

carenews

together we are transforming the future of health care



february 15, 2016
volume 6 | issue 7



“The nurses caring for our patients around the clock are continuing to be educated at a higher level, taking on leadership roles with an increasing focus on patient safety and the coordination of patient care.”

Good day!

The largest segment of the nation's health care workforce consists of more than three million nurses. This is also true of our workforce here at Care New England, with nurses at the forefront of the care that our organizations provide to the patients, families and communities we serve. As Care New England moves forward on our journey to navigate in this rapidly changing health care environment, it is critical that we acknowledge the important leadership role our nurses play in helping further population health and make the most of each and every encounter with patients and their families.

With these goals in mind, I am honored to join Angelleen Peters-Lewis, RN, PhD, SVP and chief nursing officer at Care New England, to launch a system-wide initiative focused on engaging the nursing community throughout Care New England. Starting today, the *Nurses Advancing the Future of Health Care* campaign kicks off with the objective of creating our own community of nurses where best practices are shared and implemented, new opportunities to maximize professional nursing practice are advanced, and improvements are aimed at increasing nursing workplace satisfaction are explored.

The *Nurses Advancing the Future of Health Care* campaign is truly about communicating in a more effective way, with a focus on listening and learning so that we are better able to serve the needs of our nurses, the needs of patients and families, and the overall strength of our organization. In so doing, we will give our nurses the chance to work in concert with senior leadership, fellow employees and other clinicians to ensure that the health care system provides seamless, affordable, quality care that is accessible to all and leads to improved health outcomes.



In this issue:



Historically, nurse education was heavily focused on technical skills. This is certainly no longer the case. The nurses caring for our patients around the clock are continuing to be educated at a higher level, taking on leadership roles with an increasing focus on

continued

continued

patient safety and the coordination of patient care. An ongoing nursing shortage, health care reform and the expanding role of technology will require that nurses take on new and more complex roles in the future. CNE's investment in a system-wide chief nursing officer shows a commitment to standardizing nursing practice along the continuum of care and to positioning nursing as a critical component of the infrastructure to support population health.

Working on the front lines of patient care, nurses also play a critical role in our efforts to meet the objectives of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Understanding the barriers nurses must overcome to ensure they are well-positioned for the future of health care remains a priority. Prior to the enactment of the ACA, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Institute of Medicine produced four recommendations for what they described as "an action-oriented blueprint for the future of nursing:"

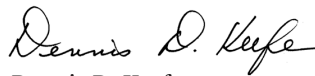
- Nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training.
- Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression.
- Nurses should be full partners, with physicians and other health care professionals, in redesigning health care in the United States.
- Effective workforce planning and policy making require better data collection and information infrastructure.

Toward all of these goals, the *Nurses Advancing the Future of Health Care* campaign will shine a bright light on the expanding role of nurses within Care New England. Over the next several months, and highlighted during National Nurse's Week in May, we will be sharing information about the excellent work of dedicated nurses around Care New England. More importantly, in various formats, including focus groups at each operating unit, we will be listening to your questions, concerns and ideas about how Care New England can better serve the largest and one of the most critical segments of our organization.

For more information, or to submit questions or ideas regarding the *Nurses Advancing the Future of Health Care* campaign, please visit carenet/nursing/future.

Have a great week ahead!

Sincerely,



Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer

ConvergenceRI
Click [here](#) to view this week's *ConvergenceRI*

Women & Infants designated as a Breast Center of Excellence

Women & Infants Hospital has again earned a three-year accreditation as a Breast Center of Excellence from the American College of Radiology (ACR). The designation came after a survey of the hospital's diagnostic imaging facilities.



Women & Infants first achieved this designation in 2009 based on the hospital's accreditation in three areas of breast imaging—mammography, stereotactic breast biopsy and breast ultrasound. Since then, the hospital has maintained this designation. This year, with the advancements in breast imaging technology, the ACR further refined the qualifications for designation with the addition of accreditation in breast MRI.

