

Seymour Street Journal



What's news...

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

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*"Wherever the art of medicine is loved,
there is also a love of humanity."*

- Hippocrates

1984: The first successful heart transplant in Connecticut was done at Hartford Hospital by Dr. Henry B.C. Low.

Follow Hartford Hospital on [facebook](#), [youtube](#) and [twitter](#)

Chief's Corner

- [Dr. Jack Greene](#), Hartford HealthCare Regional Vice President of Medical Affairs for the Hartford Region and Hartford Hospital

Just Ask Us!

We have put in place a dedicated email box for the medical staff, called "Ask Jack." The emails will be picked up each day, and I will be responsible for making sure that you receive feedback. Send your concerns to askjack@hhchealth.org.

In addition, there is a dedicated email box to ask questions of [Dr. Stu Markowitz](#). Send your questions or comments to StuandYou@hhchealth.org, and you'll get a response from Stu within 10 days.

Epic Upgrade Training for Providers

Dr. Rocco Orlando III, HHC Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer

On July 22, HHC will upgrade to the 2017 version of Epic.

Providers will notice changes in the look and feel of the system while workflows remain the same.

Beginning July 3, role-specific PowerPoints calling out the changes will be pushed to each provider's Learning Home Dashboard in Epic. Your Learning Home Dashboard is specific to your medical specialty.

Additionally, logins to the PLY practice version will be listed at the end of the powerpoints. Tip sheets to assist with logging into the playground will be available. It is strongly suggested that you log in to playground prior to the upgrade since changes in fonts, colors, and layout may lead to some

confusion about the location of various activities. Exercise books will also be available on the learning home dashboard. Short 5-10 minute videos will also be made available.

Provider Super Users should attend a VMR session to see changes and ask questions. The sessions are open to any interested providers. Schedules will be posted on classman.net/providertraining and in HealthStream. When you go to classman the default calendar will show the current months list of classes. You may need to change the date to the July calendar to see the classes. Sessions are occurring mostly during the July 6-14 time frame and are named:

Sessions will be named:

Orders: Super User Upgrade Training: Inpatient Provider
July 6, 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.; July 7, 7 a.m. and 12 p.m.; July 10, 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Ambulatory: Super User Upgrade Training: Outpatient Clinical
July 6, 11 and 13, 12 p.m. and 5 p.m. each day

Beacon: Super User Upgrade Training: Oncology
July 7, 12 and 14, 7 a.m. and 12 p.m. each day

Cupid: Super User Upgrade Training: Cardiology
July 5 at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. ; and July 12 at 8 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Radiant: Super User Upgrade Training: Radiologist
July 11 at 12 p.m.

Anesthesia: Super User Upgrade Training: Anesthesia
July 13 at 8 a.m. and 12 p.m.

ASAP: Super User Upgrade Training: Emergency Dept Provider
July 6 at 3 p.m.; and July 7 at 9 a.m.

Epic Tip Sheet: Patient Header: Changes on June 20

Please read the important information below on changes to the patient header.

1. My Sticky Note: For My Eyes Only

New: Clinicians can now record non-clinical data in a personal My Sticky Note, keeping non-vital information apart from notes about a patient's health. Each clinician who opens a patient's chart has their own sticky note to use and clinicians **cannot** see each other's sticky notes. The My Sticky Note is in addition to the current sticky note (in the summary activity) which is a shared note with the treatment team.

How it works:

My Sticky Note can be found in the patient header.

To create your own My Sticky Note:

1. Click the My Sticky Note icon
 - a. The sticky note window will open
2. Type your private note. You have a maximum of 500 characters
3. To save your note, click the 'X' in the upper right-hand corner
 - a. To minimize your note, click the double carets
 - b. To move your open note to the upper right-hand corner of your screen, click the right facing arrow

To delete your My Sticky Note:

1. Double-click on your My Sticky Note icon
 - a. The sticky note window will open
2. Highlight your comment
3. Hit Delete on the keyboard

This note will automatically appear whenever the clinician accesses the patient's chart - inpatient or outpatient encounters.

Note: while not part of the legal medical record, the note will create an electronic footprint that

is discoverable.

Updated to more accurately reflect the patient arrival anywhere in our facility.

2. Admit Date/Time changed to Arrival Date/Time

Updated to more accurately reflect the patient arrival anywhere in our facility.

Epic Tip Sheet

Adding an Interval Note from Scanned Documentation

This tip sheet demonstrates how to add an Interval Note from a scanned document. Patients scheduled for surgery are required to have an H&P completed and an H&P Interval note written on the day of surgery. If the H&P was completed within the previous 30 days, the surgeon may do an Interval Note acknowledging whether or not there were changes to the original note.

Viewing a Scanned H&P, Progress or Procedure Note

1. Go to the Multi-Provider Schedule.
2. Find the patient and open their chart. Make sure the appropriate schedule is selected.
3. Go to the Chart Review activity.
4. Select the Notes tab.
5. Open the scanned note by "double clicking" the row. Anything in the Notes tab meets the requirements such as: H&P, Consult or Progress note within the last 30 days can be used as a potential Pre-Op H&P.
6. Review the note to make sure that it is appropriate to use as your Interval Note. NOTE: You must review the scanned note by opening it in Chart Review in order for it appear in the H&P Interval Notes section of the Prep for Surgery navigator.

Adding an Interval Note: Pre-op H&P

1. Go to the Prep for Surgery activity.
2. Select H&P Interval Notes from the table of contents.
3. Select the appropriate note to use. It's the surgeon's responsibility to decide which note to use.
4. Click "Add Interval." If a scanned note is opened and read in Chart Review, it will trigger the + Add Interval button to appear.
5. Press F2 on your keyboard and select the appropriate SmartList for your patient. (RESIDENTS: If your note requires a cosign by the attending or supervising provider, the Cosign Required box should already be pre-checked for you. If not, check the Cosign Required box, then search for the provider that needs to cosign your note.)
6. When finished documenting, click Accept.

Dr. Rocco Orlando Comments on Senate Health Care Bill

Hartford Courant

Senate Republicans Thursday released health care legislation that contains deeper cuts to Medicaid than the House bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, further alarming Connecticut hospitals and policymakers. More than one in five Connecticut residents rely on Medicaid, the federal insurance program for low-income and disabled individuals. Connecticut was the first state to expand Medicaid through the Affordable Care Act, and stands to lose as much as \$1 billion a year in federal funds if the health care legislation is adopted. Hospitals were bracing for the potential cuts to Medicaid.

"The impact on Connecticut is particularly dangerous and harmful because of the cuts we've seen at the state level," said **Rocco Orlando, senior vice president and chief medical officer for Hartford**

HealthCare. "It really adds insult to injury and really threatens our ability as providers to provide care for this vulnerable population."

