) or visit <https://www.achievesolutions.net>

Offering confidential counseling and work / life support services for YNHHS employees and family members.

## Need a data report? Search the JDAT Analytics Portal

How many COVID-19 tests have Yale New Haven Health laboratories in different parts of the state performed? What was the average patient length of stay six months ago vs. now? The Yale New Haven Health and Yale Medicine Joint Data Analytics Team (JDAT) has these and more than 3,700 other reports on a wide range of topics available at <https://analyticsportal.ynhh.org>.

The reports include detailed information related to COVID-19, clinical redesign, quality and safety and other activities for different service lines and departments. Access is required to view existing reports or request custom reports from the JDAT Analytics Portal. Visit the portal to submit an access request.

---

## State delays launch of Electronic Death Registration

The State of Connecticut has delayed the previously expected date of Jan. 1, 2022, for the launch of electronic Connecticut death certificates.

Currently all death certificates and reporting are manual paper driven processes. Yale New Haven Health has worked on the optimization of decedent processes for all deaths within YNHHS. This work included a large Clinical Redesign project that developed and optimized the EPIC pathways for physician and nurse workflows for post-mortem care and developed morgue queues within Epic. A final piece of the project is the State of CT Electronic Death Reporting System (EDRS). YNHHS Medical Information Officers have been training and obtaining access for all credentialed providers.

This change will require clinicians to certify deaths in the electronic system. Due to user access and logins issues, however, the go-live date for electronic death certificates is delayed until at least Feb. 1, 2022. Paper filing of death certificates will continue until further notice.

---

## Digestive Health Virtual CME Series 2022: Trust Your Gut

Yale Medicine and Yale New Haven Health will continue to offer the free, monthly virtual Digestive Health CME series, called Trust Your Gut. The yearlong series will again be held the third Thursday of each month at 5 pm throughout 2022. The series is designed to provide world-class digestive health educational programming, professional development and networking opportunities for physicians and advanced practice providers.

The course series will focus on several key digestive health topics including abnormal liver function tests, gallstones and biliary colic, intestinal stomas, esophageal swallowing disorders, eating disorders, post bariatric complications, constipation, anorectal disorders, diarrhea, abdominal pain and celiac disease/gluten sensitivity. The overall goal of this series is to provide current evidence-based education in diagnosis and management of gastrointestinal and liver diseases.

The next session will be Feb. 17, when Saber Ghiassi, MD, and Priya Jamidar, MD, will present Gallstones and Biliary Colic.

Yale School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ per session, a total of 12.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ for the series.

To register, click here visit the Yale CME portal at [yale.cloudcme.com](http://yale.cloudcme.com). For questions, contact Joe Mendes, executive director, Clinical Program Development, Digestive Health, at [joseph.mendes@ynhh.org](mailto:joseph.mendes@ynhh.org).

---

## National Women Physicians Day Event – Feb. 3

All BH medical staff as well as all Yale New Haven Health employees are invited to celebrate National Women Physicians Day during a Zoom event on Thursday, Feb. 3.

Speakers Marna Borgstrom, CEO, YNHHS, and Karen A. Santucci, MD, CMO, Greenwich Hospital, will be joined by moderator Magna Dias, MD, chair of Pediatrics, Bridgeport Hospital, during the virtual event that will examine the role of female providers and how they will shape the future of medicine.

Julie Silver, MD, director, Cancer Rehabilitation, Harvard Medical School will deliver the keynote address, “Our time is now - leading, innovating and staying sane.”

The celebration will take place from 6 - 7 pm.

Join the event online via Zoom:

Webinar ID: 910 2163 2075

Passcode: 550016

Or, access by telephone at 301-715-8592 or 1- 312-626- 6799

Contact Alison Tighe for more information at [alison.tighe@bpthosp.org](mailto:alison.tighe@bpthosp.org) or 203-384-4790.

---

## Resident Appreciation Week Feb. 1 - 11

Look for details coming soon about how Bridgeport Hospital will recognize its resident physicians for all they do.

---

## Newsletter submissions

Deadline for submission of content for the February 2022 issue of Medical Staff News is Friday, Jan. 28. Please submit items for consideration to Alison Tighe at [alison.tighe@bpthosp.org](mailto:alison.tighe@bpthosp.org) or Myra Stanley at [myra.stanley@ynhh.org](mailto:myra.stanley@ynhh.org).