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This card that was sent to the Department of Medicine from the mother of a patient who passed away:

Dean Hart died March 4. He got the greatest care from all the staff in your hospital. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Georgeanne (Hart) Garbs and family

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2005 - Hartford Hospital introduces the first 64-slice “LightSpeed” VCT scanner to the state.

Follow Hartford Hospital on [facebook](#), [youtube](#) and [twitter](#)
**Process Improvement with Transfer Patients**

**Dr. Jack Greene  
Cheryl Ficara**

It can be quite challenging for patients and their families who are transferred to Hartford Hospital. In response, we initiated a pilot program on February 5 in an attempt to discover potential areas for improvement. Since the pilot's implementation, we have visited with 425 transfer patients and families.

We have learned that **communication** is a key area in need of improvement.

- Images and test results are often not sent along with patients during transfers, leading HH to repeat testing.
- Patients are also given unrealistic expectations of HH services including timeliness of testing and Emergency Department wait times.

In response to these issues, we have implemented a process to continually gather insight from our transfer patients.

- RN managers have integrated patient visits into their daily regimen. They continue to document issues brought forth by these patients as well as staff interventions.
- MDs have also expressed interest in the initiative regarding patient expectations, repetition of testing, and lack of communication. They, too, have brought forth their concerns and are currently developing plans to improve them.
- A brochure describing what should be expected upon arrival at HH has been distributed to HHC hospitals, which we hope will give patients and families a better understanding of our process.

Additionally, PACS Teams at THOCC, Hartford Hospital and Jefferson Radiology Clinical Support have completed the testing for THOCC sending images directly to the HH Intelerad.

- Starting on May 12, the images will be pushed directly to the HH Intelerad PACS enabling radiologists and providers to find the images in Intelerad/Inteleviewer with no manual intervention.
- The images will also be pushed to the HH Sectra PACS as a backup in case of any problems with the process above.

We will continue the pilot as we are learning valuable information from our patients and families. We will keep you informed about resulting process improvements.

**New Team Approach to Treating Submassive/Massive Pulmonary Embolism**

**Dr. Ajay Kumar**

To all provider: we have a new team approach to treat Submassive and Massive Pulmonary Embolism at Hartford Hospital. As our treatment options and complexity of these types of PE’s has evolved, the response time to treatment is the key for successful outcome and revised process is intended to support our patients in a timely fashion.

Starting May 16th, if you suspect a Massive or Submassive PE, you are encouraged to consult the Pulmonary Attending on call 24/7 after initial work up of the patient (as listed in the pocket card). Pulmonary attending will make an assessment and advise you regarding treatment option, contact the appropriate service and decide the level of care for your patient. As these patients are critically ill, the treatment plan will be executed rapidly keeping you in loop.

Attached algorithm is a general guideline for the treatment approach, also attached placard which will be distributed to all nursing units and Emergency department. If requested these placards can be sent to your division or department.
This work is done in collaboration by Department of Medicine, Emergency Department, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Department of Vascular Surgery and Department of Cardiology.

Please contact Dr. Troy or any other team member listed below if you have any further questions.

Dr. Patrick Troy
Dr. Thomas Divinagracia
Dr. Talhat Azemi
Dr. Jason Gluck
Dr. Mitchell McClure
Dr. Immad Sadiq
Dr. Jeremy Fried
Dr Mohiuddin Cheema
Dr. Robert Hagberg
Dr. Premkumar Padmanabhan

FDA Issues Safety Announcement about Fluoroquinolone Antibiotics

*Dr. Jack Ross*

*Dr. Michael Nailer*

Recently the FDA published a safety announcement regarding the use of systemic fluoroquinolone antibiotics. Based on the potential risk for developing disabling side effects, the FDA advises avoiding the use of this class of antimicrobial when possible for certain uncomplicated infections, including sinusitis, bronchitis, and uncomplicated urinary tract infections.

Alternative agents should be used based on likely etiology or known susceptibility patterns. Additionally, most cases of bronchitis are viral in origin and don't require any antibiotics.

Fluoroquinolones should be reserved and used only for infections with no alternative treatment options. Potential side effects of this class of medication include tendon rupture, arthralgia/myalgias, CNS toxicity, peripheral neuropathy, and cardiac abnormalities.

