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“Help us celebrate the commitment to education, training and life-long learning by recognizing excellence in our midst and nominating a worthy candidate for CNE Teacher of the Year!”

Good day!

There is an old Japanese proverb which says: better than a thousand days of diligent study is one day with a great teacher.

We are honored to announce the celebration of teaching excellence across our organizations with the establishment of the Care New England Teacher of the Year Awards. The goal of this new recognition event is to honor the faculty who are instrumental in advancing medical education and training for medical students, residents and fellows across our hospitals. The nomination period begins September 15 and will extend through October 10, with a reception to acknowledge the honorees slated for the afternoon of November 2 at the Ray Conference Center on the Butler campus.

The Care New England Teacher of the Year Awards were conceived by the Care New England Academic Council and spearheaded by Patricia Recupero, JD, MD, senior vice president for academics and training at Care New England and the former president of Butler Hospital. Pat and her colleagues hope to leave a legacy to honor the intrinsic value of teaching at Care New England through this award program.

All Care New England departments are eligible to submit nominations. Each department will have a nominating committee chaired by the Chair or Chair Designee and will develop their own structure on how to solicit and receive award nominations which can come from within the department, from trainees, or staff from across all of the CNE operating units. The departments will submit three nominees for consideration, one academic faculty member, one full-time employed clinical faculty member, and one community-based clinical faculty member. After reviewing all of the nominations received in each department by October 10, the Chair of each department will advance one nomination in each category to Care New England by October 20, 2016. *continued*

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Criteria includes a minimum of five evaluations by medical students, residents, fellows and/or peers from within the department for the past academic year; sustained teaching responsibilities at any level (instructor through professor) for at least the last three consecutive years; positive consideration given for teaching initiative (e.g., development of a lecture or course including CME), participation above and beyond formal teaching excellence, citizenship related to teaching with the department or institution, or supervision and/or mentorship of faculty and/or learners.

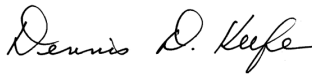
Nominations will be submitted to the CNE Teaching Award Committee whose members may be selected from the CNE Academic Council. The committee will choose three honorees from across Care England, one academic faculty member, one full-time employed clinical faculty member, and one community-based clinical faculty member as CNE Teacher of the Year. The results will be shared at the Care New England Teacher of the Year event and publicized across Care New England. Recipients will receive a commemorative plaque and a monetary award of \$1,000.

Completion of the formal nomination form, a letter of nomination articulating the candidates' qualifications, the candidates' CV and teaching evaluations should be submitted at the time of nomination. For a copy of the criteria, nomination form or for further information about the process, please email Dr. Recupero at precupero@carene.org.

Help us celebrate the commitment to education, training and life-long learning by recognizing excellence in our midst and nominating a worthy candidate for CNE Teacher of the Year!

Enjoy the rest of summer—and have a great week ahead!

Sincerely,



Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer

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

Butler's Salloway publishes major research on Alzheimer's

The Butler Hospital Memory and Aging Program can be found at the center of a recent breakthrough in the war on Alzheimer's. The program's director, Dr. Stephen Salloway, was one of several authors on a paper published in *Nature* last week, which outlined the efficacy of a novel therapy for Alzheimer's. The study results showed that, in patients with Alzheimer's, a new drug, aducanumab, was successful in reducing the amount of amyloid plaque in the brain and slowing cognitive decline, two major markers of the progression of Alzheimer's. The data comes from a Phase Ib clinical trial and must now be replicated in two Phase III trials, one of which is currently ongoing in the Memory and Aging Program at Butler.

Dr. Salloway has been interviewed by news outlets from across the globe, including Rhode Island's own *Providence Journal* (projo.com), all the way to Channel 4 News in London, England (<http://bit.ly/2cwmt0i>). Among many comments and explanations, Dr. Salloway has said time and again that this development is the biggest news in the 25 years he's worked in this field. Read more in the full press release at <http://bit.ly/2c7LkwU>.



