

What's news...

From the Offices of Stuart Markowitz, MD and Stacy Nerenstone, MD

[Free CME for License Renewal](#): Click here for [CME Information](#)

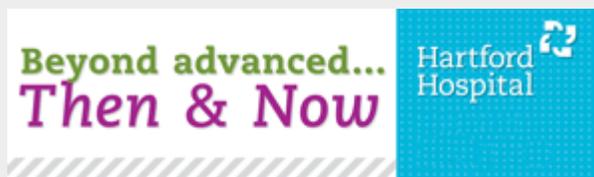
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May 8, 2016

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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*



1971 -- The first total hip replacement in Connecticut was performed at Hartford Hospital by Dr. Herbert Pasternak.

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Chief's Corner

- **Dr. Jack Greene**, Hartford HealthCare Regional Vice President of Medical Affairs for the Hartford Region and Hartford Hospital

Thank a Nurse Today

This week is National Nurses Week, when we take time to honor nurses as critical members of the healthcare team.

Hartford Hospital has more than 1,800 nurses on our staff. Like other hospital care givers, they come to work in storms and on holidays. They sacrifice time with their own families and friends to work to heal others.

Nurses are with our patients, day and night, providing expertise and comfort during some of the most stressful and frightening times of their lives.

This year, the theme of National Nurses Week is "Culture of Safety." Hartford Hospital has embedded this core value in the way we work, and we recognize that our nurses are our most critical line of defense in ensuring patient safety.

Please thank the nurses you work with this week: They literally and figuratively touch our patients' lives and make our work possible.



From the President of the Medical Staff

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

Consider Attending Innovative Program Called "Provider Work Life and Wellness"

Registration Deadline: This Thursday, May 12

Burnout among physicians is a national issue, one that has assumed significant strategic attention by the AMA. Studies support the concept that regaining control of one's professional life as well as a high level of "resilience" are important to combating these challenges.

In response, the American Medical Association has developed a series of on-line modules designed to provide practical strategies to address everyday practice issues (www.stepsforward.org) They are available to members and non-members alike.

On **Tuesday, May 24** from 4:30-8:30 p.m. in Heublein Hall, Dr. Bruce Bagley from the AMA will lead a symposium entitled "Provider Work Life and Wellness" based on this work. The symposium is co-sponsored by the Hartford Hospital Medical Staff with the Connecticut State Medical Society and the Hartford County Medical Association.

The deadline to register is this **Thursday, May 12**. Please consider attending this innovative program by registering on-line at <http://csms.org/2016/01/22/physician-resilience-series/> or via the [attached flyer](#).



From the Hospital President

Dr. Stu Markowitz, Senior VP, HHC, and Hartford Region President

During National Hospital Week, May 8-14, we recognize our entire staff.

Without everyone's contributions, Hartford Hospital would not be the special place that we know it to be.

Thank you. I am proud to be a member of this great team.

Top News

Dr. Orlando Kirton Leaving Hartford Hospital

After more than 16 years of tremendous achievements and dedication, Dr. Orlando Kirton, chief of the Department of Surgery, will be leaving Hartford Hospital to take another step in his career. He will be departing May 15.

We are sincerely grateful for the excellent work he has accomplished at one of the busiest surgical centers in the Northeast. He helped build our hospital's reputation as a destination for innovative and complex care and expanded services not only to our patients but also to our community members.

While at Hartford Hospital, Dr. Kirton held the Ludwig J. Pyrotek, MD, Chair in Surgery and served not only as chief of Surgery but also as associate director of the surgical intensive care unit and chief of Trauma. He led our Level One Trauma Center through its successful recertification by the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma and established the Injury Prevention Center, focusing on domestic violence, elderly falls, geriatric driving and distracted-driving incidents. He currently is chief of the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma for the Level One Trauma Program.