[Read more here.](#)

**From the President of the Medical Staff**

*Dr. Stacy Nerenstone, President of the Hartford Hospital Medical Staff*

**VERY IMPORTANT ISSUE: Physicians Towards the End of Their Careers**

Around the country, many Medical Staffs are addressing the issue of physicians towards the end of their careers.

Data clearly show that a percentage of adults over the age of 70 may lose some cognitive ability and fine motor skills. In our role as advocates of patient safety, and wanting to respect the experience and talent of our older physicians, we want to be able to formulate a policy that makes sense for both needs.

The Medical Staff Physician Wellness Committee, led by Dr. Ken Robinson, is addressing how we gain consensus about this important issue in a respectful and scientifically valid way.

We will start the conversation about this important issue, which may affect each and every one of us at some point in our careers, at the Semi-Annual Staff Meeting on Thursday, June 16. (Breakfast at 6:30 a.m., meeting to start at 7.) We hope to engage as many physicians as we can going forward.

Thanks,

Stacy
Adapting to Change and Bonding Together

Instead of holding our usual mid-month Hartford Hospital Leadership Forum in April, we held a Hartford HealthCare Forum with CEO Elliot Joseph and COO Jeff Flaks talking to our leaders about the difficult environment we face and our operational successes despite it.

Elliot pointed out that the healthcare industry in Connecticut is undergoing an unprecedented attack from the state as the state faces a $900 million deficit for FY 2017, which begins July 1. The money has to come from somewhere, and the governor has decided that a chunk of it will come from us.

We have worked hard to reach out to legislators, asking them to restore our Medicaid funding, which is money the state owes us for care we've already delivered. Thousands of our employees sent emails to legislators, which resulted in the restoration of $140 million in Medicaid reimbursements to the state’s hospitals, which means $34 million for Hartford HealthCare. However, we haven’t seen a check in the mail yet and the $900 million deficit looms ahead.

Despite these challenges, our system has continued to increase access to care, and, through Integrated Care Partners, lead the way in moving to value-based care. We have charged ahead in difficult circumstances for several years now and are confident we can continue to strengthen our foundation and grow.

Hartford Hospital continues to add to our list of amazing accomplishments. During 10 days in April, our Transplant team did five liver transplants and a heart transplant. Transplantation requires the efforts of the entire hospital, from the blood bank to the multidisciplinary team of specialists, who often perform these surgeries in the middle of the night, when the organs become available. Our hospital’s average of transplants per year is 60 kidney, 20 liver and 10 heart transplants; thus, to do 12 transplants in 10 days is quite a feat and speaks to the dedication and expertise of our entire staff.

Our staff also performed incredibly well during a recent visit by the Connecticut Department of Health, demonstrating their outstanding professionalism and skill.

Our transition to Compass One for food and environmental services continues to go well. We have received positive feedback from employees, and the transition should result in more efficiency and lower costs. The majority of our food and environmental services front-line staffs have been hired by Compass One.

Hartford Hospital employees continue to adapt to change and bond together to deliver outstanding care. It is a remarkable institution made up of staff members who truly care about our patients, families and one another. As always, thank you for your support.

Top News

Flu Season is Over at HHC

The flu season is over at Hartford HealthCare, effective immediately.

In keeping with our Universal Influenza Prevention Policy, staff members who received flu vaccination exemptions no longer are required to wear masks. The color-coded tags distributed during vaccination may be removed from I.D. badges and discarded.

Please keep in mind that patients still may present with flu or develop it while hospitalized and that we will continue to care for these patients as usual.
Hartford HealthCare’s Universal Influenza Prevention Program has saved and protected many lives this year. We do the safe thing for our patients and families every year when we get vaccinated against influenza.

Thanks to staff members for setting a vaccination standard that makes us a national leader in this area. I also want to thank our many colleagues across the system who work year round to plan and execute this complex task with such great success.

Care Connect Sign Up Underway; Classes Start June 6

On Friday, May 13, you should have received an email from MRM with instructions on how to sign up for Care Connect. We urge you to sign up as soon as possible, and to take your classes as soon as you can.

