

APRIL 30, 2018 | VOLUME 8 | ISSUE 18



When you hear the words, “Be prepared,” most people think of the famous Boy Scouts motto. I think it’s a great motto in health care, too, where we have to be prepared for anything and everything. Emergency preparedness has been crucial in health care for decades, and we also note how well our team is prepared when it comes to dealing with our New England weather and the specific challenges it presents to the work we do.

But preparedness for exposures to special pathogens and possible contaminants has taken on new importance in recent years. As Robin Neale, system director of infection prevention, said, “Those of us who’ve been around a while know how important this preparation truly is. In April of 2009, we watched a Novel ‘swine flu’ virus of unknown severity (2009 H1N1) sicken people in Mexico and Texas, quickly spread to all 50 states and ultimately cause a worldwide pandemic. In 2014, we watched the worst Ebola epidemic in recorded history spread across West Africa and arrive via air travel to the U.S. So what is my point? We don’t know what the next emerging pathogen will be, but we know it will likely come. Your time is well spent. When the next emerging pathogen rounds the corner, we will be better prepared than we were yesterday.”

Robin’s message was sent to the team at Women & Infants, where last week they underwent an extensive special pathogens drill, observed by the Rhode Island Department of Health (DOH). For the scenario, an 18-year-old woman, pregnant with her first child, was transported from Kent to Women & Infants for possible special pathogens exposure. Utilizing the new Airborne Infection Isolation Room—which was partially funded through a grant in partnership with the Rhode Island Department of Health (DOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—the team was able to care for the patient appropriately and safely. A DOH observer commended the team, and the actress who portrayed the patient said, “I felt very safe and very cared for. I didn’t feel you were stressed out or afraid of me. It was very clear that you were worried about ME.”

Also last week, Kent Hospital’s preparation was put to the test for real when a patient arrived in the ED with a water bottle filled with a clear liquid that turned out to be drain cleaner. Unbeknownst to those caring for the patient, when they emptied this water bottle out, the hazardous nature of the container’s contents caused some burn-like injuries to a couple of the hospital staff. This prompted a hazmat response in the

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ED and back in the patient's neighborhood in West Warwick, where emergency responders shut down the block for a couple of hours while they searched the home for the source of the contaminant. While minor, this still presented a serious threat, one that those on the frontlines must be prepared for at any time. Fortunately, for those in the Kent ED that day, they responded accordingly and mitigated any further risk.

To further enhance our preparedness, teams from across Care New England will be participating in an "Ebola Virus Disease Tabletop Exercise" in a few weeks. Hosted by the Rhode Island Department of Health's Center for Emergency Preparedness and Response, the annual exercise is to test and validate the provisions of the Rhode Island Ebola Concepts Operations Plan.

This is important and ultimately, lifesaving work that will ensure our readiness and preparedness for many possible threats that uniquely face those like you who choose to do the important work of health care. My thanks to all.

Have a great week ahead.

Sincerely,



James E. Fanale, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer



CARE NEW ENGLAND

50 states of population health

Becker's Hospital Review asked a hospital leader from every state to name the most pressing health concern facing their patients and how they are addressing it. The opioid epidemic, access to care and social determinants, were among common concerns cited by leaders. For Rhode Island, our own James Fanale, MD expressed the following:

On the top challenge

"Care New England's focus has been inward amid financial struggles. However, addressing the social determinants of health and ultimately improving outcomes is the most pressing healthcare issue facing our patients. Importantly, this focus also addresses the financial challenges many safety-net hospitals are facing."

On the hospital's response

"Our population health efforts have been successful in large part because of the depth and range of skills possessed by the professionals who make up the care delivery team; this includes case managers, primary care providers, specialists, therapists, social workers, peer specialists, physical therapists, substance abuse specialists and nurses. The care delivery team, many of whom are bilingual, conduct a functional assessment to assist patients and families with a range of issues critical to their long-term care, including appointment management and follow-up, transportation, medication management, translation, food, access to support groups and more.

We're deeply committed to managing all of our costs, so we're looking at labor costs and supply costs. We just have a very upticked approach to this. At the same time, it all boils down to doing a good job. It also boils down to quality, service and access. If we're the best in quality, best in service and best in access, we'll rule the day, and that's where our focus is."

Read responses from the other 49 state at <https://bit.ly/2JAPHh9>.



A masterpiece of hope to benefit Butler Hospital



or visit <https://foundation.butler.org/event>.

Enjoy an exquisite evening of fine art, music, delicious hors d'oeuvres and libations in celebration and support of Butler Hospital. Join us on **Wednesday, May 16** for "A Masterpiece of Hope" at the Providence Art Club.

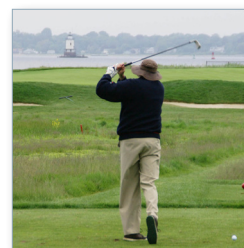
Take in fabulous artwork at this National Historic Landmark and learn about the latest programs and discoveries at Butler Hospital. For sponsorship opportunities, please contact special events coordinator Cezarina (Sue) Jackson at (401) 921-8508 or cjackson@carene.org

THE PROVIDENCE CENTER

TPC accepting registrations for annual charity golf tournament

The Providence Center is now accepting registrations for its 17th Annual President's Cup Golf Tournament, which will be held **Monday, June 4** at Rhode Island Country Club. Located in Barrington, the RI Country Club is a picturesque private club that is consistently ranked as a top classic golf course and is home of the CVS Charity Classic.

