

Medical Staff News

Newsletter for the Medical Staff of Bridgeport Hospital | December 2019

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Health
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Hospital

From the desk of the CMO

Last month was eventful for Bridgeport Hospital on both of our campuses. On November 19, The Joint Commission arrived, unannounced, to complete their triennial survey. I'm proud to report that we received no condition-level findings on either campus! In recent years, about three quarters of hospitals across the United States have received condition level findings, which then requires a revisit by The Joint Commission. Surveyors were favorably impressed by the consistent demonstration of our commitment to keep patients safe. Our positive results did not happen by accident. I'm appreciative of the intensive efforts and planning that took place, joint efforts of health system leaders, Bridgeport Campus leaders, and Milford Campus leaders. I'm particularly grateful to Tori Dahl Vickers, system vice president of Accreditation and Regulatory Affairs, Mahfuz Hoq, MD, Bridgeport Hospital's executive director of Clinical Operations, and Jessie Riemer, our new system manager of Accreditation and Regulatory Affairs for Bridgeport and Greenwich hospitals.

Also very significant last month was the arrival of Anne Diamond, new president of Bridgeport Hospital. Her very first meeting at Bridgeport Hospital was November's Medical Staff Executive Committee meeting where she was warmly welcomed to our community. Anne has already been very engaged with medical staff, having been our guest of honor at the monthly Hot Topics breakfast this month. She spoke with a number of medical staff members after the quarterly staff meeting, and she plans to do outreach to area groups and practices in coming weeks and months.

Finally, I do want to remind everyone to please attest to having received your flu shot. You'll receive an email shortly which will help you accomplish the attestation. Across the entire health system, we do require all medical staff to be vaccinated except in the cases where there is a risk of severe adverse effects of the vaccination or unless there is an approved religious exemption.

As we close out the calendar year, let me again thank you for your dedication to our hospital and our patients throughout 2019. Best wishes to you and your families for a happy holiday season.

Ryan O'Connell, MD, Interim Chief Medical Officer

U.S. News & World Report voting to begin soon

All board-certified physicians within each of the applicable specialties evaluated by *U.S. News & World Report* (i.e., Cancer, Cardiology/CT Surgery, Diabetes/Endocrinology, ENT, Gastroenterology/GI Surgery, Geriatrics, Gynecology, Nephrology, Neurology/Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Psychiatry, Pulmonary, Rehabilitation, Rheumatology and Urology) will soon receive a request to vote in the *U.S. News* reputation ranking.

The request will come via email from Doximity, an online networking website for physicians used to calculate the reputational portion of the hospital rankings. Registered users may also receive a prompt when logging into the site. As the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings are heavily weighted towards an institution's reputation, the survey provides the opportunity for members of the medical staff to make their collective voice heard about the exceptional care provided across Yale New Haven Health.

All YNHHS hospitals and ambulatory practices are home to outstanding physicians who continually advance medicine through the safe, high quality and compassionate care provided to our patients. The reputation of the entire health system would be greatly enhanced if Yale New Haven Hospital is voted into the Honor Roll. One barrier to this in the past has been the reputational score, which is determined by physician vote. Members of the medical staff across Yale New Haven Health are urged to consider this when casting votes during the upcoming voting period. Voting for the 2020 rankings will open in February.

Global Health Initiative's popular lecture series gains traction, increases reach

Started initially as a lecture series to bring the medical staff greater insight into health issues globally, the Bridgeport Hospital Global Health Initiative has quickly expanded to include workshops and health promotion sessions as the group enters its second year.

The Global Health Initiative started with the Hospitalist department at Bridgeport Hospital. Headed by Tabassum Firoz, MD, unit medical director, Hospitalists, and Mary Lou Gaeta, MD, medical director, Pediatrics, with the support of Michael Ivy, MD, the hospital's former interim president, the group has addressed topics ranging from human trafficking to HIV/AIDS advocacy to post-apartheid health care in South Africa.

The lectures proved so popular that attendees expressed interest in a more hands-on, in-depth format. Drs. Firoz and Gaeta collaborated with Yale New Haven Health's simulation center (SYN:APSE) to host the group's first Global Health Simulation workshop Oct. 24.

"We had 10 clinicians take part in two simulations and ethics mini cases," Dr. Firoz said. "There were five facilitators from different departments – Hospitalist, Anesthesia and Pediatrics – leading the sessions. Jim Chernesky, a senior simulation consultant from Yale New Haven's SYN:APSE simulation center trained us and was there to guide us during the workshop."