This way, you will have adequate time to practice and attend personalization labs. The actual classes will start June 6, and run through mid-August. The classes run about 4 hours each, and the number of classes you will need will depend on your medical specialty. This will be explained in the MRM email.

All providers who will be practicing at Hartford Hospital on August 20, 2016 will be using Epic as the exclusive method of clinical documentation and ordering. Without training, you cannot be granted credentials to access the EHR. If you have used Epic within the past 2 years at a previous location or during training, please email us at careconnecttraining@hhchealth.org

Goldfarb Gift Supports Multidisciplinary Cancer Center Clinic

Robert Goldfarb, his brother, William Goldfarb, and their families have made a generous commitment to Hartford Hospital, continuing the momentum for the success of the Campaign for Hartford Hospital. The gift will support the new Hartford Hospital Multidisciplinary Cancer Center Clinic of the Helen & Harry Gray Cancer Center.

â€œWe are so appreciative of the Goldfarb familiesâ€™ ongoing generous support of our programs. This gift will have a substantial impact on our ability and promise to deliver superb multidisciplinary care to our patients,â€ said Dr. Andrew Salner, director of the Helen & Harry Gray Cancer Center.

The clinic will be located on the second floor of the Medical Office Building at 85 Seymour Street on the hospital campus. It will contain space where surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, and other specialists and members of the support team can meet with the patient during the course of a single visit to help delineate an individually tailored approach to care. Conference space within the center will facilitate team collaboration and discussions and also patient and family meetings.

Psychologists, genetics counselors, dieticians, social workers and other team members will also use the space to help support patients and families during their cancer journey.

Special Offer to HH Medical Staff: Free Tickets to Hartford Symphony Orchestra Concert

We are pleased to announce a special offer for a pair of free tickets to any interested HH medical staff for the final concert of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra Thursday-Sunday, June 9-12, Belding Theater at The Bushnell. (Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 3 p.m.)

The program is called An American In Paris: World Winds - a â€œworld-windâ€ tour of exotic international sights and sounds featuring our woodwind section! George Gershwinâ€™s jazz-influenced symphonic poem evokes the energy he witnessed in Paris during the 1920s, and remains one of his best-known and most beloved compositions. Osvaldo Golijovâ€™s Rose of the Winds is a â€œbold yet seamless melding of musical resonances from Christian, Arabic and Jewish traditions, with ear-catching instrumental sounds and colors representing numerous points of the compass,â€ said the Chicago Tribune. Symphonic Dances was Rachmaninoffâ€™s last completed composition and is a stunning virtuoso showpiece for orchestra, combining energetic rhythmic sections with lush harmonies.

Gershwin-An American in Paris
Golijov-Rose of the Winds
Rachmaninoff-Symphonic Dances, Op. 45 Featuring Carolyn Kuan, conductor; Kayhan Kalhor, kamancheh; David Krakauer, klezmer clarinet; Christina Pato, Galician bagpipe; and Michael Ward-Bergeman, accordion.

Please join us for a pre-concert talk, led by HSO Music Director Carolyn Kuan, one hour prior to curtain each day.
As you can see, this should be a most exciting and entertaining concert. If you are interested, please call or email Marymar Ortiz at 860-972-0276, or email Marymar.ortiz@hhchealth.org.

**Excellence**

**Media Coverage Wrap-Up**

**Dr. Craig Allen** was interviewed by Ch. 3 about a recent study by AAA that shows a high number of marijuana-related fatal accidents.


**Dr. Brian Grosberg** was interviewed by WTNH Channel 8 about a new treatment for migraine headaches.

The appointment of **Dr. Sabet Hashim and Dr. Paul Thompson** as co-physicians-in-chief of the Hartford HealthCare Heart and Vascular Institute was published in the following journals:

- Yahoo!
- Reuters
- MarketWatch
- Yahoo! Singapore
- Boston Globe
- Seeking Alpha
- Business Review (Albany)
- New Mexico Business Weekly
- Atlanta Business Chronicle
- Austin Business Journal
- Baltimore Business Journal
- Birmingham Business Journal
- Boston Business Journal
- Business First of Buffalo
- Charlotte Business Journal
- Chicago Business News
- Cincinnati Business Courier
- Business First of Columbus
- Dallas Business Journal
- Dayton Business Journal
- Denver Business Journal
- Houston Business Journal
- Jacksonville Business Journal
- Kansas City Business Journal
- Los Angeles Business from bizjournals

**Dr. Len Jacobs** was interviewed by US News about members of the public being trained to stop bleeding in mass-casualty events. He was also featured in a Reuters article about the Stop the Bleed campaign. The story also was picked up by Medscape.