2015 quality and financial results released for Integra

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has announced the 2015 performance year results for the Medicare Shared Savings Program and the Pioneer Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Model that show physicians, hospitals and health care providers participating in ACOs, including the Integra Community Care Network, continue to make significant improvements in the quality of care for Medicare beneficiaries, while achieving cost savings. In 2015, Medicare ACOs had combined total program savings of \$466 million, which includes all Accountable Care Organizations' experiences, for 392 Medicare Shared Savings Program participants and 12 Pioneer Accountable Care Organization Model participants. The results show that more ACOs shared savings in 2015 compared to 2014, and those with more experience tend to perform better over time.



"Thanks to our comprehensive Complex Care Management program—which includes nurse care managers, nurse practitioners, social workers, and more—and Integra's strong network of primary care practices and specialists, we provided more than 13,000 Medicare patients with high quality, coordinated care and achieved a significant savings in our very first year of operation," said Integra Chief Clinical Officer James E. Fanale, MD.

Medicare ACOs are groups of doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers, who come together voluntarily to provide coordinated high quality care to their Medicare patients. The goal of coordinated care is to ensure that patients, especially the chronically ill, get the right care at the right time, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of services and preventing medical errors. When an ACO exceeds quality and financial thresholds—demonstrating achievement of high-quality care and wiser spending of health care dollars—it is able to share in the savings generated for Medicare.

"On total spending of more than \$152 million, we achieved a savings just short of \$4 million," added Fanale. "This is a truly significant accomplishment and bodes well for the future of Integra, our partners, and the payment reform efforts in Rhode Island in which Integra participates."

"At the same time we reduced spending compared to the benchmark, and we made great strides strengthening the quality of care being delivered by providers across Integra," said Albert Puerini, MD, president and CEO of RI Primary Care Physicians Corporation (RIPCPC), and Chairman of the Board of Integra Community Care Network, LLC. "We are at or above the national average in most areas, scoring higher than the than national average in 22 out of the 34 measures."

Memorial psychologist named president of national organization

Justin Nash, PhD, director of behavioral health at Memorial Hospital, was recently named president-elect of the Society for Health Psychology.



Dr. Nash, who is also a professor of family medicine and psychiatry and human behavior at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, will assume the role of president of the Society in 2017 for one year.

The Society for Health Psychology was established to advance contributions of the psychology discipline toward understanding health and illness through basic and clinical research, to promote education and services in the psychology of health and illness, and to inform the psychological community and the general public on the results of current research and service activities.

"This is a great honor for Dr. Nash and a reflection of the commitment he has to behavioral health education and research," says Jeffrey Borkan, MD, MPH, medical director of family medicine at Memorial Hospital.

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Dr. Nash—whose academic interests are evaluating behavioral health services in the context of patient-centered medical homes—sees patients at Memorial and also conducts research. Earlier this year, he was awarded a grant from the Care Transformation Collaborative of Rhode Island’s Integrated Behavioral Health Pilot Program to develop a population health approach to improving the behavioral and overall health of patients at Memorial’s Family Care Center.

With the grant, his research is implementing a population health approach to standardizing screening for depression, anxiety and substance abuse. In addition, he is creating a registry to understand how patients access and use the behavioral health services available through the Family Care Center.

For more information on Dr. Nash or behavioral health services available at Memorial, go to <http://www.mhri.org/behavioral-health/index.cfm>.

Kent’s Spinale named Examiner for 2016 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award

Joseph Spinale, DO, SVP, chief medical officer at Kent Hospital, has been named to the Board of Examiners for the 2016 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for the third consecutive time. The Baldrige Award is the nation’s highest honor for organizational innovation and performance excellence.

Appointed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology director, examiners are responsible for reviewing and evaluating applications submitted for the Baldrige Award, as well as other assessment-related tasks. The examiner board is comprised of more than 350 leading experts competitively selected from industry, professional, trade, education, health care and nonprofit (including government) organizations from across the United States. Those selected meet the highest standards of qualification and peer recognition, demonstrating competencies related to customer focus, communication, ethics, action orientation, team building and analytical skills. All members of the board must take part in a nationally ranked leadership development course based on the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence and the scoring/evaluation processes for the Baldrige Award.