Orlando said Connecticut could stand to lose additional Medicaid dollars because the state never fully reimbursed hospitals under the controversial state hospital tax.

"By returning the tax money to the hospitals, the state would have reaped additional federal dollars," he said. "By not receiving those Medicaid dollars that lowers the base rate for which future Medicaid calculations would be based."

From the President of the Medical Staff

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

Join Us at the Medical Staff "End of Summer Event" September 27

6-9 p.m., New Britain Museum of American Art, 56 Lexington Street, New Britain, CT

Join your colleagues from the Hartford Hospital Medical Staff on Wednesday, September 27 for an amazing evening at the New Britain Museum of American Art.

You and your guest are invited to join the Officers and other members of the Hartford Hospital Medical Staff for this special evening as a unique opportunity for members of the Medical Staff to socialize and enjoy each other's company.

You will have exclusive admission to the gallery spaces including the works of Howard Pyle, Frederic Rodrigo Gruger, N. C. Wyeth, Norman Rockwell, to name a few.

The evening will feature appetizers, small plates bursting with bold flavors and sweet endings as well as wine, beer and other beverages. Brought to you by Riverhouse Catering.

\$50 per person.

To reserve your space by credit card: call Cathleen Aquino at 860.972.6167 or Luisa Machado at 860.972.3013

To reserve your space by check: drop off at 85 Jefferson Street, JB 114, or mail to Medical Staff Office, Hartford Hospital, 80 Seymour Street, PO Box 5037, Hartford, CT 06102-5037

Please respond by September 10.

From the Hospital President

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

We Face Challenging Times, But Are Ideally Positioned For Great Success

In the face of so much uncertainty surrounding the healthcare debates at the federal level and the financial decisions yet to be made at the state and city levels, Hartford Hospital continues to move forward.

We are pleased to report continued volume growth in key strategic areas, increasing access to care,

quality improvement, and enhancement of the patient experience. The month of May showed particularly strong growth in the Bone & Joint Institute (BJI) and the Heart and Vascular Institute (HVI). The BJI had a 73 percent increase in procedures compared to May 2016. We are working to expand our operating room capacity and will complete the construction of OR 9 and 10 this summer. The HVI had a record surgical month, exceeding budget by 41 cases and growing by 57 cases year over year. The number of valve procedures, TAVRs and peripheral vascular procedures continues to increase.

Our transfer center also continues its growth trend with 561 transfers in May, an increase of 12 percent year over year. In addition, admissions from the ED were the highest since January, reflecting the severity of the illnesses we are seeing. Our outpatient volume is growing as we make more services available in local communities. One example is our Headache Center, which has expanded locations, increasing the availability of neurological services across our regions.

Our focus on quality improvement remains constant. Mortality has decreased to below expectations for the last two reported months, and the number of serious safety events is continuing to decrease. This month, we exceeded our interval between serious safety events with a more than two-month interval. Just a short time ago, these were weekly occurrences. Over the last four months, we've seen a downward trend in postoperative sepsis, lung punctures, postoperative falls, pressure ulcers, bloodstream infections, blot clots, postoperative wound issues, and operative punctures and lacerations.

Through dedication and teamwork, we also continue to improve length of stay. Providing patients with an exceptional experience while under our care has now taken on even greater strategic focus. In support of this goal, we are continuing to look for opportunities to modernize and renovate our facilities. We also have adopted "Catering to You," Compass One's patient dining service, which provides each patient with a catering associate who works with the nutrition, nursing and food staffs to help ensure each patient receives appropriate and satisfying meals. Our cafeteria has been renovated to make dining a more pleasant experience for visitors and staff.

"Every Moment Matters" trains and encourages our staff to make every encounter with patients, family members and coworkers an experience that has an impact. We also recently launched across Hartford HealthCare our "Momentum" program which enables staff members to recognize and praise one another on a mobile app platform, bringing simplicity and increasing opportunity to enable everyone to recognize exceptional performance and increase everyone's sense of being appreciated for the work they do.

In addition to growing in direct patient care areas, our research and training programs remain strong. This month, we held our ribbon-cutting ceremony for the expansion of our Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation, which is increasingly becoming a national and international destination for training, research and product development. The expansion adds laboratories that take training to a new level, truly making CESI among the best centers in the country. CESI also is a research hub, working with high-tech firms from throughout the country and around the globe to develop new products and treatments to improve patient safety and outcomes. CESI not only draws technology companies to the city and state but also is critical in our attracting and retaining some of the best medical talent in the nation.

Hartford Hospital looks to the future as a recognized leader on so many fronts, including clinical care, education, training, research, simulation, and innovation. Although we face challenging times, we are ideally positioned with all of Hartford HealthCare for great success in the years to come.

As always, thank you for your support and vision.

Top News

Hartford HealthCare Partners with Stanson for Real-Time Clinical Decision Support, Analytics

PR Newswire

Hartford HealthCare will implement Stanson Health's Clinical Decision Support and Stanson Analytics. Stanson Health is a next-generation Clinical Decision Support (CDS) and analytics company.

"With Stanson we saw an opportunity to help our clinicians make better, more appropriate treatment decisions for their patients during visits," said **Rocco Orlando**, MD, Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for Hartford HealthCare.

"Stanson Clinical Decision Support will analyze ordering provider treatment choices in real-time, in our electronic health record and when appropriate suggest evidence-based recommendations to ensure better outcomes for our patients at a lower cost. In addition, internal and external benchmarks provided by their analytics will give our providers a sense of how well they compare to others."

Stanson is leading the health technology movement from systems that report historical data to systems that provide clinicians patient-specific, real-time advice at the point of care. This technology supports every patient visit, giving health systems the ability to have an immediate, significant impact. Stanson makes it easy for providers to make better treatment decisions for their patients in real time. Stanson helps health system executives reduce care variation and align clinicians with health system strategy. This benefits the patient, provider and the system. Customers are supported with their fee for service business and their journey to value-based care.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/hartford-healthcare-partners-with-stanson-for-real-time-clinical-decision-support-analytics-300476221.html>

Annual Medical Staff Awards Given at the Medical Staff-Board Spring Event

The annual Medical Staff-Board Spring Event was held June 8. Part of the event is the Annual Medical Staff Awards, which honor individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the medical community:

- **Dr. Robin Deutsch** and **Dr. Amre Nouh** received the David Hull, MD, Young Practitioner Awards
- **Dr. John McArdle** received the John K. Springer Humanitarian Award.
- **Patricia Veronneau**, RN, MSN, received the Clinician in Philanthropy Award.
- **Dr. R. Frederic Knauff** received the Distinguished Service Award.
- **Dr. Adam Steinberg** received the Quality and Safety Award.

HHC has 31 of *Connecticut Magazine's* Top Docs

Thirty-three Hartford HealthCare physicians were among Connecticut Magazine's Top Docs this year.