**Dr. Maximilian Lee**, cardiologist at Hartford Hospital, was interviewed by NBC CT in a special sports feature on Andrew Jones, a patient who spent several weeks at Hartford Hospital awaiting a heart to transplant. Andrew recently underwent surgery to implant a left ventricular assist device while he waits for a donor. (NBC CT) May 4: [https://youtu.be/H-Zk0Yqq4o](https://youtu.be/H-Zk0Yqq4o)

**Dr. Sara Niego**, medical director of the Institute Of Living Eating Disorders program at Hartford Hospital, was interviewed by Channel 8 about eating disorders.

**Dr. Jack Ross** was interviewed by Ray Dunaway on WTIC AM radio about the Zika Virus. [https://soundcloud.com/hartford-healthcare/short-zika-update-for-connecticut](https://soundcloud.com/hartford-healthcare/short-zika-update-for-connecticut)

**Dr. Andrew Salner** was interviewed by FOX 61 to promote the Zero Prostate Race/Prostate Health hosted by HHC. He was also interviewed by WTIC AM radio and NBC CT to promote a “cut-a-thon” benefiting Hartford Hospital ([https://soundcloud.com/hartford-healthcare/andrew-salner-wtic-april-27-2016/s-PcY0w](https://soundcloud.com/hartford-healthcare/andrew-salner-wtic-april-27-2016/s-PcY0w)).

**Dr. Ricardo Taboada**, from the Hartford Hospital Pain Treatment Center, was interviewed about a new laser

FOX CT covered the retirement of LIFE STAR pilot Richard Magner, who was with LIFE STAR for more than 30 years. [https://youtu.be/g3qF7Cmd0E8](https://youtu.be/g3qF7Cmd0E8)

**Nurses week videos:**
Safety: Celebrating Nurses Week 2016: [https://youtu.be/SzWZaEhrwbY](https://youtu.be/SzWZaEhrwbY)
Hartford Hospital/Riel Family video: [https://youtu.be/PN2kN3RlG0Q](https://youtu.be/PN2kN3RlG0Q)
East Region Nightingale Salute: [https://youtu.be/xj3fwVB6PA](https://youtu.be/xj3fwVB6PA)

**Connect to Healthier on NBC-CT**
HHC's two-minute "Connect to Healthier" segment airs each Sunday at 9:20 a.m. and it's posted fresh each Monday on HHC Connect, our Intranet.
Recent "Connect to Healthier" segment features:

- "Addiction has met its MATCH. Medication Assisted Treatment Close to Home" helps those struggling with opioid and other addictions. [https://youtu.be/o3V2L5v-xeM](https://youtu.be/o3V2L5v-xeM)
- Plain Language: [https://youtu.be/7_F1EcK7DLQ](https://youtu.be/7_F1EcK7DLQ)

**Upcoming News Service Content; Share Your Stories**
The Hartford HealthCare News Service is actively creating content with media partners across the state. Please let us know if you have great patient stories to share. Share your stories with us so we can share them to a wider audience.

Here's a look at what's coming up.

**Connect to Healthier**
Sundays in the 9 a.m. hour, we broadcast a two minute health segment on NBC CT.

**Medical Rounds**
Partnership with WFSB. Weekly live interview from the HHC studio at 5:45 p.m.

**HealthCare Matters radio program**
Every month, Elliot Joseph highlights an important health care related topic with nationally recognized experts on CBS affiliate WTIC-am, NewTalk 1080, Connecticut's largest and most popular talk radio station

**Healthier Connections**
Monthly partnership with FOX CT.

**CT STYLE**
Monthly partnership with WTNH.

HHC YouTube page: [https://www.youtube.com/user/HartfordHospitalCT](https://www.youtube.com/user/HartfordHospitalCT)

*Link to contact information across the system: Hartford HealthCare Media Relations Team*
Save the Date: 32nd Annual Cardiovascular Symposium

October 5

7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford

Information and registration: 98.188.110.106/CVSymposium

Please register for this event by calling 1.855.442.4373.

