

carenews

together we are transforming the future of health care

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In this issue:



Good day!

We have written extensively about the new world of health care and how we are gaining much experience with both new forms of payment and health care delivery. This week, in the latest example of our progress, we will be announcing a new agreement between Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island (BCBSRI) and Integra Community Care Network, LLC (Integra) which will provide 60,000 BCBSRI members a new model of coordinated healthcare delivery.

As many of you know, Integra is our accountable care organization (ACO) and a partnership of Care New England Health System (CNE) and its network physicians, Rhode Island Primary Care Physicians Corporation (RIPCPC), and South County Health and its network physicians. The new arrangement creates incentives for Integra's providers to proactively manage patient health needs—the essence of population health management.

As I comment in the news release about this innovative agreement which will be issued today, “Keeping patients well and out of the hospital is the core premise behind population health management. With the focus on highly accessible, excellent primary care and a host of new support services and tools, our agreement with BCBSRI gives us the opportunity to explore new ways of working with our patients to proactively manage health needs.”

One of the exciting aspects of this arrangement is the establishment of eight new primary care access centers, affiliated with Integra and strategically located across the state which will provide same day care for urgent health issues. This is a first-of-its-kind development in Rhode Island. Additional centers will be added in the

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future depending on the needs of the community. The primary care access centers will be open seven days a week. Additionally, Integra and BCBSRI will jointly fund a patient support hub to coordinate all aspects of a patient's care, including scheduling specialist visits, providing support in accessing health care resources, and identifying and addressing preventive care needs. We believe ensuring that members have immediate access to primary care will reduce unnecessary use of higher cost emergency rooms, while dramatically improving the patient experience.

The new primary care access centers are located at:

Pilgrim Park Physicians

Joseph Grande, MD
1243 Post Road
Warwick, RI 02886
(401) 941-2999

Primary Care Walk-in Center

Constantine Vafidis, MD
684 Warren Avenue
East Providence, RI 02914
(401) 434-0022

South County Walk-in & Primary Care

Monica Gross, MD
360 Kingston Road, Suite 104
Narragansett, RI 02882
(401) 789-1086

North Smithfield Urgent Care

John Solomon, MD
594 Great Road, Suite 103
North Smithfield, RI 02896
(401) 768-3700

South County Hospital Medical & Wellness Center

Cynthia Wyman
3461 South County Trail
East Greenwich, RI 02818
(401) 471-6740

Concentra

Katherine Williams, MD
400 Bald Hill Road
Warwick, RI 02886
(401) 738-8100

Just Kids RI Sick Care

Peter Yasigian, MD
2 Meehan Lane
Cumberland, RI 02864
(401) 658-2525

Lincoln Urgent Care

John Solomon, MD
2 Wake Robin Road
Lincoln, RI 02865-4241
(401) 334-3105

“From innovative, customer-focused features like the new primary care access centers to improved coordination of care, Blue Cross is committed to working with our provider partners to improve access to care and simplify our members’ experience,” said Peter Andruszkiewicz, president and CEO of BCBSRI, in the news release. “We’re confident this approach improves quality of life for Rhode Islanders and lowers costs—which is good for our customers and our partners at Integra.”

“We are closing a loop in health care in a way that has never been done before in Rhode Island,” commented Al Puerini, MD, president of RIPCPC and vice chairman of the Integra Board of Managers. “This is about improving outcomes and enhancing the patient experience of care by offering care that fosters better access, care coordination, exchange of information, and referral management. Our primary care providers are partnering with specialists, ERs, urgent care centers, hospitalists, nursing homes, home care agencies and other health care providers to work closely together and truly coordinate our patients’ care throughout their health care journey.”

“We are pleased to be part of this important initiative, which will provide individuals with the tools they need to improve and safeguard their health,” noted Lou Giancola, president and CEO of South County Health. “It reflects our commitment to the community and to our providers.”

Our new collaboration advances a commitment that began in 2014 by BCBSRI, CNE, and RIPCPC to develop new models of clinical and financial collaboration, focused on improving the quality and cost of health care, as well as the patient’s experience within the health care system. As some of you may recall, in July 2014, we announced the creation of Rhode Island’s first fully integrated payment model to cover approximately 10,000 BCBSRI Medicare Advantage members. The arrangement built on a partnership

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BCBSRI and CNE reached in August 2013 in which the two organizations pledged to work toward the advancement of population health in Rhode Island. That same year, CNE and RIPCP executed an affiliation agreement, and, in the following year, Integra was formed. South County Health joined Integra in 2015.

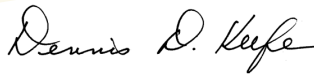
We are proud that Integra remains the only provider-based accountable care organization (ACO) in Rhode Island to be certified as a Medicare Shared Savings Program participant. From an initial cohort of approximately 19,300 patients in 2014, it is projected Integra will be responsible for more than 120,000 covered lives in 2016, including the recent additions of Rhode Island Medicaid and behavioral health populations.