The magazine sent out more than 5,000 questionnaires to doctors in the state asking where they would send a loved one for expert medical advice.

This year's survey focused on eight specialties: anesthesiology, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology and hematology, otolaryngology, physical medicine, radiology, rheumatology, and colorectal cancer.

This pushes Hartford HealthCare's total to 203 doctors on the Top Docs list of 811 doctors in 31 specialties since 2014.

HH Team First in CT To Repair Complex Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm With Thoracic Branched Endograft

Hartford Hospital delivered another first in the state when a team of vascular surgeons, cardiac surgeons, and cardiovascular anesthesiologists successfully repaired a complex thoracic aortic

aneurysm using a novel Thoracic Branched Endograft as part of an exclusive research trial.

The operating team was led by **Dr. Thomas Divinagracia**, chief of Vascular Surgery and institutional principal investigator for this trial.

Hartford Hospital is one of only three institutions in New England that have been accepted into the Thoracic Branched Endograft Trial. This is the first device that allows surgeons to repair life-threatening aortic aneurysms in the upper chest using a 100 percent minimally invasive approach.

The patient went home in good condition on postoperative day three after receiving the endograft through pinhole incisions in his skin. This technology opens the door to innovative treatment options of the future.

HHC Cancer Institute Launches Patient Testimonial Campaign

Great care, close to home is the message of the new set of print ads, videos and web page from the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute. The ads feature real patients who have received care from Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institutes around the state from Avon to Backus.

As charter member of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Alliance the HHC Cancer Institute is able to provide our patients with state-of-the-art cancer care close to home, and provide a higher level of care when needed.

Look for the print ads in The Day, Norwich Bulletin, Meriden Record Journal, Bristol Press and Hartford Courant. Read more about the HHC Cancer Institute campaign and its services at www.hartfordhealthcare.org/cancer

Hartford Hospital CESI Teams With Medical Device Firm to Share Ideas, Technology

Hartford Business Journal

The Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation at Hartford Hospital (CESI) and Innovative Medical Products of Plainville have entered a cooperative relationship to share ideas and technologies that support simulation-based surgical training, including developments that promote patient safety. CESI offers robotic and advanced technology training to medical providers from many medical specialties. About 11,000 practitioners come through the center every year.

Innovative Medical Products designs and manufactures patient medical devices for healthcare and sports-related surgeries. IMP provides patient-positioning accuracy to a surgical procedure including robotic and computer-assisted surgeries.

The cooperative effort will give CESI access to IMP's portfolio of patient-positioning devices, as well as the opportunity to work with IMP on developing positioning equipment specifically related to CESI's simulation-based training needs. IMP will be able to meet CESI's broad range of clients interested in the latest advancements in surgical procedures including patient-positioning solutions.

CESI Expansion Will Enhance Staff Training to Handle Mass Casualties

Becker's Hospital Review

Hartford HealthCare plans to nearly double the size of its Center for Education Simulation and Innovation at Hartford Hospital as part of an effort to expand medical training to handle mass casualties.

"We have trained the Israeli Red Cross, we have relationships with the United States Navy and Army, and all first responders. CESI is one of the nation's leaders," said Jeffrey Flaks, COO of Hartford

HealthCare. He said the Center for Education Simulation and Innovation at Hartford Hospital provides the most realistic training scenarios for first-line responders in the U.S. and around the world.

The expansion to Hartford Hospital will include a four-patient suite where clinicians will receive training on how to take care of multiple patients at once. There will also be a tissue lab where surgeons can practice procedures and map out surgeries in advance with robots, according to the report.

"The technology is absolutely world class, state of the art," said Mr. Flaks

<http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/facilities-management/expansion-at-hartford-hospital-will-enhance-staff-training-to-handle-mass-casualties.html>

Radiology Department Adds Two New State-of-the-art CT Scanners

Hartford Hospital's Radiology Department now has two new, state-of-the-art CT scanners, which will reduce patient wait times and provide our staff with better images for better surgical planning.

The GE Revolution CT will allow us to perform state-of-the-art cardiac angiography and will play an important role in TAVR protocol technology.

The second scanner, the GE Revolution HD, will improve image quality for patients with metal implants and is compliant with the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, allowing for a broader range of use with patients.

HH Taking Steps To improve Patients' Perception of The Care They Receive

Hartford Hospital is taking several actions to improve the patient's perception of the care they receive, to improve communication and care coordination, and to improve our HCAHPS scores.

It has been shown that ease of access to providers, privacy and the physical environment affect the patient experience.

The creation of the Bone & Joint Institute and the movement of beds to the new facility have given us a unique opportunity to realign patient care units and refresh some facilities. Our bed reorganization plan is well underway with several of our planned moves completed. Phase 1 will be completed in June and includes a 10 percent increase in private beds (including 87 percent in surgery and neurosciences), better coordination and increased privacy for Heart and Vascular Institute population, and improved critical care alignment to enhance the patient experience and throughput of patients.

Additionally, nearly 80 percent of our medicine beds will be together in the Conklin Building. Our goal is to refurbish all patient areas by the end of FY 2018.

Hartford Hospital Adopts "Catering To You" Patient Dining Service

Hartford Hospital has adopted "Catering to you," Compass One's patient dining service designed specifically to support patients' health, quality of life, and the recovery process during hospitalization.

After admission or before the first meal, each patient is greeted by his or her catering associate and introduced to the Catering to You service. The catering associate is consistently assigned to the same unit, subsequently becoming part of the nursing team, working closely with nursing, registered dietitians and the patient.

Over the course of each day, the catering associate visits his or her patients several times and takes meal orders and special requests. The catering associate sees the patient when the tray is delivered, during catering rounds, and when the tray is picked up.

HH One of Top Three Enrolling Centers in the World for VEST Trial

Hartford Hospital is one of the top three enrolling centers in the world for the VEST trial, a study examining the benefits of wearing a defibrillator vest after a patient has suffered significant heart damage following a heart attack.

Dr. Steven Zweibel is the principal investigator in the study.

The results from the trial are expected at the end of this year with presentation at the American College of Cardiology meeting early next year.

HHC to Open One of Two Walk-in Medical Centers in Meriden This Summer

Record Journal

Hartford HealthCare, the parent company of **MidState Medical Center**, is opening a health care center at 498 S. Broad St. in late summer. The new health care center is in partnership with Go-Health Urgent Care and is part of Hartford HealthCare's efforts to make urgent care more accessible and convenient. The urgent care center will operate seven days a week with extended evening hours. The Meriden center is one of several planned in the state..

In addition, MedExpress, a national walk-in medical center, plans to open at 875 E. Main St. in August. The walk-in will be the second of seven centers MedExpress plans to open in the state. A MedExpress in Derby is expected to open in July. The West Virginia-based company has 200 urgent care centers in 16 states.