Voices of Our Patients

Voices of Our Patients: Kudos to Dr. Manuel Maya Tapia

I am writing to give special thanks and recognition to two of your medical employees who helped me during my recent, unscheduled treatment at the hospital.

My wife and I were visiting my son and his wife in the Hartford area and attending a concert Sunday evening March 6 when I suddenly became ill and lost consciousness. I was taken you your hospital for evaluation and treatment. It was only necessary to stay until mid-day Monday and I was able to return to Georgia Tuesday and am having follow-up tests here.

Although the staff was helpful, Nicole Sousa, morning ER nurse, and Dr. Manuel Maya Tapia were exceptional. They not only provided excellent medical care, but were very responsible, caring and compassionate. They put the personal commitment into professional competency. We were treated as a patient, as customer and a respected valued person.

If there is any process where you cite outstanding performance please put both of these wonderful people into consideration.

Sincerely and may God Bless you and all at your facility,

Rev. Mr. Thomas and Thalia Eden

Operational Update

Help New Patients Find You

Hartford HealthCare offers physicians a free powerful tool to help reach potential patients. The systemwide "Find A Doctor" search feature on our website helps potential patients connect with appropriate physicians when they need care.

Patients’ searches lead to doctors’ online profiles, which are based on information physicians provide to the Medical Staff Office. Details on education, specialty, office locations, languages spoken, biography and any promotional videos are displayed, helping patients make vitally important decisions in choosing a physician.

The HHC Planning and Marketing team is committed to making sure this online information is correct. Please spend a few moments reviewing your profile at HartfordHealthCare.org/verify. Click the “Physician Feedback Form” on the right hand side of your profile to submit changes.

You will need your NPI number to verify your identity. The “Accepting New Patients” filter is set as the default to help patients connect with physicians who are taking new patients. If you are no longer accepting new patients, please let us know. Changes to your profile will be made within three business days.

Improving Doctor-to-Doctor Communication: A Free Tool To Help You
We all want to do what is best for our patients. Problems in communication between hospital providers, consultants, and community providers has been identified as a major source of dissatisfaction for both patients and physicians. And it can lead to gaps in patient care.

Hartford Hospital has invested in a tool to help providers improve communication. It is a HIPAA compliant texting service called TigerText, and we are offering it to the medical staff at no charge.

TigerText allows a provider to send brief text messages, with patient identifiers, to another provider on the system. Examples of texts include quick reports of a procedure, notification of discharge, questions about medications, etc. There is an option to alert people if you are on vacation, and the notices that are sent are marked as read when they are opened by the recipient.

We are anxious for all of our Medical Staff to enroll in this free application. It is VERY easy to use, even for those of us who have problems with new technology. We urge everyone to register and get on this useful and HIPAA compliant system today—it will make your job easier and improve patient safety.

- Here is a TigerText Request form with directions on how to get TigerText: [You can download the form here](#)
- For further help with this, feel free to contact [John.Rogalsky@hhchealth.org](mailto:John.Rogalsky@hhchealth.org) (860-972-3207).
- Any problems not resolved by the TigerText Help line can be referred to [Dr. Marc Palter](mailto:Dr. Marc Palter@hhchealth.org) at Marc.Palter@hhchealth.org.

**TigerText Support**

For Hartford Hospital users, TigerText support can be obtained by calling the Hartford HealthCare help desk at 860-545-5699 and choosing option #6; or by calling TigerText Pro support directly at 650-564-4722.

For issues related to password recovery, a helpdesk call is required and will be routed to the Mobility team.

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**Remind a Colleague: Wash In, Wash Out**

All health care workers and patients should feel comfortable reminding any other health care worker to sanitize regardless of their role. This should always be done in a courteous and constructive manner. All health care workers should respond courteously and gratefully when reminded.

If you remind another health care worker to sanitize, and he or she responds with irritation or hostility, please notify their department chief, [Dr. Jack Greene](mailto:Dr. Jack Greene) or [Dr. Jack Ross](mailto:Dr. Jack Ross), who will communicate with them to prevent recurrences.

