

Medical Staff News

Newsletter for the Medical Staff of Bridgeport Hospital | April 2023

Yale
NewHaven
Health
Bridgeport
Hospital

Breakfast, Brunch and Lunch for Doctors' Day 2023

As a thank you for their dedication all year round, members of the medical staff were treated to grab and go meals on March 30, Doctors' Day.



Providers: CMS Open Payments review and refute period underway

The federal CMS Open Payments program provides transparency and increases public awareness of financial relationships between the healthcare industry and certain healthcare providers and teaching hospitals.

To do this, CMS collects and makes public any payments or transfers of value from drug and device manufacturers to certain healthcare providers or teaching hospitals. Per Open Payments, all transfers of value from an industry representative to certain healthcare providers or teaching hospitals valued at or above \$10 or aggregate of \$100 per year are reported. Transfers of value may include food and beverage, entertainment, charitable contributions, speaking fees, royalties or licenses, grants, consulting fees, honoraria, travel and lodging, education, research and more. The nature and purpose of the amount will also be recorded and disclosed.

The Open Payments program includes:

- MDs/DOs
- Physician assistants
- Nurse practitioners
- Clinical nurse specialists

- Certified registered nurse anesthetists and anesthesiologist assistants
- Certified nurse midwives

For healthcare providers, the CMS review and dispute period began on April 1 and runs through May 15. During this time, providers can review their 2022 data posted by drug and device manufacturers. This review and dispute period gives physicians and other covered recipients the opportunity to dispute any inaccurate or incomplete data before it is published to the public on June 30, 2023. Each YNHHS provider is accountable for reviewing their 2022 data and disputing any inaccurate information during CMS' review and dispute period. Yale New Haven's Office of Privacy and Corporate Compliance (OPCC) will review applicable CMS Open Payments data once it is released on June 30 and may contact providers about their Open Payments data if it is not aligned with their most recent Conflict of Interest disclosure survey responses.

Providers should ensure that all interactions with drug and device manufacturers comply with the Interactions with Vendors policy, available on the employee intranet under Policies. Additional guidance is on the OPCC site on the employee intranet (under Departments & Communities).

For more information, call 203-688-8416 or email conflictofinterest@ynhh.org.

YNHHS completes health facility for Sacred Heart students

Yale New Haven Health's Northeast Medical Group (NEMG) has completed a new space at Park Avenue Medical Center to serve as a health center for Sacred Heart University (SHU) students. The new space includes four exam rooms and a lab.

The medical center is located at 5520 Park Avenue, Trumbull – just down the street from SHU's Park Avenue campus. This expanded partnership between SHU and NEMG gives students greater access to medical care as SHU's health services are now part of the wider Yale New Haven Health System.

NEMG and SHU continue to work closely with Orthopaedic Specialty Group for sports medicine management for student-athletes.

YNHHS announces changes to visitation, COVID-19 collection sites, testing and mask use

Visitor restrictions lifted at YNHHS hospitals

Effective March 28, Yale New Haven Health System lifted visitor restrictions for adult inpatients. These changes are important as we strive to make our hospitals patient- and family-focused environment possible.

What's changing:

- There will no longer be a limit on how many visitors adult inpatients can have each day or at one time.
- Patients and Visitors will no longer be screened for illness on arrival to main hospitals.
- The "Symptoms" fliers should be removed from hospital front entrances.

What's not changing:

- All patients and visitors must check in at front desks to receive a patient or visitor sticker (and visitor pass, where applicable).
- Visiting hours will be from 10 am – 8 pm.
- All visitors must wear a mask and comply with PPE guidelines.
- Passive symptom screening in non-hospital ambulatory is still currently in place.

- Exceptions to visiting hours may be made for visitors of patients at Imminent End of Life, to receive discharge instructions, or for patients with disabilities. We encourage unit staff and clinicians to make these exceptions with appropriate discretion to support a positive patient experience.
- Visitation for Children's and NNICU (where applicable), Women's, Perioperative services, hospital-based testing, and Psychiatry will remain the same. Conversations about visitation with those services lines will be ongoing.
- Issues surrounding visitation should be brought to your Delivery Network Patient Relations department.

YNHHS COVID-19 collection sites closing

After more than three years and nearly three million tests, Yale New Haven Health is closing its six dedicated COVID-19 collection sites. These sites were created as part of the Public Health Emergency to allow for high volume drive-through COVID-19 specimen collections. Since the COVID-19 numbers have declined, YNHHS is closing these sites and moving all COVID-19 specimen collections to existing blood draw locations.

The COVID-19 collection site at Bridgeport is scheduled to close on April 14; Milford will close April 28.

As we come to the end of the public health emergency, regulatory changes require us to change how testing for COVID-19 is ordered and scheduled. Community members now need an order from their medical provider for testing or our call center can clinically assess individuals for testing. We look forward to service patients at our many Blood Draw stations around Connecticut, New York and Rhode Island.

SBAR outlines upcoming testing and mask use changes

SBAR

Situation: Admission testing for COVID-19 and mask use requirement changes in May 2023.

Background: Routine testing for patients admitted for hospital care has been in place for 3 years. Universal masking requirements have been in place since early in the public health emergency.

Assessment: Due to the lower prevalence of disease and higher degree of immunity across the community we serve, in addition to the availability of effective therapeutics to treat COVID-19, YNHHS Infection Prevention and other key stakeholders are providing the following recommendations.