PHILANTHROPY NEWS

• CESI Receives SBM Charitable Foundation Grant

The SBM Charitable Foundation, Inc. has awarded \$9,995 to Hartford HealthCare's Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation (CESI).

The grant will cover the costs of purchasing eight arterial and venous patient training arms and accompanying consumable supplies to enable medical personnel to train and perfect skills associated with intravenous and arterial insertions.

CESI is under the leadership of **Steven Shichman, MD**, executive director; **Thomas Nowicki, MD**, medical director; and **Stephen Donahue**, program director.

• HH's Mobile Mammography Program Awarded Grants of \$96,000

Take the Time, Hartford Hospital's mobile mammography program, has been awarded grants for \$59,800 from Susan G. Komen New England and \$36,160 from Pink Aid Inc. The grants will support mobile screening mammography, diagnostic mammography, and navigation services for the underserved population. The mobile mammography program is a life-saving outreach program within Hartford Hospital's Breast Care Department.

• HH Receives Grant for Brownstone Clinic

Hartford Hospital was awarded a \$25,000 grant from Bank of America in support of the Brownstone Clinic.

• HH Receives Grant for Pancreatic Cancer Programs

Hartford Hospital received two grants totaling \$53,500 from The Ron Foley Foundation to support pancreatic cancer programs.

The foundation awarded \$7,500 for Ask the Experts public education sessions and \$46,000 toward a cyst registry for pancreatic cancer research.

The Ron Foley Foundation's mission is to support pancreatic cancer research, raise awareness of pancreatic cancer, and provide patient aid.

Excellence

HHC Cancer Institute Accredited as an Integrated Network Cancer Program

The Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute has met or exceeded all national standards required by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and has been accredited as an Integrated Network Cancer Program, which only a small percentage of cancer centers achieve.

This accreditation typically is given to hospitals, but because of the institute's cohesiveness, physician involvement, and consistent standards of care across the system, the cancer institute, which includes all HHC hospitals, received one overall accreditation.

The accreditation focused on 34 standards, 31 of which the institute met and three of which surpassed expectations: clinical research, nursing care and accuracy of data.

HHC Tallwood Urology and Kidney Institute Raise \$111,000 at ZERO Prostate Cancer Run

Congratulations to Hartford HealthCare Tallwood Urology and Kidney Institute and Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute for a successful ZERO Prostate Cancer Run. ZERO is a national not for profit organization with the mission of eliminating prostate cancer.

They asked Hartford Healthcare Tallwood Urology and Kidney Institute to be the host for the only race in Connecticut. The event was held at the new baseball stadium in Hartford and more than \$111,000 was raised. A significant portion of the funds will support our nationally recognized prostate cancer research and our local prostate cancer education and support programs. Thanks to all who made this a success.

HH Achieves Stroke Elite Plus Award

For the first time ever, Hartford Hospital has achieved the Stroke Elite Plus Award, the highest award status available from the American Hospital Association.

We have repeatedly achieved the Gold Plus Award, but this is a milestone for our stroke care program. We are extremely proud of this achievement and the work and commitment of our team.

Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program Comprehensive Center

Hartford Hospital has been reaccredited through March 2020 as a Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program Comprehensive Center by the American College of Surgeons and the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery.

The review stated: "This center takes the concept of quality improvement further than most centers. They perform a careful analysis of all identified issues and then create a robust solution that allows ongoing monitoring of their intervention."

Dr. Paul Thompson Lectures at Columbia

Dr. Paul D. Thompson, chief of Cardiology at Hartford Hospital, lectured at the Columbia University Micronutrient Symposium in New York City on June 17, on "Co Q10 to Treat Statin Myopathy. Good Idea, But...."

Department of Preventive Cardiology Study Highlighted in TIME Magazine

A study conducted by researchers from the Department of Preventive Cardiology at Hartford Hospital was highlighted in the June 19 hard copy issue of TIME Magazine in the "Data, This Just In" section, which describes the week's most talked-about studies.

The study's lead author was **Gregory Panza, MS** from Hartford Hospital and UConn, and co-authors were **Beth Taylor, PhD** from Hartford Hospital and UConn, **C. Michael White**, PharmD from Hartford Hospital and UConn, **Paul Thompson, MD** from Hartford Hospital, and **Linda Pescatello, PhD** from UConn.

The electronic version can be accessed with a TIME Magazine subscription which sends a link directly to the published article. Below is a link to the issue. <https://backissues.time.com/storefront/2017/the-swamp-hotel/prodTD20170619.html>

The published article can be accessed here:

<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1359105317691589>

John McNab Receives Physician Assistant of the Year Award

John McNab was awarded the inaugural Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants (ConnAPA) Physician Assistant of the Year Award on June 7th. This is awarded for the outstanding service he provides to our patients, colleagues, and our community.

Patient Experience Council Asking Physicians To Submit Best Practices

Hartford HealthCare is taking another step to help ensure that best practices are shared throughout the system to improve patient outcomes and the overall patient experience.

The HHC Patient Experience Council is asking physicians and other caregivers to submit best practices for review.

Council leaders from throughout the system will evaluate entries and then share the results at the next system-wide patient experience conference.

Hartford Hospital Fellows Win Choosing Wisely Challenge from Society of Nuclear Cardiology

Felix Krainski and Besiana Liti, two Hartford Hospital fellows who are under the supervision of **Dr. Lane Duvall**, won the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology's Choosing Wisely Challenge for projects designed to improve the safety and cost of nuclear imaging.

Hartford Hospital was the only hospital in the nation to win the award.

Drs. Premkumar and Nascimento Win Aldo Balucci Award

Drs. Padmanabhan Premkumar and **Jeffrey Nascimento** have been named the Aldo Balucci award winner.

The citation for the Aldo Belucci Faculty Teaching Award is as follows: *"This award has been created to recognize member(s) of the Attending staff at Hartford Hospital deemed by interns and residents of the University of Connecticut Internal Medicine Residency Program to be an outstanding teacher, unselfish, and dedicated to the education of the house-staff"*.

Dr. Paul Thompson Discusses Cardiac Rehab in *Today's Geriatric Medicine*

Current guidelines strongly recommend that patients who have survived a heart attack begin moderate exercise within two weeks after the event. New research from Columbia University, however, shows that fewer than one in five survivors are actually getting that needed activity.

Previous research has shown that there is a slightly higher risk of heart attack and sudden death during exercise. But in the end, says **Paul D. Thompson, MD**, who was not involved in the new study, the benefits far outweigh the small risks.

Previous research has suggested that referral rates fall under 20% for women and older patients, who are less likely than men to be referred.⁶⁻⁸ Without a referral, "most patients don't know what to do," Thompson says.

Regarding the type of activity to recommend, Thompson says patients should generally focus on moderate aerobic activity, such as brisk walking. According to Thompson's own research, people who engage in heavy exercise after a heart attack typically did not do as well as those who opted for only moderate exercise. "Just looking at epidemiologic data, you get the most out of doing some; you get diminishing returns as you do more and more," he explains.