"We are so delighted to continue our designation as a Breast Center of Excellence. This is a true testament not only to the skill and expertise of our staff, but also to our commitment to ensuring that we are on the cutting edge, offering the most advanced imaging technologies for the women and newborns of our region," said Susan Koelliker, MD, chief of the Department of Diagnostic Imaging.

continued



continued

The ACR awards accreditation to facilities that have achieved high practice standards. The evaluations are conducted by board-certified radiologists and medical physicists who are experts in the field. They assess the qualification of a facility's personnel and the adequacy of its equipment.

Women & Infants is one of only a few sites in the region to achieve accreditation in all four modalities of breast imaging and was the first facility in Rhode Island to offer digital breast tomosynthesis, the latest in breast imaging technology that gives radiologists a three-dimensional look at breast tissue and a clearer and more comprehensive review. The result has been a 15-percent increase in early detection of breast cancer and a reduction in false positives, which require further testing and can cause patients unnecessary anxiety.

{ For more information, please contact the Department of Diagnostic Imaging at (401) 274-1122, ext. 41248 or visit <http://www.womenandinfants.org/services/imaging/index.cfm>. }

Psychologist awarded funding for integrated behavioral health program

Justin M. Nash, PhD, professor in the departments of Family Medicine and Psychiatry and Human Behavior at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and director of behavioral health in family medicine at Memorial Hospital, was awarded \$15,000 in funding from the Care Transformation Collaborative (CTC) of Rhode Island's Integrated Behavioral Health Pilot Program to develop a population health approach to improving the behavioral and overall health of Memorial's patients.



The CTC was started in 2008 by the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner with the goal of bringing health care stakeholders together to promote care for patients with chronic illnesses by utilizing the patient centered medical home model.

"The funding allows us to enhance our efforts to improve the behavioral health of the patients in the Family Care Center. We are using a population health approach of standardizing screening for depression, anxiety, and substance abuse. We are also using a registry to understand how our patients access and use the behavioral health services in the Family Care Center and in the community," says Dr. Nash. "The Family Care Center at Memorial Hospital is committed to providing the best health care possible for its patients. This is a 'patient-centered medical home,' which means the staff works closely with patients and other health care professionals to offer the best possible care."

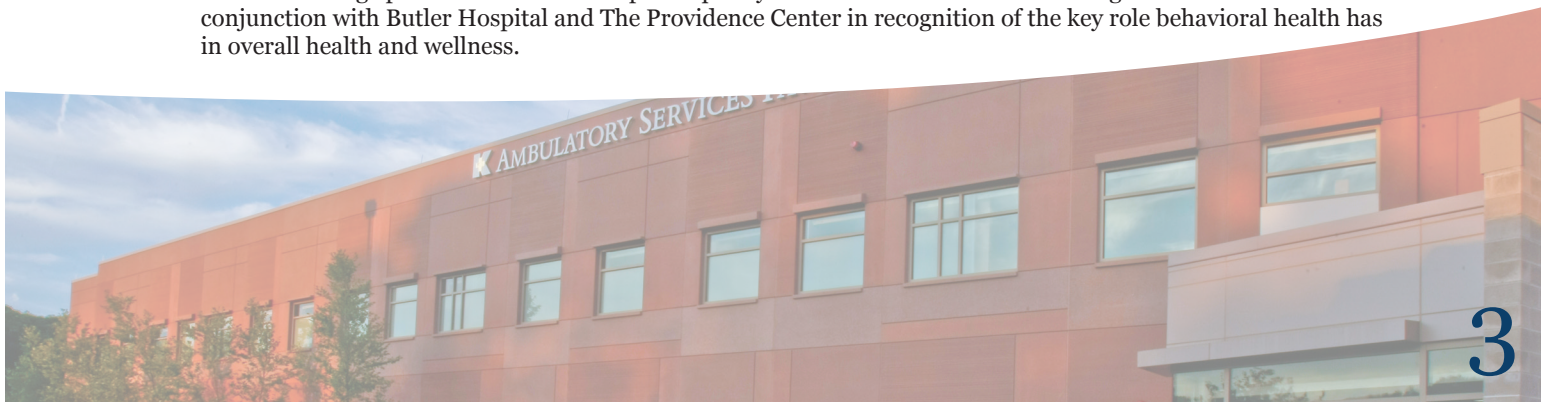
{ For information on Memorial's Family Care Center, visit <http://mhri.org> or call (401)729-2769. }