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**Patient Experience**

**Grateful Patient Gifts Increase Under Physician Champions Advisory Council**

The Physician Champions Advisory Council was formed in 2010 with the purpose of serving as mentors to
medical staff colleagues and advisors to the Fund Development Department to help move grateful patients to fulfilled donors. **Drs. Inam Kuresshi and Art Tarantino** lead the council.

Since 2013, the number of grateful patient gifts has risen 46 percent to 466 and the number of physician champions involved in active cultivation with a donor or prospective donor is up 40 percent to a total of 50 over the same time period. Gifts raised from physicians in active cultivation with a donor resulted in more than $1 million raised in fiscal year 2015.

For fiscal year 2016, the council is expanding to include all clinicians who touch patients. Nurse liaisons will be added to the group and its new name will be the Clinical Champions Advisory Council.

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**Update on HHC Cancer Institute**

Read Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute's newsletter, Plus

[Click here to read the latest issue of Plus.](#) the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute’s newsletter.

This issue features a story about Dr. Peter Paul Yu, the Cancer Institute's new physician-in-chief.

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**Educational Events and Programs Calendar Available**

[Click here to download.](#)

The Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute has published an Educational Events and Programs Calendar listing all programs and support groups available this fall.

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**ICP News**

**ICP News: MACRA Redux**

Please see the attached [April issue of ICP News.](#)

**Top Stories:**

ICP CMO Dr. Michael Pinnolis - MACRA Redux: Transforming Medicare Payments to Providers

**Inside:**

- ICP Appoints Regional Medical Director
- Geriatric Consultations Available
- The Conversation of a Lifetime
- New Price for ICP Members for EHR
- A Patient Story of Dementia Care
- How to Be An Inbox Ninja

For a look at our previous issues, visit [www.integratedcarepartners.org.](http://www.integratedcarepartners.org)

**For your information:** Videos from the first ICP Conference (The Mind/Body Connection: Integrating Behavioral Health and Primary Care) are posted on the ICP Web site: [Click here to view.](#)

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**CME Applications**
Interested In Hosting a CME Event?

In order to ensure that your educational event meets the standards established by the ACCME and the CSMS, the HH CME department has established the following deadlines for submission of CME applications.

To ensure a timely review of your application, we strongly recommend advance planning for all events.

- Complete applications for a recurring series such as Grand Rounds must submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the planned activity.
- For a conference, course, or symposia, a complete application must be submitted at least 12 weeks prior to the event. We strongly encourage activity planners to contact the HH CME department at least 6 to 12 months prior to the date of the course in order to begin the planning process.

We have developed educational resources to assist planners with the application process. Please contact the HH CME office at ContinuingEd@HHHealth.org or (860) 972-5816 to schedule an appointment with our team to discuss your CME needs.

State Mandated CME Renewal Available Free To HH Doctors through HealthStream LMS

State mandated CME for physician license renewal is available free on the Hartford Hospital HealthStream Learning Management System.

You will need your Employee ID to access HealthStream. If you need the CME Programs, but do not have a HealthStream ID, a Temporary ID can be provided for you.

Please email HealthStream@HHHealth.org and request an ID and password for CME Courses. You will receive an email with the ID, password and instructions for accessing the courses.

To access HealthStream, use the link from the intranet, or click here. Once you login, click on the Catalog tab and search for CME to view the available courses.

Once you have passed the post-test and evaluation, you will be awarded a printable CME certificate. Your CME will also be maintained and easily self-service accessed on the HealthStream site, should you need a copy in the future.

Please note that your Risk Management required activities through MRM will provide your Risk Management CME.

HH In the News

Most Americans Want to Learn How to Help Those Injured in Disasters
U.S. News & World Report, April 5

Many Americans would take a class to learn how to stop or control bleeding to help victims of shootings, accidents or other emergency situations, a new survey suggests.

The telephone poll of more than 1,000 civilians nationwide was conducted in November 2015. More than four out of five people said they'd be interested in taking a class to learn how to stop bleeding from an injury.

"We know that to save life and limb, you need to stop the bleeding very early, within five to 10 minutes or victims can lose their lives," Dr. Lenworth Jacobs Jr., director of the Trauma Institute at Hartford Hospital in Connecticut, said in a college news release.