Dr. Firoz noted that relationships like the one with the SYN:APSE Center are important because they allow the group to expand its offerings. Another partnership, this one with the Connecticut Institute of Refugees and Immigrants (CIRI), has opened the door to another timely topic.

"We are working with CIRI to offer health literacy sessions every other month," Dr. Firoz said. "Health literacy, or knowing how to take care of one's self and their family, is important for refugees and immigrants. CIRI is inviting their clients to attend these sessions and learn about women's nutrition, child development and vaccination."

Two health promotion sessions were held with groups of Congolese and Eritrean women. The Global Health Initiative engaged Patient Experience to provide virtual interpretation for these sessions and has requested the hospital's outpatient dietitian lead the nutrition component of the health promotion sessions.

The Global Health Initiative serves as a focal point for the exchange of ideas and the group has a wealth of global health experience within its ranks. For example, some members of the group, Dr. Gaeta, Dr. Mahfuz Hoq and Dr. Astou Seye, have completed medical missions in Jamaica with the aide group PRN Relief International. The group's future plans include making medical missions a core activity and a possible donation of medical supplies to medical schools in Bangladesh.

Open to all Bridgeport Hospital staff, the Global Health Initiative seminars are held monthly in the Bridgeport Hospital Hospitalist Conference Room from noon - 1 pm. For more information, contact Dr. Firoz at tabassum.firoz@bpthosp.org.

3D mammography now available at five hospital locations

3D mammography, the standard of care for breast screening, is now available at the hospital's Commerce Park location as well as the Park Avenue Medical Center (PAMC), in addition to other Bridgeport Hospital locations.

3D mammography, or tomosynthesis, is the latest innovative technology in breast imaging and offers women the best the imaging industry has to offer. The tool detects more cancer than conventional mammography and reduces call back rates for additional imaging. The newly upgraded equipment at PAMC also includes 3D guided needle biopsy.

As part of the 3D mammography service, Bridgeport Hospital Radiology has partnered with Yale Diagnostic Radiology, whose radiologists specialize in breast imaging.

In addition to Commerce Park at 4699 Main St., Bridgeport and Park Avenue Medical Center, 5520 Park Ave., Trumbull, 3D mammography is also available at the main hospital's Bridgeport Campus at 267 Grant St.; 2909 Main St. in Stratford; and 425 Post Road in Fairfield.

Patients can call 203-384-4843 to schedule appointments at the Bridgeport Campus or 203-447-5581 for all other sites.

Library closed temporarily

The Reeves Health Sciences Library (medical library) is currently closed due to construction. It is scheduled to reopen in January, 2020.

New Physicians

Doralynn Di Pasqual, DO

Medicine/Hospitalist
Northeast Medical Group
267 Grant St.
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: 203-384-3175
Medical School: New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Glenhead, NY
Internship: Long Beach Medical Center Long Beach, NY
Residency: Peconic Bay Medical Center, Riverhead, NY

Adeniyi Fisayo, MD

Medicine/Neurology
YUSM Department of Neurology
40 Temple St.
New Haven, CT 06510
Phone: 203-937-8778
Medical School: University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Farmington, CT
Internship: University of Connecticut Health Center, Farmington, CT
Residency: University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Fellowship: Emory University, Atlanta, GA
Board Certification: American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology

Kusuma Hampapur, MD

Medicine/Primary Care
Southwest Community Health Center
762 Linden St.
Bridgeport, CT 06606
Phone: 203-576-5131
Medical School: Mysore-Government Medical College, Karnataka, India
Residency: Hospital of Saint Raphael, New Haven, CT
Board Certification: American Board of Internal Medicine

Babar Khokhar, MD

Medicine/Neurology
YUSM Department of Neurology
800 Howard Ave.
New Haven, CT 06520
Phone: 203-785-4085
Medical School: Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, MA
Internship: Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT
Residency: Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT
Fellowship: West Haven VA Medical Center, West Haven, CT
Board Certification: American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology

James M. Lai, MD

Medicine/Geriatrics
NEMG – YNHG Geriatric Services
874 Howard Ave.
New Haven, CT 06519
Phone: 203-688-9423
Medical School: Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winsor-Salem, NC
Residency: University of Maryland Medical Center, Baltimore, MD
Fellowship: Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT
Board Certification: American Board of Internal Medicine