Dr. Harold Schwartz Comments on The Politics Of Anger

Hartford Courant

Among some of his patients, Dr. **Harold Schwartz**, psychiatrist-in-chief at the Institute of Living, sees a sense that "the standards of civil behavior and the standards of how government institutions should work ... are eroding."

"Are these people influenced by the things that happen around them? There is no question," Schwartz said.

Democrats, and some Republicans, have said President Donald Trump has accelerated the breakdown in discourse.

"While the political rhetoric and intolerance between parties has been increasing for years, there's no question that the rhetoric was ratcheted up enormously during the 2016 campaign by a candidate who gloried in his bullying behavior and talked about a desire to see people in the audience who might have been heckling him punched out," Schwartz said.

Hartford Hospital Researchers Studying Pot Smoking And Driving

A team of researchers at Hartford Hospital's Olin Neuropsychiatry Research Center at the Institute of Living are giving marijuana to volunteer pot smokers and then having them operate virtual motor vehicles as part of federally-funded tests to see what happens to people when they smoke pot and drive.

The researchers are trying to develop a reliable roadside test cops can use to determine if someone is driving while under the influence of pot.

<http://www.courant.com/health/hc-marijuana-studies-hartford-hospital-20170403-story.html>

Research and Academics

Clinical Trials Being Offered at HHC

Research is a critical aspect of our being the destination for innovative and complex care.

Through our membership in the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Alliance, Hartford HealthCare is now offering more than 20 clinical trials to our patients, giving them access to innovative new treatments right here at home.

Our Neuroscience Center also is offering a number of clinical trials in our overall efforts to improve patient outcomes.

Accepting New Patients? We Can Help

Help New Patients Find You

Hartford HealthCare offers physicians a free powerful tool to help reach potential patients. The system-wide "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.

Operational Update

Systemwide Annual Required Learning Must Be Completed By Aug. 28

For the first time ever, every Hartford HealthCare employee will complete the same online learning courses on a consistent schedule with the same expectations no matter where you work in our system.

Required courses are posted in HealthStream now and **must be completed by Aug. 28, 2017**.

With every HHC employee using **HealthStream** for online learning, it will be easier to ensure that we are always learning and improving together so we can provide the best care to the patients, families and communities that depend on us.

We are very excited to have finally reached this point in Hartford HealthCare's journey to become the region's most coordinated healthcare system. Here are some important things to know:

- New courses will be interactive and more engaging.
- New courses can be completed much more quickly than before.
- Failure to complete required courses by Aug. 28 will result in suspension and could potentially lead to termination.
- Additional, job-specific courses may be assigned by individual organizations.

To find this year's required courses, visit the [eLearning](#) page of HHC Connect and click the log in button on the right side of the page. Use your network user ID and password to log in. The page includes detailed trouble-shooting instructions for those who may have trouble logging in.

If you have questions, please contact Eric Bennett at eric.bennett@hhchealth.org.

Patients in Need of Financial Assistance

Do you know a patient who is in need of financial assistance?

Hartford HealthCare can provide help to patients in need. Learn more about the program and how to assist patients on HHC Connect: <https://intranet.hartfordhealthcare.org/inside-hhc/patient-support>

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.

Improving Doctor-to-Doctor Communication: TigerText

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](#) 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.

Hartford Hospital Media Coverage

Media Coverage Wrap-Up

Dr. Craig Allen on NBC CT/Tiger Woods arrest: https://youtu.be/ZjZhi8iJi_s

Dr. Craig Allen on WTIC AM/Opioid prescriptions <https://soundcloud.com/hartford-healthcare/craig-allen-wtic-june-20-2017/s-RQiBe>

Dr. Ryan Dorin on WTIC AM radio discussing prostate cancer and promoting the ZERO Prostate Cancer Walk/Run
<https://soundcloud.com/hartford-healthcare/zero-prostate-wtic-interview-06062017/s-hoa4Q>

Dr. Laura Saunders on FOX CT/Gender Identity <https://youtu.be/OOFqZd6xVbY>

Dr. Laura Saunders on Ch. 3/arrest of juvenile for killing an animal <https://youtu.be/wRAXli0GGOo>

Coverage from special opening of the CESI expansion:

WTNH, Ch. 8: <http://wtnh.com/2017/06/13/expansion-in-hartford-hospital-allows-for-mass-casualty-training/>

WFSB, Ch. 3: <https://youtu.be/FWdAFKjP5Gs>

13 Reasons Why: A Panel Discussion WFSB, Ch. 3: <https://youtu.be/IFRnnCnRvF4>

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.

New option in orthopedics

Joint degeneration due to osteoarthritis can be debilitating. But patients don't have to live in pain. Newer tools like robotic-assisted orthopedic surgery are helping patients like Frank Sena get their lives back, eliminate pain and get back to what they love to do.

<https://hartfordhospital.org/health-wellness/classes-events/event-detail?id=968>

Bloodless Heart Transplant

This follows the story of Jonathan Henry, a heart failure patient who waited for months at Hartford Hospital for a heart to become available. But what makes his story even more amazing? He had a bloodless heart transplant. Jonathan is a Jehovah's Witness, and because of his faith cannot accept blood products. Only a handful of the most advanced hospitals in the country can perform this complicated procedure.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/jnkafafwycz71ch/040917%20CTH%20BLOODLESS.mov?dl=0>

<http://media.hartfordhealthcare.org:80/ermweb/player?id=yf8Z3OdW>

This week's NBC CT segment <http://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/health/Connect-to-Healthier-338800432.html>

TAVR

This segment focused on TAVR, and the first time doctors at HH utilized a new approach through the carotid artery. <https://youtu.be/GtzteutnfUI>

The Gift of Life

They are called "Good Samaritan" donors-organ donors who are unrelated to the recipient, and they are life savers. There is an extensive screening process to ensure all potential donors are medically and psychologically suitable. This is one woman's story. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/wbmyjt4ciu8evnf/122416%20CTH%20Transplant%20Gift.mov?dl=0>

Resident Wish Come True

This is about making a lifelong dream come true, more than a New Year's Resolution. HHC Senior Services teamed up with a local recording studio to grant a wish for one of their residents who always wanted to make a record. <https://hartfordhealthcare.org/locations-partners/hartford-healthcare-senior-services>

Featuring A Roundup of HHC News

A remarkable achievement for Dr. Brian Grosberg; a grand opening for HHCMG in Bloomfield; and Breast Cancer awareness month. <https://youtu.be/9ztEDTzSOi8>

Sunday's Connect to Healthier segment on NBC CT highlighted the following events/accolades across HHC:

A remarkable achievement for Dr. Brian Grosberg, a grand opening for HHCMG in Bloomfield and Breast Cancer awareness month.

