From the desk of the CMO

Summer Wellness

Spike Lipschutz, MD, Chief Medical Officer

We are deep into summer and I hope you are all enjoying what traditionally is a time to “catch up,” if that’s possible. It is also a time when most regular meetings – hospital and medical staff – are cancelled, providing another opportunity to catch up. Our medical staff wellness committee hasn’t stopped its work though, including a summer meeting with 14 members attending. One of the committee’s suggestions was to give an update of the group’s work in each issue of this newsletter. In our latest meeting, we discussed:

- Exploring a speaker’s series to run throughout the year, with content experts on all areas of wellness and engagement
- Compiling resources for our medical staff to access through an MD portal
- Promoting our medical staff through outside groups – nominating members for the Fairfield and Westchester county’s annual physician award celebrations, for instance
- Interviewing members of our medical staff through this newsletter, helping you learn something you didn’t know about your colleagues and getting their perspectives on health care and medicine

Also, very importantly, we continue to explore ideas for enhancing medical staff recognition. To support this goal, we know that many of you participate in outside activities that we would like to share with all staff. Some of you are very involved in your local communities focusing on health and medical issues. Some of you write and publish articles for your town newspapers. Others go on medical missions. The point is – we don’t know about these things unless you tell us. While modesty is a virtue, we do want to hear about your activities and celebrate your efforts. So, PLEASE let me know of your contributions that go beyond your already dedicated professional practice lives.

Lastly, a wonderful idea that came from our last meeting was a plan called “Six Degrees of Physician Separation.” Try to commit to the following exercise – reach out to six different members of our medical staff and connect with them. Ask how they’re doing; give them a compliment; thank them for how they may have enriched your professional experience. It’s a simple exercise that you can incorporate into your personal life as well.

We will also be sharing initiatives coming from our recently formed Medical Staff Wellness/Engagement group established by our YNHHS Physician Executive Council.

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More to come when we ramp up after the summer. In the meantime, take advantage in your own special way of the sun, warmth, and extra hours of daylight. Go for a walk without your phone. Read the book you’ve been putting off. Watch a show that makes you laugh – M*A*S*H always does it for me. Spend the quality time with friends and family that summer always seems to offer.

U.S. News and World Report places YNHH on national honor roll as a top 20 hospital

Yale New Haven Hospital (YNHH) continues to rank among the top U.S. hospitals with its placement on this year’s U.S. News and World Report’s national Honor Roll – among the top 20 hospitals in the nation. Of the nearly 5,000 hospitals surveyed in their annual “America’s Best Hospitals” list, YNHH ranks nationally in 12 of 16 specialties.

In each of the 12 specialties, YNHH gained greater national prominence over last year’s rankings. Psychiatry (#9) is now ranked in the nation’s top 10 while Geriatrics and Pulmonology are both ranked at #16. Ear, Nose and Throat (#19), Kidney Disorders (#20), Diabetes and Endocrinology (#24), Urology (#30), Neurology and Neurosurgery (#38), Gynecology (#39), Gastroenterology and Cancer (#45 each) and Heart and Heart Surgery (#48).

According to U.S. News and World Report, hard numbers support the rankings in most specialties – death rates, patient safety, procedure volume and other objective data. The entire national listing is available online at www.usnews.com/best-hospitals.

Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program

The Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program is composed of an interdisciplinary team that includes geneticists, genetic counselors, physicians, nurses and researchers who work together with the goal of providing cancer risk assessment and risk reduction.

Clinical Care and Research

The team is committed to providing a comprehensive plan to help assist patients and their families with all aspects of the risk assessment and testing process, surveillance, surgical decision-making, and follow-up care. A typical consultation includes:

- A detailed review of the patient’s personal and family medical history
- A risk assessment reviewing the chance that the cancers in the family are explained by a hereditary cancer syndrome
- A discussion of the risks, benefits and limitations of genetic testing
- Coordination of testing if applicable

Test results are disclosed by phone or in person depending on patient preference and patients, and their providers receive a summary letter outlining appropriate screening and risk reduction strategies.