Paul Lleva, MD

Medicine/Neurology
Yale Medicine Neurology at Greenwich Hospital
55 Holly Hill Lane
Greenwich, CT 06830
Phone: 203-863-4490
Medical School: University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines
Internships: University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines; New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY
Residency: New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY
Fellowship: New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY
Board Certification: American Board of Internal Medicine

Sanchita Sharma, MD

Medicine/Hospitalist
Bridgeport Hospitalist Service – NEMG
267 Grant St.
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: 203-384-4677
Medical School: Kathmandu University, Kavre, Nepal
Residency: University of Connecticut, Farmington, CT
Board Certification: American Board of Internal Medicine

Heather C. Dahlquist, MD

Pediatric Department
YUSM Department of Pediatrics
330 Cedar St.
New Haven, CT 06510
Phone: 203-785-4651
Medical School: Creighton University School of Medicine, Omaha, NE
Internship: UCLA School of Medicine, Los Angeles, CA
Residency: University of Minnesota Implants Children's Hospital, Minneapolis, MN
Board Certification: American Board of Pediatrics

Rachel Robin Osborn, MD

Pediatric Department
Yale New Haven Children's Hospital
1 Park St.
New Haven, CT 06504
Phone: 203-785-4651
Medical School: Rush Medical College of Rush University, Chicago, IL
Residency: Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT
Board Certification: American Board of Pediatrics; American Board of Medicine

Tarek Elkady, MD

Radiology Department
YUSM Department of Radiology & Biomedical Imaging
20 York St.
New Haven, CT 06510
Phone: 203-785-4747
Medical School: Faculty of Medicine, Alazhar University, Cairo, Egypt
Internship: Cairo University Hospitals, Cairo, Egypt
Residency: Armed Forces Hospital, Heliopolis, Cairo, Egypt
Fellowship: Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH; Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY

Mithun Sivadasan, MD

Yale Podiatry Group
364 East Main St.
Ansonia, CT 06401
Phone: 203-734-4806
Medical School: Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine, Philadelphia, PA
Residency: Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY

Dominick Tuason, MD

YNHH Pediatric Specialty Clinic
1 Long Wharf
New Haven, CT 06511
Phone: 203-737-8035
Medical School: University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA
Residency: University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA
Fellowship: Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, Dallas, TX
Board Certification: American Board of Orthopedic Surgery

Prashanth Vallabhajosyula, MD

Surgery/Cardiovascular
YUSM Section of Cardiac Surgery
800 Howard Ave.
New Haven, CT 06510
Phone: 203-562-2818
Medical School: Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT
Residency: Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD; Oxford Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, United Kingdom
Fellowship: University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA; Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
Board Certification: American Board of Surgery

New Physicians

Temitope Margaret Dube, DO

Emergency Medicine – Bridgeport Hospital
267 Grant St.
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: 203-384-3566

Medical School: Touro College of Osteopathic Medical, New York, NY

Residency: Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center, Toledo, OH

Board Certification: American Board of Emergency Medicine

Clifford Schwartz, MD

Emergency Medicine – Bridgeport Hospital
267 Grant St.
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: 203-384-3923

Medical School: Universidad Central Del Este, San Pedro de Macoris, Dominican Republic

Residency: NYC Health+ Hospital–Metropolitan, New York, NY

Board Certification: American Board of Emergency Medicine

Khushbu Janani, DO

Medicine/Hospitalist
Northeast Medical Group
267 Grant St.
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: 203-384-3175

Medical School: Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, Stratford, NJ

Residency: Inspira Medical Center, Vineland, NJ

Hardik Patel, MD

Medicine/Hospitalist
Bridgeport Hospital – NEMG
267 Grant St.
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: 203-384-4677

Medical School: Surat Municipal Institute of Medical Education, India

Residency: Jamaica Hospital NY, Richmond Hill, NY

Board Certification: American Board of Internal Medicine

Saddam Zaidi, MD

Medicine/Hospitalist
Bridgeport Hospital – NEMG
267 Grant St.
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: 203-384-4677

Medical School: Al Mustansiriyan College of Medicine, Baghdad, Iraq

Residency: Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY

Jennifer Wong, MD

Obstetrics/Gynecology
YUSM Maternal Fetal Medicine
800 Howard Ave., 3rd Floor
New Haven, CT 06519
Phone: 203-785-5855

Medical School: Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA

Residency: Stamford Hospital, Stamford, CT

Fellowship: Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, NY

Board Certification: American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Katherine Kosiv, MD

