

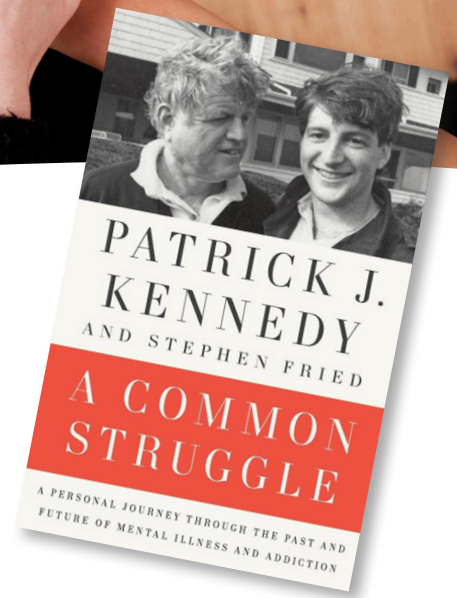
carenews

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october 13, 2015
volume 5 | issue 41



“Pain, loss, and deep trauma cause suffering and when that is denied, ignored, and not treated, individuals may turn to “solutions” at hand, including “self-medicating” through alcohol and more.”



Good day!

In recent days, we have witnessed a true profile in courage.

A person familiar to many here at Care New England, former Rhode Island Congressman Patrick Kennedy, has started to share his personal struggles with mental illness and addiction.

In many ways, his story is a familiar one—albeit larger and filled with bigger names than most. Pain, loss, and deep trauma cause suffering and when that is denied, ignored, and not treated, individuals may turn to “solutions” at hand, including “self-medicating” through alcohol and more. In turn, not only does that individual suffer, but the entire family experiences the illness as well.

Patrick has not only been candid about his own experience with substance use and bi-polar disorder, but also shares his views of his parents and other members of his famous family. This has been the source of much controversy.

I had the honor of knowing and working with Senator Edward M. Kennedy. Losing his brothers, upholding the Kennedy legacy, the personal tragedies that seemed to surround him, who can imagine the weight he carried, who can judge? As always, in the stories of families, truth is a matter of perspective.

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Yet, while some members of the Kennedy family are decrying the substance of Patrick's comments, there is no doubt that his outlook on mental illness and addictions rings true. As Patrick has said, if he were talking about the history of cancer in his family, this would not be news.

Such is the enduring stigma that still surrounds mental health and addiction. For too many, silence remains the accepted response. We accept this for no other disease, no other chronic illness—and certainly not when there is such a risk due to genetic predisposition.

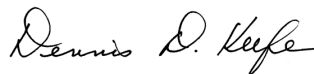
I know all of us at Care New England hope we are on the cusp of seeing this change. When Patrick Kennedy talks about the “common struggle,” the title of his book, he means not just fighting addiction and mental illness, but also what he calls “the civil rights issue of our time,” removing the stigma that keeps too many from seeking the help they need.

Here at Care New England, we can be a part of this noble goal. We can do this by talking about mental illness and addiction just like we do other chronic diseases. We can do this by helping patients and families recognize and get the help they need. We can do this by supporting our colleagues who face these challenges themselves or in their families. We can do this by incorporating peers and individuals who have lived with this experience into our programs.

I am proud of the part we are playing here at Care New England in leading this change.

Let us be steadfast in our care, our compassion and our advocacy.

Sincerely,



Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer



Dr. Diaz named to Brown post

Associate Professor of Medicine Joseph Diaz, Brown MD'96 MPH'09, has been appointed interim associate dean for diversity and multicultural affairs in the Brown University Division of Biology and Medicine, effective October 15. The announcement was made last week by Jack A. Elias, MD, Dean of Medicine and Biological Sciences and CNE President Dennis D. Keefe.