According to James Fanale, MD, chief clinical officer at Integra, “Our greatest opportunity is to make inroads in the area of complex care management, including those with co-morbidities and with behavioral health problems. We know that five percent of the population accounts for 50 percent of the costs in health care. But, it is so much more than saving money. By improving the care coordination through our physicians, nurse coordinators and care navigators, we are reducing reliance on fragmented and disjointed services and building a better system of care for both our patients and their families.”

This is the future of health care—and it’s happening right here, right now at Care New England.

Have a great week ahead!

Sincerely,



Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer



Advancing nurse education to improve health care

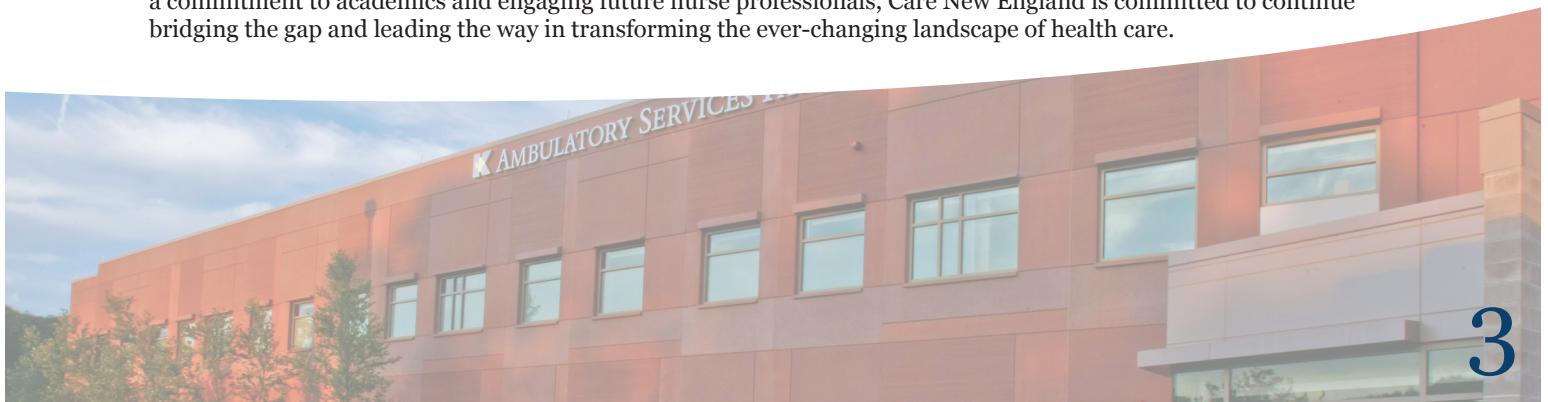
There is national recognition that nurses play an integral role in transforming the future of health care. The landmark Future of Nursing Report (2010) by the Institute of Medicine presented four important recommendations to ensure nurses are ready to assume this leadership role, one of which calls for nurses to advance their education. It is in this spirit that Care New England and the University of Rhode Island leaders gathered at the URI Providence Campus in December to celebrate and honor 42 CNE RN-BSN graduates. As the graduates made their entrance, their sense of accomplishment was palpable. They were no longer simply bonded by operating unit, but stood united in their commitment to promoting clinical excellence, improving patient/family centered care, and leading transformation across Care New England.



“I was honored and proud to be chosen for the CNE RN-BSN program. I appreciate our system offering such a program and truly appreciate the opportunity. I will graduate not only with my BSN, but with a network of support from other nurses system wide. We all face the challenge of work—school—life balance, but with the support of my classmates and professors, I am confident I will achieve my goals. Thank you CNE again for the opportunity!!” ~ Ann Pereira

“I would love to see additional cohorts going forward especially at the RN to BSN level. The success of this cohort brought system wide nurses the opportunity to collaborate, share best practices and learn from different health care spectrums. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn and advance and hope others can do so in the future. Thank you.” ~ Robin Hickey

The more than 2,000 nurses at Care New England constitute the largest segment of our health care workforce. Our nurses work on the front lines of patient care and are essential to improving quality and patient experience. Through a commitment to academics and engaging future nurse professionals, Care New England is committed to continue bridging the gap and leading the way in transforming the ever-changing landscape of health care.



Dr. Forrest named chief of Butler's Alcohol and Drug Inpatient Treatment Unit



Julie Forrest, MD, a psychiatrist at Butler Hospital, is newly appointed as the hospital's chief of the Alcohol and Drug Inpatient Treatment Unit (ADI), which is a critical component in the continuum of care for substance use services provided by Care New England Health System. At Butler since 1998, Dr. Forrest previously held the role of assistant unit chief of the ADI. Since September 2015 as acting chief on the unit, she has taken on an important leadership role during a time the hospital expanded its services to include a new Ambulatory Detoxification Clinic.

"I have witnessed the tireless commitment Dr. Forrest has had since she first began working as a staff psychiatrist here at Butler years ago," said Alan Gordon, MD, medical chief of alcohol and drug treatment at Butler. "She is now amplifying that by taking on this leadership role on the ADI.