Dr. Kirton revitalized Hartford Hospital's Surgery Department with the creation of the divisions of Bariatric Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Surgical Oncology and Acute-Care Surgery. He was instrumental in bringing robotic surgery here in 2003 and wrote the initial credentialing and quality-control documentation. He also was instrumental in creating an Advanced Practitioner Post-Graduate Fellowship. He has held numerous positions at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

Dr. Kirton's accolades are numerous. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery with additional qualification in Surgical Critical Care and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the American College of Critical Care Medicine and the American College of Chest Physicians, as well as a member of the Society of University Surgeons and the American Surgical Association. In 2009, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Society of Critical Care Medicine for exceptional leadership. In 2013, he received the Civetta Award from the University of Miami School of Medicine and in 2014, the Society of Critical Care Medicine awarded him the Master of Critical Care Medicine distinction. Dr. Kirton has served as president of the Surgical Section of the National Medical Association and on the boards of directors for the Society of Critical Care Medicine, the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma and the National Medical Association. He currently is president of the Society of Black Academic Surgeons.

Dr. Kirton has written extensively and published articles and monologues in peer-reviewed, refereed journals as well as numerous chapters for texts. He completed a physician executive MBA in December of 2015 with emphasis on healthcare strategic decision making, market analysis, Lean-Six Sigma, and health systems' operations.

Dr. Kirton always has had the utmost devotion to the care of his patients and is an outstanding leader and educator within his chosen field. Please join us in thanking him for his extraordinary leadership and wishing him well as he moves forward.

Dr. Jonathan Gates Named Chief of Surgery

Dr. Jonathan D. Gates has been named chief of Hartford Hospital's Department of Surgery, effective June 1, 2016. Dr. Gates comes to us from the Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) in Boston and brings more than 25 years of surgical, research and teaching experience to Hartford Hospital.

Dr. Gates is currently an associate professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School and an associate surgeon in vascular/endovascular surgery and trauma, burns and critical care at BWH. He has been the chief of vascular surgery with the BWH-affiliated West Roxbury VA, the trauma director at BWH for 25 years, and a trauma consultant, as well as a member of the tactical medical teams of the Massachusetts State Police and the FBI.

His leadership positions include reviewer and editorial positions on numerous peer-reviewed journals and member of the board of directors of several companies and foundations as well as medical advisory boards for colleges and training programs. He is an examiner for the American Board of Surgery, a senior trauma reviewer for the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma and a member of numerous trauma and vascular surgical societies and their committees.

His current research interests include surgical leadership training, the introduction of a surgical anatomy curriculum for mid-level surgical residents, the development of a tool for evaluating and maximizing the success of small-team function in high-stress environments and a complete revision of surgical Morbidity and Mortality.

Dr. Gates has been involved in and completed numerous research projects and presentations with his colleagues at BWH and is extensively published in national and international publications. He has been awarded numerous academic and professional accolades, including the BWH Wilson Teaching Award. He also has been named a Top Surgeon in America and among the Best Doctors in America numerous times.

Dr. Gates received his Bachelor of Science from Trinity College in Hartford, his MD from Cornell University Medical College and his MBA from Babson College in Wellesley, Mass. He was a chief resident in surgery, surgical coordinator in surgery and a cardiac surgery Fellow at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston and went on to complete his surgical training as the John Homans Fellow in vascular surgery at BWH. He then completed two years of research training in vascular biology at Harvard Medical School during which time he established the first accredited trauma service at BWH.

As the trauma director and a vascular surgeon, Dr. Gates subsequently ushered the program through nine successful American College of Surgeons verifications, doubled the trauma volume and built a network of BWH-affiliated trauma hospitals in Eastern Massachusetts. He has been a consultant to the Bermuda Hospitals Trauma Program, as well as to numerous hospitals in Massachusetts that wish to become verified trauma centers. He also was the surgical leader for the BWH response to the Haitian earthquake in 2010 and a collaborator with the U.S. Army response to the injured victims.