Pediatric/Cardiology
YUSM Section of Pediatric – YNHCH
5520 Park Ave.
Trumbull, CT 06611
Phone: 203-785-4081

Medical School: Ross University School of Medicine, Dominica, West Indies

Residency: Children's Hospital of Illinois-College of Medicine, Peoria, IL

Fellowship: Arkansas Children's Hospital, Little Rock, AR; Benioff

Children's Hospital, San Francisco, CA

Board Certification: American Board of Pediatrics

Vito Errico, MD

Radiology
Diagnostic Imaging of Milford
30 Commerce Park
Milford, CT 06480
Phone: 203-878-2341

Medical School: Stony Brook University School of Medicine, Stony Brook, NY

Internship: Montefiore Medical Center, New Rochelle, NY

Residency: Stony Brook University School of Medicine, Stony Brook, NY

Fellowship: Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT

Board Certification: American Board of Radiology

Jennifer Kim, MD

Radiology
YUSM Department of Radiology & Biomedical Imaging
333 Cedar St.
New Haven, CT 06520
Phone: 203-785-3067

Medical School: SUNY Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY

Internship: Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY

Residency: Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT

Fellowship: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical School, Boston, MA

Board Certification: American Board of Radiology

Nita Ahuja, MD

Surgery/General Surgery
YUSM Department of Surgery
330 Cedar St.
New Haven, CT 06510
Phone: 203-785-2380

Medical School: Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC

Residency: Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Fellowship: Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Board Certification: American Board of Surgery

Paul Ciuci, DMD, MD

Surgery/Dentistry
Milford & Derby Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons
1 Golden Hill St.
Milford, CT 06460
Phone: 203-874-1664

Medical School: University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, Farmington, CT; University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA

Residency: University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA

Board Certification: American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Nkemakonam Ikekpeazu, MD

Surgery/General Surgery
Nkem Ikekpeazu, MD, LLC
764 Campbell Ave., Suite B
West Haven, CT 06515
Phone: 203-937-8778

Medical School: College of Medical Sciences, Calabar, Nigeria

Residency: Hospital of Saint Raphael, New Haven, CT

Board Certification: American Board of Surgery

Hannah N. Zwibelman, MD

Surgery/Vascular Surgery
Connecticut Vascular & Thoracic Surgical Associates, PC
100 Beard Sawmill Rd., Suite 250
Shelton, CT 06484
Phone: 203-922-7870

Medical School: University of Kansas School of Medicine, Kansas City, KS

Residency: Spectrum Health/MSU, Grand Rapids, MI

Stephen Ferraresi, MD

Emergency Medicine – Bridgeport Hospital
267 Grant St.
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: 203-384-3923

Medical School: Florida International University, Miami, FL

Residency: Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA;

Gateway Medical Center, Clarksville, TN

Board Certification: American Board of Emergency Medicine

Medical Staff Executive Committee November 11, 2019

Ryan O'Connell, MD, interim chief medical officer: Presented the profit and loss information. Operating margin was at 5.7 percent vs. budget of 5.9 percent. Discharges were a bit off expectations, but that is largely explained by a big increase in observations. Length of stay was also up. These are all state and national trends, as inpatient short stays are now being transferred to observations. Surgeries were a bit below budget, as some business plans have not yet come to fruition. Outpatient numbers appear low, but high paying procedures are doing well. Cash on hand dropped due to the Milford integration, which was not in the budget. The combined Milford and BH numbers largely reflected the BH performance. Dr. (Gregory) Buller, Chair of Medicine, discussed a change in the associate chair of Medicine at Milford Campus. Dr. Buller recommends Dr. Augustine Andoh-Duku, medical director of the Milford ICU, as the new associate chair for MC. Approved by the MSEC.

Kenneth Lipow, MD, president, medical staff: Brief discussion regarding the evolving membership of the MSEC. Dr. Castillo will be rotating off the committee as the past president, and Dr. Chiravuri will ascend to the president-elect when Dr. Vasquez becomes president. Dr. Lipow will replace Dr. Castillo as the past president on the MSEC.