<https://youtu.be/9ztEDTzSOi8>

Introducing Hartford HealthCare's News Hub

Hartford HealthCare's new online health news site delivers lively, informative and useful health news in a whole new way. Look for print, video and audio stories produced by HHC's News Service, as well as timely tips on nutrition, fitness, health and wellness, and medical innovations.

<http://healthnewshub.org/p/health-news-hub/>

Read the latest health news or sign up for our e-newsletter at: healthnewshub.org

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.

[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](#)

Voices of Our Patients

Kudos to Dr. Misbahul Siddiqi

Dear Dr. Siddiqi,

I cannot express the gratitude I feel towards you both as a physician and a special human being. You gave my Philip the safe passage I so wished for him.

You gave me the empathy and support I needed, allowing me to give him the gift of a dignified and relatively pain free death.

I'm enclosing the obit I wrote only to show you what I have lost and how grateful I am for the life I shared with him.

You enabled me to face the inevitable with equanimity.

Many thanks!

Regards,

Claire O'Toole Cashman

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 HHC 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 HHC CME office at ContinuingEd@HHHealth.org or (860) 972-5816 to schedule an appointment with our team to discuss your CME needs.

CME Offerings on HealthStream Temporarily Unavailable

As we continue to enhance our eLearning through our new system-wide version of HealthStream, we will also be enhancing our online CME offerings.

As of December 1, the current CME programs are no longer available via HealthStream. Once we have completed the upgrade, we will announce their availability and instructions on how you can access them.

We appreciate your patience during this transformation.

Expansion at Hartford Hospital Will Enhance Staff Training to Handle Mass Casualties

Becker's Hospital Review

Hartford HealthCare plans to nearly double the size of its Center for Education Simulation and Innovation at Hartford Hospital as part of an effort to expand medical training to handle mass casualties.

"We have trained the Israeli Red Cross, we have relationships with the United States Navy and Army, and all first responders. This ... center of innovation, is one of the nation's leaders," said Jeffrey Flaks, COO of Hartford HealthCare, according to the report.

He said the Center for Education Simulation and Innovation at Hartford Hospital provides the most realistic training scenarios for first-line responders in the U.S. and around the world.

The expansion to Hartford Hospital will include a four-patient suite where clinicians will receive training on how to take care of multiple patients at once. There will also be a tissue lab where surgeons can practice procedures and map out surgeries in advance with robots, according to the report.

"The technology is absolutely world class, state of the art," said Mr. Flaks.

Hartford Hospital, Trinity To Partner For Internship Program

Hartford Courant

Hartford Hospital and Trinity College have signed an agreement for college students to work with the hospital's doctors and researchers on strokes, Parkinson's disease and other neurological disorders.

Each year up to 20 Trinity students interested in internships or research at the hospital's Ayer Neuroscience Institute in specialties such as strokes, Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, movement disorders, neuropsychiatry, neurointervention and neurosurgery will be linked with physicians and researchers. The students will conduct research.

Trinity, just three blocks from the hospital, has designed a five-year program conferring a bachelor's degree and, in the fifth year, a master's degree in neuroscience for students who conduct research.

Mark Alberts, physician-in-chief at the Ayer Neuroscience Institute and chief of Hartford Hospital's department of neurology, said the multidisciplinary approach helps strengthen patient care. The Ayer institute will not immediately be a physical site, but will instead be more of "a functional entity."

Alberts said hospitals and research centers nationally cannot find enough "good grads" who will take up the neurosciences.

"There is a shortage of bright, young minds to do this ... the need is huge because a lot of the diseases we treat are diseases of an aging population," he said.

Award-Winning Hartford Hospital Bone and Joint Institute Features Metalwërks® Ameriplate™

Metalwërks® Ameriplate™ served as the basis of design for the new Hartford Hospital Bone & Joint Institute - a landmark facility in Hartford, CT.

The Bone & Joint Institute is the centerpiece of a campus expansion at Hartford Hospital, including

two new buildings connected by a curving bridge. Metalwërks' Ameriplate wall system clads both buildings and the bridge, creating graceful flowing lines and allowing for design consistency - despite the fact that the two buildings have different styles of rain screen wall construction.

The unique characteristics of the Ameriplate system, along with Metalwërks' project design assistance, allowed the wall panel façade to appear seamless and flow from one building to the next. Together, Metalwërks, Lymo Construction, Gilbane, and Perkins + Will demonstrated an extremely high level of technical mastery over the challenging design relationships between the walls and the structure.

Metalwërks produced 50,000 sq. ft. of curved, flat, and wedge-shaped wall panels in a 2-coat Bone White PVDF coating for the Bone & Joint Institute, and an additional 15,000 sq. ft. of panels for the adjacent Ambulatory Services Building. The end result is an intricate, undulating design across two building facades, with a floating panel effect that can only be achieved with the Ameriplate system. And this design is also a 2017 American Architecture Prize winner, taking home the Bronze for Architectural Design in the Healthcare category.

"The buildings' curvilinear design required precision in the exterior panels. Metalwërks solid aluminum plate adapts well to curves and remains smooth over the entire exterior surface, achieving the ideal expression of our design," adds Goodwin. Ameriplate is a rain screen wall cladding system engineered to provide a "suspended in the air," crisp, flat-plate appearance. The product is supplied from .125" to .250" thick solid aluminum plate. It is also available in mechanically polished or etched stainless steel in a variety of finishes. Its panel frame is engineered for a variety of orientations, including vertical, horizontal, curved, or trapezoidal-shaped panel surfaces - and even with perforated faceplates.

The Hartford Bone & Joint Institute project was completed in late 2016.

In the HHC System

Hartford HealthCare Wants to Terminate 12 Outpatient Lab Sites, Transfer Them to Quest

Hartford Business Journal

The Hospital of Central Connecticut, which has campuses in Southington and New Britain, and The William Backus Hospital in Norwich are seeking to terminate services at 12 laboratory outreach locations and transfer the sites' operations to Quest Diagnostics through a purchase agreement. The hospitals, part of Hartford HealthCare (HHC), offer blood drawing and urine sample collections at the 12 locations, after which specimens are sent to a laboratory for testing.

The move, detailed in Certificate of Need applications filed with the state last week, is part of HHC's exit from operating laboratory outreach locations and follows Quest's acquisition last year of the outreach lab service business of Clinical Laboratory Partners, a wholly-owned subsidiary of HHC. The Hospital of Central Connecticut and Backus proposals for the 12 sites are not part of Clinical Laboratory Partners.

Hartford HealthCare and New Jersey-based Quest are in the early stages of the transaction. If the deal is completed, and pending state approval, HHC expects the transaction to close late this year. With transfer of the 12 sites, HHC will no longer operate outreach laboratory locations.