Capital Campaign Exceeds \$46 Million

Under the leadership of Chair Geo Estes, the campaign for Hartford Hospital has exceeded \$46 million.

Despite challenges in our economy, momentum has continued in the lead phase with the campaign steering committee volunteers and Fund Development staff actively engaged in discussions with prospective donors.

With the Bone & Joint Institute as the focal point, we also are seeking support for other strategic initiatives, such as the Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation; the Brownstone relocation project; and the Neuroscience Institute, among others.

Auxiliary Approves Funding for Special Projects

For spring 2016, the Hartford Hospital Auxiliary approved \$196,329 in grants for the following projects that produce direct tangible benefits to patients and their families:

1. **Brownstone Dental OPD clinic**, wi-fi panic buttons installed in each operatory room
2. **Women's Health Services**, GYN oncology, stand-on scale
3. **Women's Health UROGYN, MOB, AWLC in West Hartford and AWLC in Glastonbury**, stand-on scales
4. **Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation**, "Premature Annie," a realistically proportioned 25-week preterm infant manikin to facilitate training of healthcare professionals
5. **Radiation Oncology**, BreathHold ES device, which allows patients' breath holds to be monitored during treatment
6. **Anxiety Disorder Center**, Virtual Reality treatment, updating system to allow patients to access most current treatments using virtual reality
7. **Transplant and Comprehensive Liver Center**, water bottles and blankets.
8. **Laboratory Phlebotomy**, phlebotomy carts to transport phlebotomists' collecting baskets and a (new)

- acquiring collection manager, which consists of a handheld device and small bar code printer
9. **Transplant Program Comprehensive Liver Center**, bladder scanner and mobility cart
 10. **Radiation Oncology**, blanket warmer
 11. **Cardiology Cardiothoracic Surgery**, GE LOGIQe ultrasound machine
 12. **STAR Team**, gait belts
 13. **The Webb Schools**, sensory-based comfort rooms
 14. **North 9 Neurotrauma stepdown unit**, medical supply cart
 15. **Occupational Health Services/Safe Patient Handling**, transfer devices to transfer patients from bed to chair to bathroom

Obituary: Dr. Robert Flescher

Dr. Robert Flescher, founding member of CTGI and former chief of Gastroenterology at Hartford Hospital, passed away on May 2. He was 79.

He has been part of Department of Medicine for many years.

Dr. Flescher graduated from Stuyvesant High School ('53), Columbia College ('57) and Harvard Medical School ('61). He completed training in internal medicine at Boston City Hospital and University Hospitals in Cleveland, followed by training in gastroenterology at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York. He also served in the U.S. Public Health Service as a Lieutenant Commander.

In 1969, he moved to Connecticut with his family. In Hartford, he began his career as an internal medicine physician and gastroenterologist. His solo private practice (1969-1979) grew into Hartford Gastroenterology and Medical Associates (1979-1995), and then became one of the founding practices of Connecticut Gastroenterology and Medical Associates, which later became Connecticut GI. During his career, Dr. Flescher also served continuously on the medical staff at Hartford Hospital including service as Chief of Gastroenterology.

From 2008 to 2015 he was a mentor for GI fellows at Hartford Hospital and a volunteer physician at the Malta House of Care.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Joyce Weinberger Flescher, his son **Dr. Andrew Michael Flescher**, his daughter **Dr. Ellen Flescher Foxman**, his son-in-law **Dr. Ethan Bradley Foxman**, his sister **Dr. Sharon Flescher**, his sister-in-law Marion Flescher, and his grandchildren Benjamin Theodore Foxman, Samuel Holland Foxman, and Rachel Dalia Foxman.

The family wishes to thank **Dr. Robert Dicks** and all of the people under the roof at Jefferson House for their love and compassion.

[Robert Flescher Obituary - Hartford, CT | Hartford Courant](#)

Plea for Help From Ecuadorian Physicians

By Dr. Maria Jose Velasco

I am an Ecuadorian physician, currently doing my fellowship in Endocrinology at University of Connecticut. I am reaching out for all the help from my past and current programs.