We also offer enrollment in research clinical trials aimed at helping to determine additional causes of hereditary cancers. Our program is a component of the Yale Cancer Center, a comprehensive cancer center designated by the National Cancer Institute.

Who may be at risk for a hereditary or familial cancer?

Individuals with:

- A personal or family history of early onset cancer (younger than 45-50)
- Multiple (3+) family members on the same side of the family with the related cancers
- An individual or family member with a diagnosis of more than one type of cancer
- A personal or family history of breast, pancreatic or aggressive prostate cancer especially in those of Jewish ancestry
- A personal or family history of ovarian cancer at any age
- A personal or family history of extensive colon polyps (10+)
- A personal or family history of a rare type of cancer/tumor (e.g. breast cancer in a male, medullary thyroid cancer; a sebaceous carcinoma or adenoma)

The list above is not exhaustive and some patients not meeting the criteria above may still be good candidates for genetic counseling.

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**Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention at Greenwich Hospital**

Cancer Genetic Counseling consultations at Greenwich Hospital are offered in person on Mondays and Thursdays in the Bendheim Cancer Center at 77 Lafayette Place, 3rd floor, Smilow Suite 301. Appointments are also offered on Wednesday via telehealth during which the genetic counselor, located in New Haven, meets with the patient, located in the Bendheim Cancer Center, over the computer. Referrals to the Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program at Greenwich Hospital can be placed via Epic (ambulatory referral to genetics-YM CC Genetic Counseling SRC) or fax 203-200-1362. Patients and providers may also contact the program by phone at 203-200-4362.

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**Honoring Harvey Seidenstein, MD**

The Breakfast Club gathered last month to honor the late Harvey Seidenstein, MD, and present his family with a brick in the hospital’s community garden walkway. Dr. Seidenstein, who was a former chief of Cardiology, was known for his devotion to patients during his 55-year career. He was a member of the Breakfast Club, an informal group of physicians who meet regularly in the cafeteria.

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**New MModal helps physicians complete charts from outside of hospital**

A special version of MModal voice recognition software called MZero is now available to all members of the Greenwich Hospital Medical Staff. The traditional MModal application is only available in the hospital, but MZero allows users to use MModal voice recognition remotely via Citrix receiver. This means that you can leverage the full benefits of MModal voice recognition even if you are working on your Greenwich Hospital charts outside of Greenwich Hospital. Please keep in mind, MZero can only be used to complete your Greenwich Hospital medical records and cannot be used with other electronic medical records or documentation not related to clinical care.

To request MModal MZero access, please contact our medical staff office via email at patti.yacavone@greenwichhospital.org; 203-863-3972 or 203-863-3912.

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**YNHHS introduces MyChart Billing**

With the launch of MyChart Billing, patients can now access clinical and financial information in one secure location via Yale New Haven Health’s MyChart online patient portal. In addition to using the portal’s many other features, patients can now manage healthcare balances within MyChart. From the MyChart login page, patients may choose to pay their bills as a guest, but are encouraged to sign up for an account to access features including most laboratory and test results, medical history, appointment information as well as to request and schedule appointments with their physicians.

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**YNHHS adopts new CDC tuberculosis surveillance guidelines**

In response to recent changes in CDC guidance for tuberculosis surveillance among healthcare workers, Yale New Haven Health is eliminating the requirement that members of the YNHHS medical staff complete yearly PPD (tuberculin) or IGRA (interferon gamma release assay) testing immediately. There will still be a requirement to document PPD or IGRA testing at the time of initial application for staff privileges. PPD or IGRA testing will also continue to be carried out whenever an unprotected exposure (as identified by YNHHS Infection

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Those remembering Dr. Seidenstein (l-r): Francis Walsh, MD; Richard Brauer, MD; James Sabetta, MD; Steven Murphy, MD; Joel Blumberg, MD; Steven Glasser, MD; Philip McWhorter, MD; Seidenstein’s daughter Ellen and son Ben; Barbara Studwell; Jakki Seidenstein; Dickerman Hollister, MD; and David Mullen, MD.

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Prevention) occurs with an immediate post-exposure test and follow-up testing eight-10 weeks later.