The Hospital of Central Connecticut and Backus seek the locations' transfer "to focus on core strengths and services and shed those that can be performed better and more efficiently by other parties, such as Quest Diagnostics," the applications say. Quest operates dozens of laboratories and more than 2,200 laboratory outreach locations and serves half the doctors and hospitals in the U.S.,

the applications say.

Any of the locations that can't transfer to Quest will be closed. The proposals for the sites' transfer does not include the Hospital of Central Connecticut's or Backus' actual laboratories, only the 12 outreach specimen collection stations, and "does not impact, affect, limit reduce and/or terminate any of the laboratory testing services" offered by the hospitals and/or provided to their patients, the applications say.

Hartford HealthCare Launches CT Orthopaedic Institute at MidState Medical Center

Hartford Business Journal

Hartford HealthCare has opened a new Connecticut Orthopaedic Institute at MidState Medical Center in Meriden for care and recovery of patients with musculoskeletal injuries and disorders.

An entire pavilion of the medical center is being renovated and repurposed for orthopaedic patients and their guests. Once fully complete later this year, the institute will be 14,500 square feet, including 11 operating rooms and newly redesigned and upgraded space.

Hartford HealthCare and MidState Medical Center are collaborating with Connecticut Orthopaedic Specialists, which HHC said is the largest orthopaedics practice in the state, and Comprehensive Orthopaedics and Musculoskeletal Care, a group of board-certified surgeons, to develop the institute, which is tabbed as a "hospital within a hospital."

Plainfield Welcomes New HHC Health Care Facility to Town

Norwich Bulletin

Almost exactly two years after crews broke ground on a patch of land behind the Backus Emergency Care Center in Plainfield, town and health care officials on Thursday celebrated the formal opening of a new health facility in town.

Plainfield selectmen and members of the Hartford HealthCare group gathered in front of the newly-opened Hartford HealthCare Family Medical Center, a 40,000-square-foot, two-story facility officials said will offer the region convenient medical services while also boosting the economy.

"For the patient population in the area, the closest facility like this is 15-20 minutes away," said Bimal Patel, president of the health care group's eastern region. "And we know transportation in some cases can be a limiting factor. This facility helps remove the barriers to health care across the region."

The \$16 million specialty care center, like the nearby emergency center, will be owned by Branford-based O,R&L Plainfield LLC, but leased to Hartford Healthcare, which includes The William W. Backus Hospital in Norwich and Windham Hospital. The center, on Norwich Road, offers primary care, cardiology, infusion and pharmacological offices, with space for more practices. The facility employs 16 people, including doctors, nurses and other medical professionals.

"There's places here for OB/GYN, oncology and other practices, including outpatient surgery," Patel said. "In addition, centers like this are economic drivers that help a community grow."

Hartford HealthCare at Home Opens New Location in Southbury

To better provide home care services to the public in the tri-town area of Southbury, Middlebury and Woodbury, Hartford HealthCare at Home opened a new location in Southbury on June 8.

<https://patch.com/connecticut/southington/hartford-healthcare-home-opens-new-location-southbury>

Jackson Lab Hires More Scientists, Nearing Goal of 300 Employees

Hartford Courant

Standard treatments for cancer, like radiation and chemotherapy, have for decades vexed Ching Lau.

"I have always felt that there has to be a better way of treating cancer, and up to now we're still using relatively nonspecific types of treatment," said Lau, a Hong Kong-born doctor and scientist. Chemo and radiation "harm normal cells as much as cancer cells, which is one of the intrinsic problems in our treatment."

That inefficiency prevents doctors from utilizing maximum doses, especially in children - Lau's specialty. Lau has been researching new methods of treatment, and how to make the current methods more targeted and efficient, since 1977.

In January, Lau brought his research from Houston to Farmington, another in a string of esteemed scientists hired by The Jackson Laboratory over the past year. The hiring spree has nearly filled the company's Farmington facility three years after its October 2014 opening.

The Jackson Laboratory has signed offers this summer to increase its Farmington staff from 297 to 330. That's up from 254 on Jan. 1, and would mark an early fulfillment of its promise to the state. In 2012, when Connecticut contributed a \$291 million package to the company for its expansion into the Hartford suburb, Jackson Laboratory promised to hire and retain 300 people within 10 years. If it did so, \$192 million in loans would be forgiven.

"We are ahead of schedule, and we're not going to slow down," said Sarah Laskowski, a spokeswoman for the laboratory.

Critics, including some Republicans in the General Assembly, argued when the package was approved they could create more jobs with less money, but scientific director Charles Lee said the laboratory has become "a scientific powerhouse."

The Farmington branch now has 27 faculty members leading research programs or technology groups, with two more joining this summer. Just over 60 percent of employees are directly involved in research, about half were already living in Connecticut at the time of their hire, and the average salary for employees now exceeds \$93,000, according to the company. The Bar Harbor, Maine-based company says its mission is to "discover precise genomic solutions for disease."

Lau was the first triple appointment in a collaboration between The Jackson Laboratory, Connecticut Children's Medical Center, and the UConn School of Medicine. In addition to his research at Jackson Laboratory, Lau will be the medical director of hematology-oncology at Connecticut Children's and head the medical school's Division of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology.

"Dr. Lau represents a phenomenal intellectual bridge between JAX, Connecticut Children's and UConn School of Medicine," said Lee, JAX's scientific director, in an announcement of the appointment.

The appointment will allow Lau to continue treating patients while conducting his research. "I can't stop taking care of these kids," he said.

Lau's research will focus on pediatric brain and bone tumors. One of the primary challenges of his research is that there are less pediatric cancer cases than adult cases, "which is a good thing," he said, but it also limits his ability to carry out clinical trials.

The researcher moved to West Hartford with his wife after Thanksgiving last year, and they have taken a liking to their new community, he said.

In Farmington, closer to the facility, Olga Anczuków-Camarda has also settled in as a recent Jackson Laboratory hire. The molecular scientist and breast cancer researcher came to Farmington via her

native Poland, France and eventually Long Island, where she had been working at the Cold Spring Laboratory.

Anczuków's work focuses on how certain types of breast cancer are affected by the process of RNA splicing, which is the way in which cells take the common information in DNA and rearrange it to form different cells, tissues and organs.

"What happens is, unfortunately, cancer cells are very smart and take advantage of this process," Anczuków said. "They use RNA splicing to grow better and metastasize."

If Anczuków and her team can identify the RNA splicing events specific to triple negative breast cancer, a subtype that is especially difficult to treat, she hopes they can develop more efficient treatments.

Both Anczuków and Lau said the breadth of technology and expertise at JAX have allowed them to conduct research in ways that weren't possible at their previous posts.

"It has a tremendous impact on the way we do science," Anczuków said.