As you may know, on April 16, my country was hit by a strong earthquake of 7.8 Richer magnitude scale, one third of my country was destroyed. There are hundreds of people dead and thousands are still under debris of fallen buildings, other major structures are broke, thousands of people lost their home, thousands are injured. Many places have no electricity, nor water or food.

A group of Ecuadorian physicians completing their training in US, Canada, and other countries are supporting our people by raising money for the Ecuadorian Red Cross, and Archdioceses of Quito, both of which are administrating charitable donations For disaster victims. We all wish to be physically there helping and rescuing our people, but for now this is the only thing we can do to help from far away.

Please help me distributing the link below to the faculty, fellows, and residents of the hospital. The link is self-explanatory, easy to use, and most importantly safe. Any help is greatly appreciated.

Also we have a consulate in New Haven, if you have any medical supplies that you can donate, would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance for your support.

<https://www.gofundme.com/earthquake-Ecuador>

Dr. Len Jacobs Featured in Reuters Article

Dr. Len Jacobs was featured in a Reuters article that was also picked up by Medscape. The piece was called "The Average Bystander Won't Know How to Control Bleeding." [Read it here.](#)

CARING: We Do the Kind Thing-Recognizing Dr McArdle for his kind care

Message from RN in B11i

The nurses on B11I would like to recognize **Dr. John McArdle** for the compassionate care he delivered to a patient last Tuesday.

The patient was extubated to CMO and had no family. Dr. McArdle took the time to sit with him until he passed.

We felt like he really went above and beyond for this patient.

Our Physicians Are Great Sources For Local Media

Dr. Craig Allen was interviewed by FOX CT about the opioid prescription legislation bill.

<https://youtu.be/GqDGy5vsV5k>

Dr. Virginia Bieluch on Fox 61 discussing the mumps: <https://youtu.be/b2GCzBB6WuQ>

Dr. Brian Grosberg did a live interview on NBC CT to promote the Hartford HealthCare Headache Program. <https://youtu.be/BVSWJTKutO0>

Dr. Maximilian Lee, cardiologist at Hartford Hospital, was interviewed by NBC CT for 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.

<https://youtu.be/H-Zk0lYqg4o>

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> Dr. Ross was also interviewed by NBC CT following reports of CT's first case of the Zika virus discovered in a pregnant woman.

<https://youtu.be/At84rtlJJok>

Dr. Andrew Salner on WTIC AM radio and NBC CT to promote a "cut-a-thon" benefitting Hartford Hospital

<https://soundcloud.com/hartford-healthcare/andrew-salner-wtic-april-27-2016/s-PcY0w>

Dr. Ricardo Taboada, Hartford Hospital Pain Treatment Center was interviewed about a new laser treatment for Shingles.

<http://www.wfsb.com/clip/12414517/new-treatment-for-shingles-is-available>

Connect to Healthier on NBC-CT

This week on NBC-CT, our "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/o3V2LGv-zeM>

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.

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>

[Link to contact information across the system: Hartford HealthCare Media Relations Team](#)

Research and Academics

Multidisciplinary Neurovascular Symposium: Updates in Stroke and Carotid Artery Disease

May 21

Saturday, May 21 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Heublein Hall.

Fees:

Hartford HealthCare employees: \$15

Students, residents and fellows: Free

Non-Hartford HealthCare professionals: \$30

Hartford Hospital is accredited by the Connecticut State Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Hartford Hospital designates this live activity for a maximum of 5 *AMA PRA Category 1 credit (s)*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

For more information:

98.188.110.106/NeurovascularSymposium or 1.855.HHC.HERE (1-855-442-4373)

Physician Resilience Series Offered by AMA

CSMS and HCMA have introduced a new educational series from the American Medical Association, focusing on the growing issues of physician burnout and resiliency.