Members of the medical staff who carry out clinical rotations in areas of the world endemic for tuberculosis (sites other than United States, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Western Europe) for more than a week should have a pre-departure PPD or IGRA test done, as well as a follow-up test eight-10 weeks after return. YNHHS Occupational Health Clinics are available to members of the YNHHS medical staff to carry out such testing on a walk-in basis.

Wound Science Symposium set for September 13

The 5th Annual Wound Science Symposium takes place Sept. 13, 7:30 am – 4 pm, Trumbull Marriott, 180 Hawley Lane. Keynote speaker is Jeffrey Levine, MD, AGSF, CMD, a nationally recognized expert in wound care, pressure injuries and geriatrics. The symposium is hosted by the Wound Centers of Bridgeport Hospital, Greenwich Hospital, Lawrence + Memorial Hospital and Yale New Haven Hospital. Contact hours/CME credits available. Call for early registration: 888-357-2396.

The Affordable Care Act conference September 26-27

The Affordable Care Act at 10 looks at 10 years of the ACA by bringing together major players in its implementation along with an analysis of the law. Speakers include former White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel, former HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, former Solicitors General Don Verrilli and Paul Clement, former Majority Leader Eric Cantor, and additional academics, policymakers and lawyers. Presenters will reflect on the policy, legal and political advances and challenges that a decade of the ACA has brought.

The conference, hosted by Yale Law School, takes place at the Sterling Law Building, 127 Wall St., New Haven. It begins at 4:30 pm on Thursday, Sept. 26 and continues on Friday, Sept. 27 from 8:45 am - 6 pm.

The event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. CLE credit is available. For more information and to register, visit law.yale.edu/solomon-center.

Reminder: CME made easy and accessible

In collaboration with the Yale School of Medicine, free Category 1 CME credits are available for members of the medical staff. There are a large number of CME offerings covering much of clinical care, including Connecticut mandated CMEs.

All members of the Greenwich Hospital medical staff have FREE access to:

- Category 1 CME credit for ALL Yale CME online courses, including CT Mandates modules to help you fulfill the state-mandated requirements
- On demand access to your CME transcript – a list of all credits awarded to you by Yale CME
- Access to the courses continually being added to enhance Yale CME’s online, with Grand Rounds such as Internal Medicine, Surgery, Cardiology, and a number of other offerings
- Yale CME will work with you to develop CME programs and courses that are specifically aimed at meeting your educational needs
- Free access to targeted live courses – please call the Yale Office of CME when you have an interest in attending and they will assist with the registration process

If you have not already done so, please create your Yale CME Profile by going to CloudCME at https://yale.cloud-cme.com/aph.aspx. If you have any questions regarding the registration process, please contact Yale CME via email (cme@yale.edu) or 203-785-4578.

Newsmaker

Elena Gutman, MD, has been appointed medical director of Accreditation and Regulatory Affairs for Yale New Haven Health. In this position Dr. Gutman will provide medical leadership and oversight primarily to ensure hospital licensure, accreditation, and CMS certification across the health system, in addition to other regulatory requirements. Dr. Gutman joins the Office of the Chief Quality Officer (OCQO) and will report to Steven Choi, MD, in this new role.

Dr. Gutman joined the Yale School of Medicine department of Anesthesiology as a faculty member in 2015 and is currently an assistant professor.
Medical Staff Changes (July 2019)

New Members

Affiliate Medical Staff

Joseph Akar, MD
(Cardiology)
Yale New Haven Heart and Vascular Center
500 West Putnam Ave.
Greenwich, CT 06830
Phone: 203-863-4210
Fax: 203-622-1872

Sameer Nagpal, MD
(Cardiology)
Yale New Haven Heart and Vascular Center
500 West Putnam Ave.
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Samuel Hahn, MD
(Cardiology)
Yale New Haven Heart and Vascular Center
500 West Putnam Ave.
Greenwich, CT 06830
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Fax: 203-622-1872

Cynthia Twu, MD
(Anesthesiology)
Greenwich Anesthesiology Associates
5 Perryridge Road
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Phone: 203 863 3390
Fax: 203 863 3391