CT report: Community Health Workers Have Positive ROI

Hartford Business Journal

Connecticut healthcare organizations that hire community health workers could improve the health of high-need patients with asthma, diabetes and other chronic conditions while also saving money, according to an analysis released by the Connecticut Health Foundation.

Community health workers, also referred to as patient navigators, health coaches and peer educators, help bridge the gaps between clinical care and factors outside the doctor's office that affect patients' health. Their services often are funded through grants or other temporary payment sources, according to the foundation, which wants to ensure such workers are more sustainably embedded in the healthcare system.

The report offers a blueprint for potential programs that hospital systems, insurance companies, community organizations and other groups could pilot to improve health outcomes and achieve a positive return on investment. Each model is projected to cost less than it would save in direct medical costs.

University of Massachusetts researchers developed four community health worker models for Connecticut based on successful programs elsewhere.

One model to control Type 2 diabetes among 158 Hartford Latinos showed projected ROI of \$1.12 for every \$1 invested over three years in a community health worker program based on a Texas model using home visits, counseling, education and exercise.

Chronic patient populations in three other Connecticut areas showed projected ROIs up to \$2.40 for every \$1 invested over three years, based on other U.S. community health worker models applied in Connecticut.

"This report makes a business case for community health workers, and will help those leading healthcare organizations ensure they are investing in interventions that will bring results," Gregory B. Butler, chair of the Connecticut Health Foundation's board of directors, said in a written statement.

The report was prepared by Katharine London, Kelly Love and Roosa Tikkanen at the UMass Medical School's Center for Health Law and Economics and based on successful models in other states.

Facing Deficit, UConn Health Says Structural Changes Needed *Hartford Courant*

The long-struggling UConn Health Center in Farmington has released a dismal budget forecast for next year, with a projected \$60 million deficit and a warning that the current structure of the clinical operation is "financially unsustainable." The health center's summary of its \$1 billion budget, which will be presented Monday to the UConn Board of Trustees' financial affairs committee, outlines a strategy to cut the deficit to \$18.4 million and a warning about the hospital's future.

"Strategic structural changes will need to be made starting in FY 2018 to ensure financial sustainability and success of UConn Health in the long term," UConn concludes in a budget summary released Friday. UConn Health, which opened a new \$325.8 million tower at John Dempsey Hospital a year ago, also faces a nearly \$20 million deficit for the current fiscal year.

Rep. Gregg Haddad, co-chairman of the higher education committee, said that this has been a continuing problem and that he and other legislators have been hoping to include a provision in the state budget - whenever it is passed - that will require the health center to come up with a long-term plan for financial sustainability.

Connecticut Lawmakers Pass Bill Mandating e-prescriptions for Opioids

Craig Allen, MD, medical director of Meriden, Conn.-based Rushford, applauded the e-prescription mandate. "Historically these substances required hard copies or handwritten prescriptions. But handwritten prescriptions offer more potential for misuse, or people doctoring a prescription, or faking an amount, or faking a name," Dr. Allen told WNPR.

<http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/opioids/connecticut-lawmakers-pass-bill-mandating-e-prescriptions-for-opioids.html>

Hot Topics in Health Care

COPD Patients Struggling To Afford Their Medications, Often Reducing or Skipping Their Treatments

An estimated 1 in 9 Medicare beneficiaries are diagnosed with COPD, the third-leading cause of death in 2014

<http://www.healthcarefinancenews.com/news/copd-patients-struggling-afford-their-medications-often-reducing-or-skipping-their-treatments>

Don Berwick's 7 Roadblocks to Improving Patient Safety

Eliminating such incidents requires continuous attention, says Berwick, during the National Patient Safety Foundation Patient Safety Congress

<http://www.hhnmag.com/articles/8310-don-berwicks-7-roadblocks-to-improving-patient-safety>

The Patients We Do Not See

In medicine, we speak of "seeing patients" when we are rounding in the hospital or caring for those who come to our clinics. But what about those people who may be sick but do not seek care? What is

our responsibility to the patients we do not see?

<https://www.statnews.com/2017/04/29/the-patients-we-do-not-see/>

Successful Discharge Planning Starts at Admission

When patient transitions are top of mind for hospitals, better care is the result

<http://www.hhnmag.com/articles/8325-successful-discharge-planning-starts-at-admission>

Baby Boomers Switch Doctors at Rate of 35 Percent Over Past Two Years

When paired with estimates that boomers account for two to three times more healthcare spend than that of millennials, the financial risk is high.

<http://www.healthcarefinancenews.com/news/baby-boomers-switch-doctors-rate-35-percent-over-past-two-years>

Coming Events

Save the Date: Medical Staff End-of-Summer Event

September 27 (Wednesday), 6-9 p.m., New Britain Museum of American Art

Join your colleagues from the Hartford Hospital Medical Staff for an amazing evening at the New Britain Museum of American Art.

You will have exclusive admission to the gallery spaces including the works of Howard Pyle, Frederic Rodrigo Gruger, N. C. Wyeth, Norman Rockwell, and more.

Food will be provided by Riverhouse Catering. The menu will vary depending on the inspiration of the Chef at Riverhouse Catering. The evening will feature heavy appetizers, small plates bursting with bold flavors and sweet endings as well as wine, beer and beverages.

September 30

Management of Complex Aortic Pathology

Commons Building, 2nd Floor at the Institute of Living

The goal of this conference is to provide education to primary care and non-vascular providers on management of complex aortic pathology. The program includes a multidisciplinary faculty discussing topics from trauma to healthcare policy issues. Faculty will be on hand from vascular/cardiac surgery, trauma, radiology, anesthesiology and cardiology. The keynote speaker will discuss healthcare policy surrounding development of aortic centers.

Save the Date: Wednesday, October 4

33rd Annual Cardiovascular Symposium

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

Connecticut Convention Center, 100 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford

Information and registration: hartfordhospital.org/CVSymposium

Please register for this event by calling 1.855.HHC.HERE (1.855.442.4373)

Save the Date: Thursday, November 9

12th Annual Interdisciplinary Transplant Symposium

Sheraton Hartford South Hotel, Rocky Hill

Medical Staff Meetings

PLEASE SAVE THE DATES. MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT TO YOU FOR EACH EVENT.

Questions may be directed to Luisa Machado, physician navigator,
at Luisa.Machado@hhchealth.org or by phone at 860-883-8497.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Thursday, September 14	6:45-7:45 a.m.	Town Hall Medical Staff Meeting	Gilman Auditorium (Continental breakfast 6:15-6:45 a.m.)
Wednesday, September 27	6 p.m.	End of Summer Event	New Britain Museum of American Art
Thursday, December 14	6:45-7:45 a.m.	Annual Medical Staff Meeting	Gilman Auditorium (Continental breakfast 6:15-6:45 a.m.)

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 harthosp.org/SSJ. This ensures that you will receive the newsletter at your preferred email address. 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.

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