1. **Tuesday, May 24**, 5:30 -8:30 p.m. (dinner and program): Nationally-known speaker Dr. Bruce Bagley will lead *Physician Work Life and Wellness*, a live CME event at Hartford Hospital . There is a fee for this dinner program: \$40 for CSMS members and \$65 for non-members. Registration starts at 4:30 p.m.
2. **Wednesday, July 20**, from 6-7:30 p.m.: *Physician Resiliency Assessment and Response*, a webinar led by **Dr. Christine Sinsky**.

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

Questions? Contact Catherine Wagner, EdD, CSMS VP for Education and Health Information at cwagner@csms.org.

Save the Date: 32nd Annual Cardiovascular Symposium

October 5

Wednesday, October 5

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

Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford

Information and registration: 98.188.110.106/CVSSymposium

Please register for this event by calling 1.855.HHC.HERE (1.855. 422.4373).

Voices of Our Patients

Voices of Our Patients: Kudos to Dr. Jeffrey Baker, Dr. Ross Albert, and HH Staff

The following note was included in the obituary of Judith (Brooks) Schaller, who died on April 22. Dr. Baker is an oncologist, and Dr. Albert is chief of the Division of Palliative Medicine.

"Her family would like to express its deepest gratitude to Dr. Jeffrey Baker and his P.A. Erin, Dr. Ross Albert, and the staffs at Hartford Hospital and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York for the remarkable care and compassion shown to Judi throughout the years of her illness. "

- See more at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/hartfordcourant/obituary.aspx?n=judith-schaller&pid=179730877&#sthash.pWXRllcL.dpuf>

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 (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.



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](#) or [Dr. Jack Ross](#), who will communicate with them to prevent recurrences.

Patient Experience

Patient Experience and Epic: Dealing With Distractions and Issues During Go-Live

This month, MidState Medical Center, Windham Hospital and the HHC MG Specialty practices transitioned to the Epic electronic medical records system as part of CareConnect. Hartford will go live on

At Hartford HealthCare, creating a positive experience for our patients and their loved one is the focus of everything that we do. During our Epic Go Live there can be many distractions and potential issues that may impact the ability to insure a positive experience.

As doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, registrars and so many others, you are the lifeline to our patients. They look to you for safety, compassion, communication and security. If you are feeling frustrated or angry with the computer, our patients will see and feel that and it will frighten them.

You have been training and practicing for many weeks and should be feeling more confident with the Epic implementation. There will be many supports available to you during Go Live to guide you through the process. Our patients and their loved ones should continue to feel safe and secure in our care, despite any potential anxiety we may feel.

Please view this video that was created to portray this important message:

[Click here to watch the video](#)

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 special edition is the Cancer Institute's 2015 Annual Report.

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.

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.

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](#).

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 be 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@HHCHHealth.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@HHCHHealth.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

HHC Rehab Network welcomes Therapeia Lymphedema Center to Meriden

Southington Patch, May 5

Hartford HealthCare Rehabilitation Network recently announced that the Therapeia Lymphedema Center team has joined staff at the Meriden office.

"Since it opened in 2004, Therapeia Lymphedema Center has become a regional destination for over 1,000 individuals in need of lymphedema care," said Chris Carlin, vice president of operations, Hartford HealthCare Rehabilitation Network. "... the partnership allows us to integrate additional expert, certified lymphedema specialists into our network and expand our specialty rehabilitation services in Meriden."

The addition of these team members and expanded program will improve the access for patients in need of lymphedema services, enhance specialty service offerings, and increase the sharing of best practices within the health care network.

For more information, call 203.235.9622 or visit HHCRehabNetwork.org.

In the HHC System

Five CT hospital systems in the red for FY 2015

Hartford Business Journal, April 27

The parent companies of St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center and Manchester Memorial and Rockville

General hospitals were among at least five Connecticut hospital systems that lost money in fiscal 2015.

