

Medical Staff News

Newsletter for the Medical Staff of Greenwich Hospital | February 2024

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From the desk of the CMO

Lessons from National Women Physicians Day

Karen Santucci, MD, Chief Medical Officer

Dear Mighty Team,

I would like to share closing remarks from the hospital's recent National Women Physicians Day (recognized Feb. 3) event:

"I thought it might be helpful to speak briefly about the TEN RULE in psychology and another framework involving the number 10. Now, I'm not a psychologist, or a psychiatrist, I am a pediatric emergency medicine physician and chief medical officer and probably like you, I have struggled with decisions when trying to balance work and home.

Life can be tricky...let's think about this: Ten percent of life is made up of what happens to you and 90 percent of life is decided by how you react to that 10 percent thrown at you!

So, we have virtually no control over 10 percent, but we do have some control over 90 percent!

Let's tap into a framework set forth by author Suzy Welch. The framework is simple and is called 10-10-10. When faced with a situation, a dilemma, a decision to make and how to react, ask yourself, "How will I feel about this decision in 10 minutes... in 10 months... and in 10 years?" In making a decision proactively, consider the options in the immediate present, the near future and the distant future.

Let me share a real-life situation and of application of this framework. Just this past weekend, I was at my daughter's college, attending her women's ice hockey game. I was speaking with the other co-captain's mom (Liz) about next weekend when we'll honor the graduating seniors. Both our daughters are captains and seniors, and both have moms who are physicians.

Liz confided that at first, she felt conflicted about what to do about next weekend. There was a pause... and then she shared that she wouldn't be at senior night because she would be attending a board meeting for her national medical society. She felt if she wasn't there as promised months earlier, that she might lose the opportunity to be the next president of her discipline's academy (a field in medicine comprised predominantly of male physicians, and she shared that there has never been a female president).

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Reading Suzy Welch's book, Liz thought about this difficult decision and how she would feel about it in 10 mins, 10 months and 10 years. She also shared this thought process with her daughter, Abby (who by the way, is applying to medical school). Her daughter said, "Mom, sure I am gonna miss you at senior night, but you're a trailblazer and I am so proud of you."

Liz said she wished she could be at the school that night, but she made her decision based on the impact her presence would have at that national meeting and future meetings, and paving the way for her daughter and other daughters by she herself, very soon serving in a leadership role so that future female physicians could attend a function like their child's senior night without being judged or criticized.

So, 10-10-10. When faced with a difficult dilemma, how might we feel about our decision in 10 minutes, 10 months and in 10 years. I think for my friend Liz, and her daughter Abby, and many others, the feeling will be a good one! Some decisions are tougher than others. With the framework of 10-10-10, maybe some will be a little less difficult."

Congratulations on the positive impact that each and every one of you is making every day!

Happy National Women Physician Day,

Karen

Recognizing Black History Month

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history.

Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of "Negro History Week," the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans.

Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month.

Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating Black history.

This month especially, we honor our friends and colleagues and thank them for their many contributions and expertise!

Epic's new Hyperdrive platform is coming

The new, web-based platform brings a host of changes designed to make using Epic more efficient. Hyperdrive also makes future upgrades quicker and easier.

Hyperdrive is launching with a rolling go-live. Greenwich Hospital is scheduled to go live March 3. Once live, users will notice a new icon for launching Epic and have access to new features and tools.

Visit Epic.ynhh.org to learn more about the coming changes and how to use them. Click Applications & Support Materials and select Epic Upgrade.

Digestive Health Virtual CME Series 2024: *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 year-long series will again be held the third Thursday of each month at 5 pm throughout 2024. The series provides digestive health educational programming, professional development and networking opportunities for physicians and advanced practice providers.

Join Louise Wang, MD, and Erin Culbert, DO, on March 21 for Recognizing Patients with High Risk for GI Cancers.

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.

Click [here](#) to register or visit the Yale CME portal at yale.cloud-cme.com. For questions, contact Joseph Mendes, executive director, clinical program development, Digestive Health at Joseph.Mendes@ynhh.org.