Khalil Hussein, MD
(Medicine)
Greenwich Hospital – Medical Education
5 Perryridge Road
Greenwich, CT 06830
Phone: 203-863-3413
Fax: 203-863-3924

Andrew Zhang, MD
(Radiation Oncology)
Smilow Radiation Oncology – Greenwich
77 Lafayette Place
Greenwich, CT 06830
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Fax: 203-863-3723

Qurat ul ain Jelani, MD
(Cardiology)
Yale New Haven Heart and Vascular Center
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Monaa Zafar, MD
(Medicine)
WESTMED Medical Group
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Purchase, NY 10577
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Alice Kim, MD
(Radiology)
Greenwich Hospital Radiology Department
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Phone: 203 863 3021
Fax: 203-863-4712

Beitris McKeon, PA
(Surgery)
Greenwich Hospital – Surgery
5 Perryridge Road
Greenwich, CT 06830
Phone: 203 915-1835
Fax: 203-863-3544

Mensud Kurjakovic, MD
(Psychiatry)
Greenwich Hospital Outpatient Behavioral Health
5 Perryridge Road
Greenwich, CT 06830
Phone: 203 863 3300
Fax: 203-863-4690

Julie Leviter, MD
(Emergency Medicine)
Greenwich Hospital - Emergency Department
5 Perryridge Road
Greenwich, CT 06830
Phone: 203 863 3637
Fax: 203-863-3821

Jonah Mandell, DO
(Pediatrics)
Sound Beach Pediatrics
2001 West Main St.
Stamford, CT 06902
Phone: 203-363-0123
Fax: 475-619 9855

Office Move

Yale New Haven Health Heart and Vascular Center
Greenwich Hospital
(Drs. Akar, Bader, Chen, A. DelVecchio, Howes, Jelani, Kaple, Maraj, Murugiah, Nagpal, Pavlis, Remetz and Setaro; nurse practitioners Casey Doyle and Tara Robertson)
500 West Putnam Ave., Suite 350
Greenwich, CT 06830
Phone: 203-863-4210
Fax: 203-622-1872

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Change in Status
Gary Kalan, MD (Anesthesiology) was granted a leave of absence from the medical staff
David Nocek, MD (Orthopedics) was granted a change in status from Active to Honorary Medical Staff

Resignation/Non-Renewal of Privileges
Lisa Imundo, MD (Pediatric Immunology)
Sasanka Jayasuriya, MD (Cardiology)
Michael Tom, MD (Otolaryngology)
Elizabeth Weinshel, MD (Medicine)

Save the date – Medical Staff Reception
November 19
All members of the medical staff are invited to meet our newest physicians at the annual Greenwich Hospital Medical Staff cocktail reception on Tuesday, Nov. 19 from 7 - 9 pm in the Greenwich Hospital Garden Cafe.

Newsletter submissions
Deadline for submission for the September 2019 issue of Medical Staff News is Friday, Aug. 23. Please submit items for consideration to Spike Lipschutz, MD, at 203-863-3904 or spike.lipschutz@greenwichhospital.org or Myra Stanley, Yale New Haven Health, at 203-688-1531 or myra.stanley@ynhh.org.

Check yourself!
Remember STAR to help your brain catch up with what your hands are getting ready to do.
STOP – Pause for 1-2 seconds to focus on the task at hand.
THINK – Consider the action you’re about to take.
ACT – Concentrate and carry out the task.
REVIEW – Check to make sure the task was done correctly and you got the correct result.
STAR reduces your chances of making an unintended mental slip or lapse by more than 10 times.

CHAMP for safety
High reliability organizations operate successfully in high-risk industries. For hospitals, CHAMP is a mnemonic used to help eliminate instances of preventable patient harm.
C – Communicate clearly
H – Handoff effectively
A – Attention to detail
M – Mentor each other
P – Practice and accept a questioning attitude

Staff meeting topics?
Please contact Dr. Spike Lipschutz: 203-863-3904, spike.lipschutz@greenwichhospital.org