Dr. Diaz is the chief of Medicine at Memorial. A graduate of Brown Medical School, Dr. Diaz completed a residency and fellowship in General Internal Medicine at Rhode Island Hospital before joining the Department of Medicine and the Center for Primary Care and Prevention at Memorial Hospital of RI in 2001. Since joining the faculty, Dr. Diaz has been actively involved in medical education, served as a site director for the core clerkship in medicine, and was a lead faculty member in the Alpert Medical School Academy system. He is currently a co-director of the Scholarly Concentration in Care of the Underserved and a co-director of the Department of Medicine's medical exchange program in the Dominican Republic.

Dr. Diaz's clinical work and research focus on the delivery of health care to underserved populations. His research has centered on assessing and addressing disparities in preventive health with a focus on the role of language and culture as a barrier to colorectal cancer screening.

In his new role, Dr. Diaz will oversee the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, which helps to create and foster a diverse, inclusive, and culturally competent learning and training environment for students, faculty, and trainees within the division.



Butler Hospital & Rhode Island Quality Institute use grant for patient care coordination



The Rhode Island Quality Institute (RIQI) has been awarded a Community Interoperability and Health Information Exchange grant from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC). The one-year, \$100,000 grant will support the Rhode Island Behavioral and Medical Information Exchange project, an initiative that will connect Butler Hospital and additional behavioral health providers to CurrentCare, Rhode Island's free electronic health information database, to improve care for those with mental health needs.

With the grant, providers from outside Butler will be able to access information provided by Butler, including admission, discharge and transfer notifications (ADTs), lab results and a summary of care, and vice versa. Currently, data from nine electronic health record platforms, telehealth data and diagnostic imaging reports flow into CurrentCare. Together, this will give behavioral health providers access to data that will enable them to ensure that patients have an unprecedented level of care continuity.

"This is a great example of how we as a hospital are connecting ourselves more and more to the rest of health care in Rhode Island," said Butler President and COO, Dr. Larry Price.

Affinity Orthopedics and Sports Medicine adds surgeon to practice

Affinity Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, a Care New England-affiliated practice located on the campus of Memorial Hospital, is adding an orthopedic surgeon specializing in knee arthroscopy and lower extremity trauma.



Steve B. Behrens, MD, is a fellowship-trained orthopedic surgeon in trauma and sports medicine. He earned a bachelor of science degree summa cum laude in nutrition from Cornell University and completed his medical training at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Ross University School of Medicine. In addition, he completed an orthopedic surgery residency and trauma fellowship at Brown University, where he was a clinical instructor in orthopedics. He then completed a second fellowship in sports medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

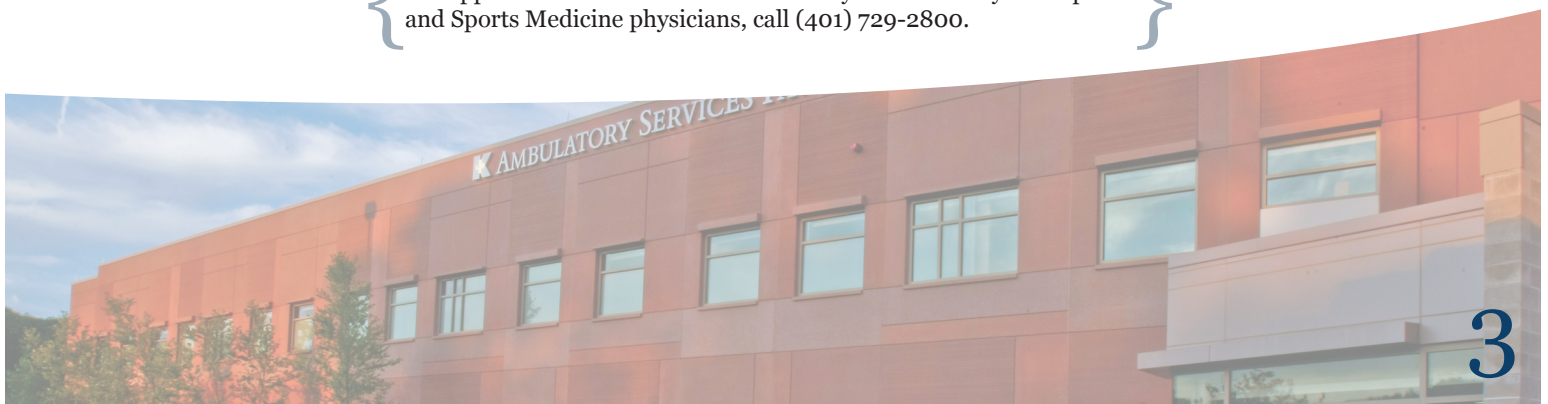
Dr. Behrens received several grants for his orthopedic research and has authored numerous peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. His research in orthopedic surgery has been presented at local, national, and international meetings. While in Pittsburgh, he was a member of the medical staff for the Pittsburgh Steelers, Pittsburgh Penguins, and the University of Pittsburgh. He is a member of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, the American Orthopedic Society for Sports Medicine, and the Arthroscopy Association of North America.