St. Francis Care Inc., which was recently purchased by Michigan-based Trinity Health and is parent to St. Francis Hospital and myriad other health and rehab service providers, posted an overall \$14.1 million loss (-1.75 margin) in fiscal 2015, compared to a \$12.7 million surplus a year earlier, according to recently released data by the state Office of Health Care Access. It did, however, report a \$3.4 million operating surplus, for an operating margin of 0.43 percent.

Eastern Connecticut Health Network, owner of the Manchester and Rockville hospitals as well as a nursing home, physician groups, real estate company, and visiting nurse association, posted a \$2.5 million overall loss (-0.80 percent margin) in fiscal 2015, compared to a slight \$46,970 surplus a year earlier. ECHN's operating loss was smaller at \$280,450 (-0.09 percent margin).

Hartford Healthcare, parent to five acute-care providers including Hartford Hospital, the Hospital of Central Connecticut and MidState Medical Center, posted a \$16.6 million surplus last year, compared to a \$103.5 million surplus in fiscal 2014. Its overall margin was 0.68 percent, and its operating margin was 1.23 percent based on an operating surplus of \$30 million.

[Read more here.](#)

Health Care News In the Region

Aetna CEO: Out-Of-Pocket Costs Causing People To Forgo Care

Hartford Courant, April 28

For all the emphasis on getting physician practices and hospitals to share in the responsibility to reduce unnecessary health care spending, Aetna CEO Mark Bertolini said Thursday that those efforts aren't having much impact on medical spending.

Speaking to analysts on Thursday morning, Bertolini noted that most of the cost containment reflected in Aetna's first quarter financials can be traced to the way deductibles and co-pays influence patients' decisions to seek care at all, he said.

"Four hundred dollars for the average American to cover out-of-pocket services is a lot of money," Bertolini said.

Bertolini said that most of the Accountable Care Organization payment shift has been at Medicare Advantage, and that commercial plans are less likely to move in that direction.

[Read more here.](#)

Hot Topics in Health Care

Performance measures put heat on hospitals

Healthcare Dive, May 5

This year has seen a bevy of new programs and initiatives aimed at moving providers toward a value-based model of care.

In February, HHS Secretary Sylvia Mathews announced a major commitment by healthcare companies and organizations to support interoperability and ease use of electronic health records. Then on April 1, CMS launched its Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement Model, which will test bundled payment and quality measurement for hip and knee replacements and other major leg procedures. And just weeks ago, the agency unveiled its largest-ever strategy to change primary care delivery and payment in the U.S. - a proposed final rule that will implement the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) under which providers can choose to participate in the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) or in certain alternative payment models.

All of these programs, spurred by the Affordable Care Act, aim to improve the quality and coordination of patient care while reducing healthcare costs, but at what price to the providers who must document and report the myriad performance measures the government is requesting?

[Read more here.](#)

Coming Events

The Hartford Medical Society Presents "Evoking Emotion in Painting: Lessons Learned in Cognitive Psychology and Neuroscience"

May 11 (Wednesday)

Presented by Dr. Robert Schweizer

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.

Multidisciplinary Neurovascular Symposium: Updates in Stroke and Carotid Artery Disease

May 21

Saturday, May 21 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Heublein Hall.

Fees:

Hartford HealthCare employees: \$15

Students, residents and fellows: Free

Non-Hartford HealthCare professionals: \$30

Hartford Hospital is accredited by the Connecticut State Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Hartford Hospital designates this live activity for a maximum of 5 *AMA PRA Category 1 credit (s)*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

For more information:

98.188.110.106/NeurovascularSymposium or 1.855.HHC.HERE (1-855-442-4373)

Physician Work Life and Wellness Dinner Program

May 24 (Tuesday)

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

4:30 -8:30 p.m. (registration, dinner and program)

Nationally-known speaker Dr. Bruce Bagley will lead *Physician Work Life and Wellness*, a live CME dinner event at Hartford Hospital.

There is a fee for this dinner program: \$40 for CSMS members and \$65 for non-members.

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

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 6-8:30 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.