Library Services resources available for staff

The library at Greenwich Hospital, as well as those at Bridgeport, Lawrence + Memorial and Westerly hospitals, provides access to health information resources and services that support education, research and patient care.

The libraries also promote the Yale New Haven Health care signature initiative by fostering an atmosphere of innovation, collaboration, cooperation and life-long learning in support of an academic health network. Each library is open to YNHHS faculty, students, staff and affiliates and provide easy access to thousands of electronic journals, books and videos.

Each library provides access to several shared search engines including CINAHL, ClinicalKey for Nursing and ClinicaKey for physicians, OVID Medline and PubMed. These resources allow staff to easily search for and access journal articles. The libraries also provide access to individual resources that meet the need of unique service lines at each delivery network.

Clinical point-of-care resources including ClinicalSkills, EMMI, LexiComp and UpToDate may be accessed through individual library websites and the EMR.

There are three ways to access library websites:

- The hospital intranet
- Open web
- Remote access (speak to a librarian to learn more)

Greenwich Hospital Library staff can assist in locating the specific resource to meet your needs:

Donna Belcinski, MLS, MS; Location: Rm. 1-4201

Phone: 203-863-3293

Hours: Mon. 5:30 am - 2 pm; Tues. and Fri. 8 am - 4 pm;
Wed. and Thurs. 5:30 am - 4 pm

YNHHS' virtual food drive starts in March

YNHHS is holding its fourth online #GiveHealthy food drive March 1 - 31 to coincide with National Nutrition Month.

Employees and medical staff are invited to visit ynhhs.org/givehealthy and support one or more hunger-relief organizations in the communities YNHHS serves. The health system's first three drives resulted in over 50,360 pounds of food being donated to local hunger-relief organizations.

National Nutrition Month stresses the importance of a balanced diet and exercise. Because the food donated through YNHHS' #GiveHealthy drive will ship from suppliers directly to hunger-relief organizations, you will be able to purchase healthy food items, including fresh produce, to improve the health of our communities.

#GiveHealthy provides an online platform for hunger-relief organizations to set up "registries" listing items they need. Visit <https://ynhhs.org/givehealthy> and choose the items you wish to purchase for a particular organization.

YNHHS' drive was developed and organized through a system-wide collaboration between the Office of Health Equity and Community Impact, Community and Government Relations, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging, Human Resources, Marketing and Communications, Northeast Medical Group, and Food and Nutrition. For more information, visit YNHHS' GiveHealthy site, or contact Augusta Mueller, augusta.mueller@ynhh.org or 203-688-3862.

APP News

Are you looking to get more involved in APP professional development or committee work? Find out more! Please contact Lisa Henderson, APRN, at lisa.henderson@greenwichhospital.org.

Yale New Haven Health nationally recognized for health-related social needs screening

In recent years, Yale New Haven Health launched an initiative to help screen patients for non-medical issues that can directly affect health, such as financial difficulties, inadequate housing and lack of reliable transportation. Since then, a team has refined and expanded its processes for gathering this health-related social needs (HRSN) information to help connect patients with services that can assist them.

The health system recently received national recognition for this work, with an article in The Joint Commission's November *Journal on Quality and Safety*. Staff with YNHHS' Population Health and Clinical Integration department and Office of Health Equity and Community Impact, along with Yale School of Medicine collaborated to submit the article.

The processes the health system developed include a standard questionnaire. Patients choose whether to answer the questions, which cover four core HRSNs: food insecurity, medical and nonmedical transportation, financial strain and housing stability. A workflow in Epic guides clinicians in asking the questions and entering information into participating patients' electronic medical records. A social drivers of health Care Pathway has also been developed for care team members to access resources if a patient screens positive.

Since implementing the HRSN program, YNHHS' annual screening rate for all active ambulatory patients increased from 0.4 percent to 15.9 percent. Of the patients screened, 10.7 percent had at least one health-related social need. The annual screening rate for inpatients grew from zero to 66 percentage points. The most common health-related social need in both settings was financial difficulties, followed closely by food insecurity.