"Injuries can have a profound effect on the lives of patients and their families. My goal is to provide a comprehensive, individualized treatment plan for each patient," he says.

Dr. Behrens joins the staff of Affinity Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, which includes the executive chief of orthopedics and sports medicine for Care New England, Dr. Robert Shalvoy, and Dr. Razib Khaund, director of sports medicine for Care New England.

"We are growing a practice of surgeons with experience providing comprehensive orthopedic and musculoskeletal services that are patient-centered and quality-focused," Dr. Shalvoy says. "Steve Behrens is wonderful addition because he is not only an excellent surgeon, but strives to provide the best possible medical care for his patients."

{ For appointments with Dr. Behrens or any of the Affinity Orthopedics and Sports Medicine physicians, call (401) 729-2800. }



VNA offers public Flu Clinics

The best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated each year, and is recommended for everyone six months of age and older by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

While CNE employees can receive flu shots in the workplace, family and friends should be encouraged to visit one of the VNA of Care England public influenza (flu) clinics being held throughout Rhode

VNA flu clinics will be held at various locations listed below:

Smithfield, RI: October 13, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Smithfield Senior Center, 1 William J. Hawkins Jr. Tr.

Coventry, RI: October 14, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Coventry Senior Center, 50 Wood St.

Coventry, RI: October 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; 10/15, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.; St. John & Paul Church, 341 South Main St.

Warwick, RI: October 14, 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Buttonwoods Community Center, 3027 West Shore Rd.

Warwick, RI: October 17; October 18; October 24; October 25; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., VNA of Care New England, 51 Health Lane.

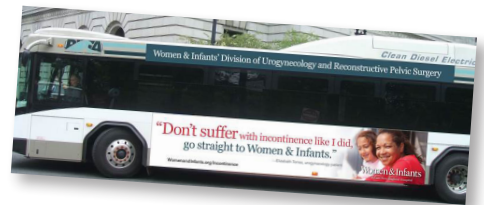
Cranston, RI: October 18, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Oaklawn Community Church, 229 Wilbur Ave.

VNA of Care New England accepts most insurances.
For more information, please visit <http://carenewengland.org/flu>.



Advertising campaign for urogynecology kicks off!

A new Women & Infants' advertising program kicks off this week with a focus on the Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery. The campaign focuses on Elizabeth, a urogyn patient, and includes print, radio, television, digital and bus advertising. Let us know what you think! Contact Amy Blustein, Marketing Communications, at extension 12822 or at ablustein@carene.org.



Memorial's Keith Macksoud recognized in *Rhode Island Monthly* magazine

Congratulations to Keith Macksoud, CRNA, assistant program director for the School of Nursing Anesthesia at Memorial Hospital, who was named Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist of the Year in *Rhode Island Monthly* magazine. Keith, third from the left, is pictured with his family at the September 17th award ceremony. 