Pamela Scagliarini, executive vice president and COO: At the near year end, BH has enjoyed an approximately \$35 million bottom line. This will be spent! A significant change is the implementation of improved nursing ratios. The importance of this was very recently demonstrated when there were multiple rapid response calls on Northwest 7 at the same time, for serious situations like new onset seizure and GI bleeding. The additional nurse staff were able to respond with a superb team effort, with back-up from other units arriving quickly. Other facility investments will be coming:

- Launching multi-year 5th floor/Women's Care renovation
- Launching multi-year 10th floor/Cardiac Care renovation
- Adding hemodialysis bays
- Conducting Pathology space master plan
- Design work on new administrative building (1475 Barnum)
- Replacing two CTs (BC and MC)
- MC 3 East Surgical Unit renovation
- MC public space spruce up/renovation
- Milford ambulatory campus renovation
- PAMC Radiation Oncology expansion
- Infrastructure investments both campuses

Community fall prevention program begins in January

Many older adults experience a fear of falling. People who develop this fear often limit their activities, which can result in physical weakness, making the risk of falling even greater.

The Matter of Balance fall prevention program, available in the Fairfield County area beginning in January, is supported by BH's physical therapy department. The program is designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults. The program is free of cost and includes eight two-hour, small group sessions led by trained facilitators, including BH's Ann Dyke, injury prevention coordinator, who is a Matter of Balance trainer.

The program is designed to benefit older adults who:

- Are concerned about falls
- Have sustained falls in the past
- Restrict activities because of concerns about falling
- Are interested in improving flexibility, balance and strength
- Are age 60 or older, community-dwelling and able to problem solve

The program enables participants to achieve significant goals and gain confidence by learning to:

- View falls as controllable
- Set goals for increasing activity
- Make changes to reduce fall risk at home
- Exercise to increase strength and balance

This nationally recognized, evidence-based program was developed at the Roybal Center at Boston University and is presented by the Egan School of Nursing at Fairfield University. Sessions begin in late January at the following area sites. If you have patients that may be interested, please have them contact one of the class locations for more information.

- Hall Neighborhood House, Bridgeport, (offered in Spanish and English), 203-345-2000
- Black Rock Senior Center, Bridgeport, 203-576-7730
- St. Anthony of Padua Church, Fairfield, 203-259-0358
- Baldwin Center, Stratford, 203-385-4055
- Westport Senior Center, 203-341-5099
- Trumbull Senior Center, 203-452-5137
- Darien Senior Center, 203-656-7489
- Wilton Senior Center, 203-834-6240
- Stamford Senior Center (offered in Spanish and English), 203-977-5151

Smilow expands services at PAMC

Smilow Cancer Hospital at Bridgeport continues to expand oncology services at Park Avenue Medical Center (PAMC). In addition to disease team specialization, there are also several multi-disciplinary clinics, including those for head and neck cancers and breast cancer at PAMC. Patients are able to see multiple cancer specialists on the same day and receive all of their cancer care in one location.

Available services include: genetic counseling; integrative medicine; nutrition counseling; social work, speech and language therapy, tobacco cessation treatment, interventional radiology; cardio, medical, neuro, radiation and surgical oncology; palliative care; radiology and clinical research. Many of the services are also available at the hospital's 111 Beach Road, Fairfield, location as well.

Residents and Fellows: Mark your calendars for Appreciation Week

All resident and fellow physicians are invited to participate in Resident and Fellow Appreciation Week, scheduled for Monday - Friday, Feb. 3 - 7, 2020.

Hosted by the Office of Graduate Medical Education, the week will feature a host of activities for residents and fellows in appreciation for their hard work all year long. Activities will include chair massages, food and snacks, a recognition ceremony and giveaways. Please plan to stop by as often as you can during the week. More details to come.

Newsmaker



Congratulations to **Kristin Edwards, MD**, medical director of Palliative Care and Physician Wellness, for being named an Emerging Leader in Hospice and Palliative Medicine by the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM). Dr. Edwards was one of more than 120 nominees and 40 medical professionals selected for the honor this year, for career accomplishments, mentoring of residents and students, and participation in charitable work. She will be formally recognized at the AAHPM's annual assembly in March 2020.

Annual giving campaign exceeds goals

Bridgeport Hospital Foundation's annual giving campaign in November exceeded its goal by raising nearly \$68,000 to support patients, employees and hospital programs and services. These include Fund for Bridgeport Hospital, Fay Fund for the non-medical needs of patients and Employee Emergency Assistance Fund supporting emergency needs of employees and colleagues.

Newsletter submissions

Deadline for submission of content for the January 2020 issue of *Medical Staff News* is Tuesday, Dec. 31. Please submit items for consideration to Ryan O'Connell, MD, at ryan.o'connell@bpthosp.org, 203-384-3760 or Myra Stanley, Yale New Haven Health at 203-688-1531 or myra.stanley@ynhh.org.

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