Knowing that she brings the most impressive abilities, experience and commitment to leading the unit gives us confidence as we continue to work to provide the most comprehensive range of services needed here in Rhode Island to stand up against addiction."

Dr. Forrest earned her MBChB in 1985 from Victoria University in Manchester, England. She completed her residency in psychiatry at Brown University and subsequently joined the Butler Hospital medical staff.

Memorial Hospital's physician reappointed editor-in-chief of professional journal

F. Dennis McCool, MD, of the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Memorial Hospital, has been reappointed editor-in-chief of *LUNG* for a three-year term starting in 2016. *LUNG* is an international journal of respiratory disease that publishes about 20 percent of the manuscripts submitted. It has been published continually for more than 100 years, longer than any other professional respiratory journal.



CNE's Kelly Baxter one of 10 selected nationally to participate in practice change leaders program



Kelly Baxter, MS, APRN, ACHPN, of CNE Palliative Care Service, was selected to participate in the national Practice Change Leaders (PCL) Program for Aging and Health. PCL is aimed at building leadership skills among professionals who have a leadership role in a health care delivery organization, health-related institution, or community-based organization with direct responsibility for care that impacts older adults.

As one of only 10 people selected nationally to join the fourth class of PCL, Baxter will receive a \$45,000 grant to implement Improving Transitions of Care for Vulnerable Elderly Palliative Care Patients in Rhode Island. She will lead this initiative to evaluate, measure and enhance transitions of care for vulnerable elderly palliative care patients. The goals of the project are to streamline information and develop tracking systems that will allow for a seamless transition of care for older adults who are cared for by the palliative care service at Kent Hospital, as well as those who receive home-based palliative care services through the VNA of Care New England.

The Practice Change Leaders program is made possible by the generous support of the Atlantic Philanthropies, a limited life foundation, and the John A. Hartford Foundation. To learn more about the program, please visit <http://changeleaders.org>.

Former NICU family gives back through family business

Ken Rahn, pitmaster and owner of Bringeth the Meat BBQ, is headed to the grill to give back to Women & Infants Hospital. In 2016, Ken plans to donate quarterly two percent of his business' sales to the Women & Infants neonatal intensive care unit (NICU).

"Our rationale is that we owe a debt to the NICU that we can never repay...without the NICU, neither of our children would have survived," said Ken.

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Ken and his wife Paige, have two children: Julia, born at 29 weeks and now a thriving six-year-old and William, born at 27 weeks, now 16 months old and hoping to grow out of a chronic lung disease in a few years caused by his prolonged intubation. Both were born prematurely due to preeclampsia. Preeclampsia pregnancy occurs in six to eight percent of all pregnancies in the United States, usually during the second or third trimester, and can affect the health of the mother and her child.

The Rahns have been looking for ways to give back ever since they took William home. “When I started the BBQ company, it seemed like the perfect vehicle for giving back. My plan is to set aside five percent of gross sales and disburse it at the end of each quarter. Two percent will go to the Women & Infants NICU, and the other three percent would be spread out among other worthy causes,” expressed Ken.

For now, Bringeth the Meat BBQ works events and provides catering services, but Ken hopes to expand to a storefront in the near future. For more information on Bringeth the Meat BBQ, visit <http://bringeththemeat.com> or email ken@bringeththemeat.com. Read more about Paige’s journey with preeclampsia and the Women & Infants NICU on Care New England’s health and wellness blog, Talks Your Health (<http://www.talksyourhealth.com/preeclampsia-what-pregnant-women-should-know>).

Consider becoming an organ donor

It’s a new year, and with that comes new resolutions. Resolve to share the gift of life—giving hope for a brighter tomorrow to the more than 122,000 candidates waiting for organ transplants.

Consider making 2016 the year you pledge to be a donor—you can learn more about the donation process at <http://organdonor.gov>. List Rhode Island as the state. When asked: How did you hear about the Donate for New England Registry, the drop down is Hospital and then Care New England.

If you’re already a registered donor, thank you! In the new year, we invite you to share donation information with your friends and family, and encourage them to register as well.

If you have any questions please contact Nancy Hagerty in Human Resources at nhagerty@carene.org.



Barbara Gallagher, RN, receives DAISY Award

Congratulations to Barbara Gallagher, RN (center), a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) nurse from Women & Infants Hospital, who was presented with this month’s DAISY Award. The award is part of the DAISY Foundation’s program to recognize the above and beyond efforts performed by nurses every day.

In nominating Barbara for this honor, a patient wrote, “I cannot begin to explain what an impact she has had on me and my family. There is no gift or amount of money that I could give to truly show how much we appreciate her. She goes above and beyond her duties as a nurse. Her love for her job, compassion, and energy for life, is amazing.” Barbara has been a nurse with Women & Infants for 20 years.

CNE wall calendar available

The 2016 Care New England “year at a glance” wall calendars are in and available at your operating unit. Please contact your local Public Relations and Marketing office to find out how to obtain one. Happy New Year! 