Recommendation:

Admission COVID-19 testing will be discontinued May 1, 2023. This includes all ASYMPTOMATIC patients admitted from other facilities, admissions for surgery/procedure, ED and direct admits.

- A. Admission testing will continue for inpatient Behavioral Health Units.
- B. Admission testing will continue for patients exhibiting signs/symptoms concerning for COVID-19.
- C. Admission testing will continue for patients who report living with a person with an active COVID-19 infection and who have not had COVID-19 in the past 90 days.

The requirement for mask use in public areas (i.e., lobbies, waiting rooms, cafeteria, hallways, nursing stations) will be discontinued May 11, 2023 (coinciding with the federal discontinuation of the Public Health Emergency).

A. Inpatient areas:

- Staff will continue to mask in all patient rooms, diagnostic/procedural rooms, and when in close contact with patients.
- Patient and accompanying family/visitors are encouraged but not required to mask.

B. Ambulatory: Medical offices, draw stations, diagnostic imaging etc.

- Staff will continue to mask in all patient rooms, diagnostic/procedural rooms, and when in close contact with patients.
- Patient and accompanying family/visitors are encouraged but not required to mask.

C. All areas

- Staff will continue to adhere to all policies related to transmission-based precautions. (i.e., isolation)
- Staff and visitors with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or other potentially communicable disease should remain home.

Register to attend April 25 CME dinner

Topic: Medical and Surgical Weight Loss

Tuesday, April 25, 5:30 pm,

Networking;

6 pm presentation

Bridge House restaurant

49 Bridgeport Ave., Milford

Presenters: Bubu Banini, MD, and Saber Ghiassi, MD

Objectives:

- To review the current state of obesity in the US/Connecticut
- To understand the current options for medical weight loss
- To understand the current surgical options for weight loss

RSVP to Alison.Tighe@bpthosp.org by April 18.

Smilow Shares with Primary Care: Palliative Care – May 2

Tune in for the next Smilow Shares with Primary Care: Melanoma webinar on Tuesday, May 2 at 5 pm. The event features Drs. Harriet Kluger, Kelly Olino, Thuy Tran and Flora Zarcu-Power.

Smilow Shares with Primary Care is a monthly educational series for physicians, patients and the community presented via Zoom. Presentations are subject focused and hosted by experts from Smilow Care Centers around the state. CME credits are available.

No registration necessary. Tune on via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/3QZgkzv>.

Mark your calendars – May 4 Networking Event

The Medical Staff Networking Get-Together is Thursday, May 4, 5:30 pm at Brewport, 225 So. Frontage Road, Bridgeport. Please RSVP to alison.tighe@bpthosp.org.

Next Building Against Burnout – May 11

Tune in for the next Building against Burnout webinar highlighting timesaving topics in Epic on Thursday, May 11, 12:15 pm, when the topic will be Smart Tools.

The monthly sessions are led by trained, certified physicians and APPs. There will be an opportunity for questions after the session. The webinar will be recorded and hosted on the Medical Staff Portal (ynhhconnect.org) for those who cannot attend. CME is available. With questions, contact Allen.Hsiao@ynhh.org.

Join via Zoom. <https://ynhh.zoom.us/j/96020079256?pwd=NUdaaXN4b1p6WWlkYTJQUmkrRnpXZz09>

Webinar ID: 960 2007 9256 Passcode: 649503

Save the Date: May 18 – Trust Your Gut Digestive Health sessions

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

Join Joseph Lim, MD, and Maricar Malinis, MD, on May 18 for a virtual discussion on COVID: The GI Tract and Liver. The following month, Catele Antunes, MD, and Katie Reeve, MD will discuss Refractory Reflux Symptoms: What to do When PPIs Don't Work, on June 15. To register, visit the Yale CME portal at yale.cloud-cme.com.

Yale School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits per session, for a total of 12.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits for the series. To register, visit the Yale CME portal at yale.cloud-cme.com. For questions, contact Joe Mendes, executive director, Clinical Program Development, Digestive Health at joseph.mendes@ynhh.org.

Save the Date – May 22 Wound Science Symposium

The annual Wound Science Symposium is scheduled for Monday, May 22 at the Trumbull Marriott, 180 Hawley Lane, Trumbull. The event begins at 7:30 am and runs until 4:45 pm. Hosted by Bridgeport Hospital and YNHHS, the symposium includes 30-minute hands-on sessions to learn about compression wraps, negative pressure wound therapy application and troubleshooting, application and removal of total contact casts, wound debridement, and graft application.

Event is free and open to all Yale New Haven Health employees. For information, contact janice.mezick@bpthosp.org. (CME Accreditation by Bridgeport Hospital pending.)

Save the Date – May 25 Physician Spring Update

The annual spring update for physicians will be Thursday, May 25, 5:30 pm at the Milford Yacht Club, 131 Trumbull Ave., Milford. RSVP to alison.tighe@bpthosp.org by May 18.

Newsletter submissions

Deadline for submission of content for the May 2023 issue of Medical Staff News is Monday, May 1, 2023.

Please submit items for consideration to:
Alison Tighe at alison.tighe@bpthosp.org or
Myra Stanley at myra.stanley@ynhh.org.