"However, until now, there has been no clear indication of how well trained the general public is in bleeding control and how willing they might be to participate as immediate responders until professionals arrive on the scene," added Jacobs. He is also chairman of an American College of Surgeons Committee examining how to improve survival rates in mass casualty events.

"Moving forward, we plan to use these new insights to develop a training program for the public, not health care professionals, so civilians can learn how to act as immediate responders. We want to steer interested people toward getting the right training, and to understand when victims are experiencing the signs of massive
bleeding so they can 'stop the bleed' and save lives,” Jacobs said.

Hartford Hospital Cardiology Study Sudden Cardiac Death in Firefighters  
Hartford Courant, May 16

Sudden cardiac death is the leading cause of death among firefighters; a rate that is 5x higher than other public sector employees and all other line of duty professions.

Hartford Hospital and the University of Connecticut are doing a pilot study at the Middletown Fire Department, trying to determine the reasons firefighters die of cardiac issues at a higher rate than other first responders.

Dr. Paul D. Thompson, chief of Cardiology, Amanda Zaleski, an exercise physiologist in the Department of Preventive Cardiology, and Beth Taylor, director of Exercise Physiology Research, recently completed a pilot study examining the role of cardiorespiratory fitness on exercise-induced biomarkers related to sudden cardiac death.

Zaleski was an invited speaker at the City of Middletown Firefighter Battle Ops Challenge, which featured influential members of the community who were trained by Middletown Fire Department peer fitness trainers to compete against each other in order to bring awareness to the importance of firefighter specific physical fitness.

Zaleski said sudden cardiac deaths account for 60 to 90 percent of the on-duty deaths among firefighters. Very few departments have on-site fitness facilities like the Middletown Fire Department, she said, adding that the department's fitness program is a huge step toward decreasing on-duty firefighter deaths.

Read more here.

In the HHC System

Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute introduces new Director of Breast Surgery  
Fox 61, April 27

Connecticut has the second highest breast cancer rate in the nation. In this Healthier Connections report, brought to you by Hartford HealthCare, Sarah Cody introduces us to an expert who is new to the area determined to make a difference.

Dr. Edward Sauter is the new director of the Breast Surgery Program at the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute and will lead the breast surgery programs at the institutes five cancer centers.

Coming to Connecticut from the University of Texas Health Science Center, Dr. Sauter has been practicing in the field for more than 25 years. He has referred more than 4,000 women to active clinical trials while conducting more than 70 clinical research trials himself. He is excited to expand Hartford HealthCare’s relationship with Memorial Sloan Kettering.

Hartford HealthCare's programs include mobile mammography and education. Huge progress in treatment of breast cancer has been made over the last decade.

"Incidents, the number of cases, is going up both in the US and worldwide, the number of deaths from breast cancer is not,” Dr. Sauter said. "It's preventing the disease, earlier detection and better treatment."

He aims to create resources that answer questions for patients.

"If they have breast cancer or a sister, mother, daughter with breast cancer, what does that mean to them, is there genetic testing that needs to be done? Who needs to be tested, these sorts of things.” he said.

Dr. Sauter, who is married and has an 11-year-old daughter can't wait to make a real difference in the community with Hartford HealthCare.

Read more here.

Health Care News In the Region
Introducing The Mirror's Hospitals Database
CT Mirror, May 16

On average, 78 percent of hospital beds in the state were filled during the 2014 fiscal year, and patients stayed an average of five days. Connecticut's acute care hospitals earned an average margin of 6.22 percent that year.

But averages don't tell the full story about hospitals in Connecticut. This database is aimed at helping you dig deeper

Read more here.

Hot Topics in Health Care

The Real Reason Apple Made the Apple Watch: Steve Jobs felt the healthcare system needed a complete technological overhaul
Time, May 9

The Apple Watch recently celebrated its first birthday. While Apple won't say exactly how many units have been sold, we estimate the number is in the 13-15 million range, bringing in $2-3 billion in revenue.

The late Apple CEO Steve Jobs developed pancreatic cancer in 2004. He then spent a great deal of time with doctors and the healthcare system until his death in 2011. While that personal health journey had a great impact on Jobs personally, it turns out that it affected Apple's top management, too. During this time, Jobs discovered how disjointed the healthcare system can be. He took on the task of trying to bring some digital order to various aspects of the healthcare system, especially the connection between patients, their data, and their healthcare providers.