Check in and lunch begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by a 1 p.m. shotgun, and a cocktail hour and dinner at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$1,200 a foursome or \$350 for individual player. Last year's event attracted over 130 golfers and raised over \$90,000 to support TPC programs. For more information on the event or other sponsorships, please contact Lisa Desbiens at (401) 290-7764 or ldesbiens@provctr.org.



KENT

A celebration of survivorship!

The Breast Health Center at Kent will hold their 8th annual Survivorship Day, themed Savor the Sweet Life, on **Friday, May 11, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick, RI. All cancer survivors, along with the family and friends who have stood by their side along their journey are invited to the free, celebration of survivorship. The day will include guest speakers, aroma therapy, manicures, massages, spring refreshments, sweet treats, and lunch.

Moderator: Candace Dyer, MD, Medical Director, The Breast Health Center at Kent

Expert speakers from across Care New England:

- Jessica Laprise, MS, CGC: "What's new in genetic testing for breast cancer"
- Nike Kendall, LICSW; Diane Thompson, LICSW;
- Sandra Salzillo, CBFA-MA, CAGS, LMHC: "The psychological intervention in oncology"
- Rebecca Stocker, PT, DPT, CLT: "Get fit after cancer"
- Todd E. Handel, MD: "Is marijuana right for you? How does it work, where do I begin?"

Please RSVP by May 4 to Kim McDonough, Breast Health Center at Kent Program Director at (401) 737-7010, ext. 35408.

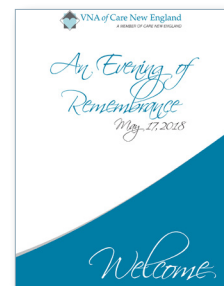


An Evening of Remembrance

Each year the VNA of Care New England provides the families and friends who have lost a loved one a chance to commemorate and honor his/her life at "An Evening of Remembrance" through candlelight, music, and a sharing of memories and photographs.

This year's event will be held on **Thursday, May 17 at 6 p.m.** at Warwick Country Club located at 394 Narragansett Bay Avenue in Warwick. Please RSVP by May 11 by calling (401) 737-6050 or email SGreen@vnacarenewengland.org.

The VNA of Care New England encourages both attendees and those unable to attend to share photos of their loved one(s), by submitting them to be included in the evening's slide show. Photos, along with the loved one's name, may be sent electronically to Chris Carpenter at CACarpenter@vnacarenewengland.org or mail to VNA of CNE at 51 Health Lane, Warwick, RI 02889, or dropped off at the VNA office prior to May 11.



HealthStream update launches today

Care New England's new and improved HealthStream platform has arrived. The go-live for the new site is today, Monday, April 30, with education on the new platform being rolled out over the next few weeks. Below are some FAQs to help make this transition a smooth one. Dr. Fanale and the project's executive sponsors, Deb O'Brien and Tish Devaney, extend their thanks to the project team for all of their efforts during this transition.

What does this mean for you?

Online education assignments and in-person class registration will now occur in HealthStream. Please note the transition for some of the operating units' online education and classroom activities will be completed over the next few months. We expect the transition to conclude on July 31. You will be notified and provided instruction if this applies to you.

How do I access the system?

You can access HealthStream through the Education/Training tab on **carenet** or at <https://www.healthstream.com/hlc/cne>. Username to login will be your network ID, which is the same username you use to login to your email, workstation, and Epic/Cerner/Avatar. Your initial password is "welcome" (all lowercase). Once you login for the first time, you will be prompted to change your password.

How do I use HealthStream?

You can learn about the following features by clicking the blue highlighted links:

My To-Do List: http://www.healthstream.com/hlchelp/SMH_S/To_Do_List/story_html5.html

Completing a Course: http://www.healthstream.com/hlchelp/SMH_S/Completing_a_Course/story_html5.html

Completing a Curriculum: http://www.healthstream.com/hlchelp/SMH_S/Completing_a_Curriculum/story_html5.html

Viewing & Completing Elective Learning: http://www.healthstream.com/hlchelp/SMH_S/Elective_Learning/story_html5.html

Viewing My Transcript: http://www.healthstream.com/hlchelp/SMH_S/Transcript/story_html5.html

Viewing My Alerts: http://www.healthstream.com/hlchelp/SMH_S/Viewing_Alerts/story_html5.html

Viewing My Account: http://www.healthstream.com/hlchelp/SMH_S/Your_Account/story_html5.html

How do I know if I have been assigned any education?

You will receive an alert from HS-Alerts@HealthStream.com that provides the details of the assignment.

What if I encounter a problem?

If you forgot your password or are experiencing network related issues, please contact the Help Desk at 921-1000 (external) or ext. 11000 (internal). If you have a problem or a question about an assignment, contact TeamHS@CareNE.org. 