Since 2012, Dr. Spinale has served as senior vice president for medical affairs and quality as well as chief medical officer for Kent Hospital where he has oversight of quality, risk management, patient safety and graduate medical education. His prior positions include chief of cardiology and director of medical education at Kent Hospital. He earned his medical degree from Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed residency, chief residency and a cardiology fellowship at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. He received his master of business administration from the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He currently serves as professor of internal medicine and regional assistant dean at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Named after Malcolm Baldrige, the 26th secretary of commerce, the Baldrige Award was established by Congress in 1987. Given annually to organizations in each of six categories: manufacturing, service, small business, education, health care and nonprofit, the Award promotes innovation and excellence in organizational performance, recognizes the achievements and results of U.S. organizations, and publicizes successful performance strategies.

TPC participates in Dartmouth College tablet study

The Providence Center has been chosen to participate in a research study with Dartmouth Medical School (<http://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu>) that explores the use of tablets to monitor mental health conditions. The study, called “Using Automated Telehealth to Improve Psychiatric Illness Management,” uses tablets with specially tailored content to monitor and connect with clients who suffer from severe mental illness.

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The project targets TPC clients who have experienced significant recent psychiatric instability, defined as at least two or more psychiatric hospitalizations or emergency room visits, multiple calls to the crisis line during the past 12 months and diagnosis of: major depressive disorder, schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder, or post-traumatic stress disorder. Participants have a 50/50 chance of either receiving the “Tele-friend” program or continuing with their regular care, but all clients involved in the study are expected to come in four times over 12 months for a compensated assessment interview.

The psychiatric content creates a library of support for clients so that if a certain problem is triggered, clients receive an immediate response that helps them manage their symptoms in a concrete and clinically effective way. The clients and the tablet responses are monitored by a clinician who regularly checks in with clients and provides immediate support if a critical problem is identified on the tablet.

Taylor D’Addario, a manager at TPC who is in charge of overseeing the staff for the study, is excited about the close connection between clients and the education and monitoring that the devices provide. “With these devices, we have a better chance at identifying and responding to an issue right away, which can avert a relapse and the client won’t have to start from square one.”

For referral information, contact D’Addario at (401) 209-8286 or TDaddario@provctr.org.

Register now for the Third Annual Regional Perinatal Nursing Conference

Women & Infants, the March of Dimes, and the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) will present the Third Annual Regional Perinatal Nursing Conference on Monday, September 26 from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. in the Malcolm and Elizabeth Chace Education Center, South Pavilion Auditoriums.



This conference offers a robust overview of pain management in the maternal-newborn environment. Topics and discussions include perspectives on pain management and breastfeeding, updates on managing pain in the newborn, options for pain management for laboring women, new information on neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) withdrawal, and pain management for opioid-dependent patients. Registration is \$75 for AWHONN members, \$99 for non-AWHONN members and closes on September 12. Registrations can be submitted online at <http://bit.ly/2bZsVBT>.

Know your numbers, earn your discount!

Flex benefit-eligible employees, learn your cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides, fasting glucose, HbA1c, and nicotine levels through a free blood draw, plus blood pressure and BMI check at one of our FREE, CONFIDENTIAL and private biometric screenings. To schedule an appointment online, please visit <http://ehealthscreenings.com/signup> (use screening key CNE01) or register by phone at 1-888-708-8807, ext. 1. Screening events will be held at various times and locations during September. All you have to do to earn your monthly health contributions discount beginning January 1, 2017 is complete your biometric screening, prove that you are tobacco free or enrolled in a tobacco cessation program and designate a primary care physician.



Please visit <http://carenet/carenet/humanresources/CNE-Flex-Benefits.cfm> to learn more. 