If you look at Apple's current health initiatives, many are focused on helping people record data of all types and get it securely to their healthcare providers. Apple also has projects related to healthcare records, management and interaction between the doctor and patient with a goal of making the patient-doctor relationship more fruitful and less frustrating.

I have long been observing these key moves around healthcare, which accelerated after Jobs' death. It seems clear that Apple's management has now and will continue to have a major focus on bridging the gap between a person and their healthcare providers. I believe Apple is on a mission to improve the overall health of its customers as well as that of the healthcare system, a task Jobs gave them before he died. And while Apple's products define Jobs' legacy, it may turn out that his and Apple's greatest contribution may be to bring greater order to the fragmented healthcare world.

Read more here.

Coming Events

The Hartford Medical Society Presents"Genomic Personalized Medicine"
June 8 (Wednesday)

Presented by Dr. Weinstock of The Jackson Laboratory

Town and County, 22 Woodland Street, Hartford

5:30 p.m. Registration & Cocktails (cash bar)
6:15 p.m. Dinner, followed by program

Registration is $20/member, $35/guest or non-member, and includes cash bar, dinner, and presentation. If you have questions please call the HMS office at (860) 586-7573.
Annual Medical Staff/Board Spring Event
June 9 (Thursday)

The Annual Medical Staff-Board Spring Event will be held on Thursday, June 9 from 6:30 p.m. in Heublein Hall.

Part of the event is the Annual Medical Staff Awards, which honor individuals on the Medical Staff who have made exceptional contributions to the medical community. I’m pleased to announce this year’s winners of these awards:

Dr. Subramani Seetharama, John K. Springer Humanitarian Award
Dr. Padmanabhan Premkumar, David Hull, MD Young Practitioner Award
Dr. Elizabeth Deckers and Jenifer Ash, APRN, Quality and Safety Award
Dr. Michael Conway, Distinguished Service Award

Widener on Physician Resiliency Assessment and Response
July 20 (Wednesday)

6-7:30 p.m.

Webinar led by nationally-known speaker by Dr. Christine Sinsky.

From the American Medical Association, focusing on the growing issues of physician burnout and resiliency.

For registration links and additional information, please visit http://csms.org/resiliency

The Hartford Medical Society Presents "The Upcoming Presidential Elections"
Sept 14 (Wednesday)

Presented by Attorney Kevin F. Rennie
Town and County, 22 Woodland Street, Hartford
5:30 p.m. Registration & Cocktails (cash bar)
6:15 p.m. Dinner, followed by program

Registration is $20/member, $35/guest or non-member, and includes cash bar, dinner, and presentation. If you have questions please call the HMS office at (860) 586-7573.

Medical Staff End of Summer Event
September 16 (Friday)

6-9 p.m., New Britain Museum of American Art

Join the Medical Staff Officers and your colleagues from the Hartford Hospital Medical Staff for a unique opportunity to socialize and enjoy each other’s company. More details to follow!

The Hartford Medical Society Presents "Civil War Hospital Newspapers"
Oct 26 (Wednesday)

Presented by Dr. Ira Spar
Town and County, 22 Woodland Street, Hartford
5:30 p.m. Registration & Cocktails (cash bar)
6:15 p.m. Dinner, followed by program
Registration is $20/member, $35/guest or non-member, and includes cash bar, dinner, and presentation. If you have questions please call the HMS office at (860) 586-7573.

The Seymour Street Journal (SSJ) has been developed to communicate key messages pertinent to our hospital's physicians. It will keep you informed and up-to-date on hospital, network, and health care news in a concise, convenient format. The SSJ will be sent to your preferred e-mail address every other Sunday. If you would like to be added to the Seymour Street Journal email list, or to receive it at a different email address, please opt-in at 98.188.110.106/SSJ. This ensures that you will receive the newsletter at your preferred email address. Back issues can be viewed here. For any questions or suggestions, please contact Dr. Stacy Nerenstone, Medical Staff president, at 860-545-3043, or editor Annie Emanuelli at 860-972-2199.