Integra HealthHome Opens on Butler Hospital Campus

Butler Hospital is home to a new team as part of Integra, known as Integra HealthHome. This group is solely focused on dual-eligible patients with both Medicare and Medicaid who have a mental illness, though it also has the capacity to manage a patient's non-psychiatric medical conditions.



The team works with a patient's primary supports and closely coordinate both behavioral health and primary care to keep the patient functioning in the community. To achieve these goals, the HealthHome team works to ensure the patient receives the right care, in the right place, at the right time, by coordinating the following services as needed: psychiatry, nursing, therapy, case management, recovery coaching, coordination with primary care physicians and other specialists, lab work, transportation, assistance with obtaining community resources, assistance with benefit applications, and coordination of wellness activities. The goal of any ACO is to better manage patients' health and improve quality of life. CNE established the Integra HealthHome Team in conjunction with Butler Hospital and The Providence Center in recognition of the key role behavioral health has in overall health and wellness.



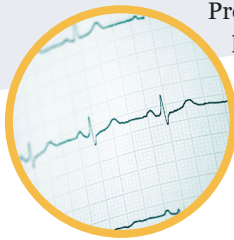
Zika virus information available on the Care New England and Women & Infants websites

There is no doubt that news about the Zika virus has many people on edge. Women & Infants and Care New England are fortunate to have maternal-fetal medicine specialist Dr. Brenna Hughes—chief of the Women’s Infectious Disease Consultative Service, participating in discussions with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine, and the Rhode Island Department of Health—to help provide answers to the many questions that people have. Many thanks also to Dr. Stephen Carr, director of the Prenatal Diagnosis Center and Maternal-Fetal Medicine Diagnostic Imaging, and infectious disease specialist Dr. Erica Hardy, associate director of the Women’s Infectious Disease Consultative Service, for their leadership and expertise with this issue.



Visit the Women & Infants website at <http://womenandinfants.org> and Care New England’s Talks Your Health at <http://talksyourhealth.com> for information and updates for patients and providers.

‘Update in Cardiology for the Primary Care Provider’ slated for March 24



Kent Hospital and Care New England will host Update in Cardiology for the Primary Care Provider, Thursday, March 24, from 1 to 7 p.m., at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick. This program will provide an educational experience for primary care providers including physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and other allied health professionals working in the field of primary care who treat and evaluate patients with cardiovascular disease. Kent Hospital is accredited by the Rhode Island Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians, and designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.0 AMA PRA category 1 Credits.[™] Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

To register go to: <http://carenewengland.org/cardiology/cme>.

Women & Infants hosts March of Dimes March for Babies kick-off breakfast

Dr. Robert Insoft, chief medical officer at Women & Infants and chairman of the board of directors of March of Dimes Rhode Island, invite all employees across Care New England to join in supporting this year’s March for Babies to be held on Saturday, April 30 at Colt State Park in Bristol. This wonderful event brings together more than 4,500 people, many of whom are families that are graduates of Women & Infants’ NICU, including both local ambassador families, the Yarboughs and the LeBeaus.



Join Dr. Insoft on Monday, February 29 at 7:30 a.m. in the Malcolm and Elizabeth Chace Education Center, auditorium 1 to learn more about the event, meet our local March of Dimes staff, and begin organizing the fundraising efforts. 