Epic also helps specify whether patients are experiencing low- moderate- or high-risk HRSNs, which determines the amount and type of assistance they receive. That assistance may range from providing patients with low-risk HRSNs information about community resources such as local food pantries, to helping patients with high-risk HRSN apply for food assistance or find stable housing.

Read the full Joint Commission journal article at [sciencedirect.com](https://www.sciencedirect.com).

YNHHS names medical director for Accreditation and Regulatory Affairs



Adam Ackerman, MD, has been named Yale New Haven Health's medical director for Accreditation and Regulatory Affairs. Dr. Ackerman joined Yale New Haven Hospital as a hospitalist in 2015 and will continue in that role. He is also associate director of Hospital Medicine at YNHH; physician lead and co-chair of the Opioid Stewardship Program at Yale New Haven Health; and assistant clinical professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Ackerman earned his MD from Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston and completed an internal medicine residency in the U.S. Air Force. He was recently honored by the American College of Physicians with an invited fellowship.

Smilow Shares with Primary Care: Lung Cancer Screening – March 5

Tune in for the next Smilow Shares with Primary Care: Lung Cancer Screening webinar on Tuesday, March 5 at 5:30 pm. The event will include presentations by Jill Banatoski, MD; Justin Blasberg, MD; and Lynn Tanoue, MD.

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

No registration necessary. Tune in via Zoom <https://yale.zoom.us/j/92655917927?pwd=YUlpelc5K01BYU5rbi9lMGxBMjlsQT09>.

With questions, contact Heather Studwell at 475-240-8328 or heatherleigh.studwell@greenwichhospital.org.

Proposals being accepted for YNHHS Staff and Faculty Innovation Awards

All Yale New Haven Health and Yale University employees are invited to participate in the YNHHS Staff and Faculty Innovation Awards.

Staff may submit a proposal for a creative way to improve operations in one of five categories:

- New care delivery models
- Care anywhere
- Health equity
- Automating the enterprise
- Generative AI

Four top proposals will each be awarded up to \$100,000 in funding.

Proposals should include:

- A description of an unmet clinical need and its magnitude
- The project's focus area(s)
- Detailed description of how the proposed solution solves the identified problem
- Estimates for the number of people affected by the identified problem and quantify the potential impact of the proposed solution

Visit ynhhs.org/innovation to learn more and submit a proposal.

Safety Matters

The importance of reporting near miss events and Great Catches

The Great Catch Program fosters an increasing culture of safety by encouraging the recognition and reporting of risk before a patient is harmed. Reporting of near miss safety events, or Great Catches, provides us with an opportunity to learn and prepares us to respond confidently to future events. Staff need to feel safe to continue to report these events and we need to create an environment of trust. Near miss reporting and analysis offers several advantages:

- It provides information about unplanned, last strong or early barrier catches.
- Near miss events occur far more frequently which provides actionable data for causal review and corrective actions to prevent future serious events.

Encourage colleagues and team members to report near miss events and Great Catches into SAFER. Discuss what could have gone wrong and how to prevent it in the future and celebrate team members demonstrating CHAMP behaviors.

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline to submit content for the March 2024 issue of *Medical Staff News* is Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024. Please submit items for consideration to Karen Santucci, MD, at karen.santucci@greenwichhospital.org or Myra Stanley at myra.stanley@ynhh.org.

MEDICAL STAFF CHANGES (January 2024)

Appointees



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Resignations/Non-Renewal of Privileges

Hardik Amin, MD (Medicine Neurology) effective 3/29/2024

Henry Chang, MD (Emergency Medicine) effective 12/19/23

Mary Lou Gaeta, MD (Pediatrics) effective 12/22/23

Eric Grubman, MD (Medicine Cardiology) effective 12/6/23

Preston Lurie, MD (Medicine) effective 1/1/24

I. George Miller, MD (Pediatrics Infectious Disease)
effective 8/31/23

Michael Nurzia, MD (Surgery Urology) effective 12/23/23

Ognen Petroff, MD (Medicine Neurology) effective 1/31/24

Aisha Stroop, MD (Emergency Medicine) effective 12/14/23

Patricia Winter, APRN (Occupational Medicine) effective 11/10/23