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THE CHRISTIANA CARE WAY

**We serve our neighbors as respectful,
expert, caring partners in their health.
We do this by creating innovative,
effective, affordable systems of care
that our neighbors value.**

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Google Glass was one of many
new technologies on display at
Christiana Care's Education and
Research Celebration.

Innovation, technology take center stage at annual celebration

Innovation and technology were front and center at the Education and Research Celebration, March 31 – April 1 at the John H. Ammon Medical Education Center. The annual event of the Christiana Care Learning Institute provided an opportunity for educators to share ideas, be inspired and reflect on Christiana Care's journey in achieving the health system's third consecutive ranking among the Top 125 learning organizations selected by Training magazine.

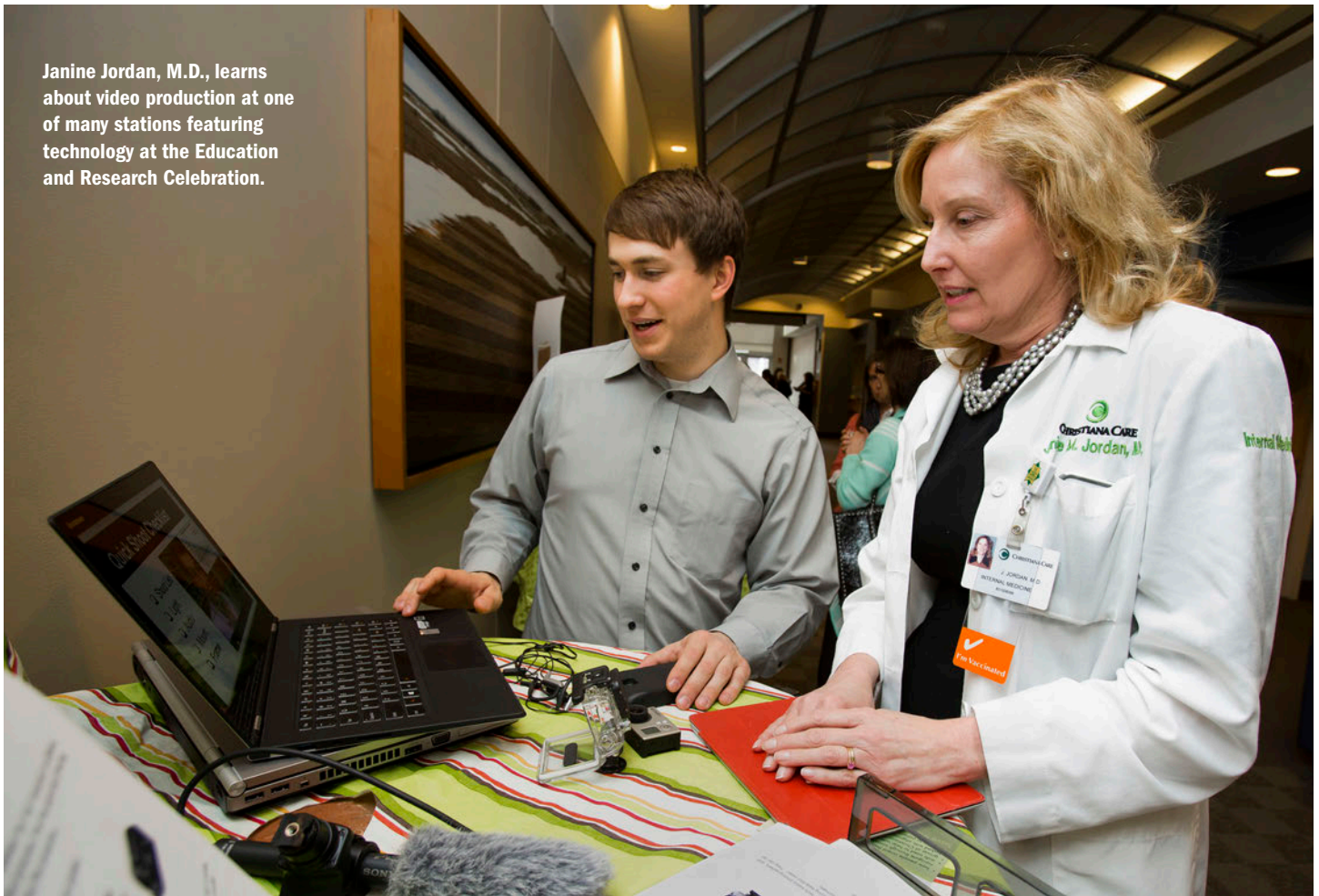
"It's a huge honor because the Top 125 crosses industries, and we are number one among health systems," said Rosa Colon-Kolacko, Ph.D., MBA, senior vice president, System Learning/Learning Institute, and chief diversity officer.

Overall, Christiana Care ranked 28th in the Top 125, the premier learning industry awards program.

Staff education and striving for continued improvement in providing expert, respectful care in ways that patients value "all map back to The Christiana Care Way," said Robert J. Laskowski, M.D., MBA, Christiana Care president and CEO.

CONTINUED

Janine Jordan, M.D., learns about video production at one of many stations featuring technology at the Education and Research Celebration.



Timothy J. Gardner, M.D., executive director of the Value Institute and medical director of the Center for Heart & Vascular Health, said the ultimate goal of education and research is to improve the delivery of care. The Value Institute is Christiana Care's pioneering initiative to study health and health care to identify and implement strategies that achieve better health outcomes at lower costs.

"What you do after training is more important than what you do during training," said Art Kohn, Ph.D., founder of AKLearning, who was the keynote speaker of the two-day event.

Kohn said that reinforcing training is essential because 70 percent of all new information is forgotten within 24 hours. He advocates "boosters" to help embed

learning in the brain. That might begin with sending learners multiple-choice quizzes on the training information via mobile phone. Over the next two months the questions would become more detailed, leading up to detailed feedback from learners on how they put their training to use.

More than 30 Christiana Care employees and teams were honored with trophies that acknowledged their accomplishments in education and research.

Before the awards luncheon, staff had a chance to explore stations set up to showcase technologies such as Google Glass, a wearable computer with an optical head-mounted display, and VoiceThread, a cloud-based application that helps users to create conversations around documents, videos and other images.

Jeff McKinstry, systems training, checked out Prezi, an interactive program for online quizzes and tests.

"I am always interested in seeing new tools, and this is a great opportunity to check out a number of new things," he said.

Bob Sleezer, medical photography manager, took a quick tutorial in Jing, screenshot and screencast software that makes it easy to share images and short videos.

Several Knowledge Now sessions drew more than 200 participants who learned tips for using Windows 7 and Lync, how to produce a simple video, how to write effective abstracts and how to make use of online learning. Other sessions addressed generational differences in learning and tools to evaluate different levels of learning. ●

Christiana Care earns Training Top 125 honors

A multidisciplinary team from Christiana Care received the Training Top 125 Award from Training Magazine: Christine G. Sowinski, MSM, medical student liaison, Office of Academic Affairs; Jennifer Czerwinski, senior education specialist, The Learning Institute; Barbara Monegan, MA, FABC, director, talent management and leadership development, The Learning Institute; Jennifer Painter, MSN, RN, OCN, AOCNS, nursing school coordinator and faculty liaison, Nursing Development & Education; Rosa Colon-Kolacko, Ph.D., MBA, senior vice president, System Learning, chief diversity officer, executive director, Learning Institute; Timothy D. Rodden, M.Div., MA, BCC, FACHE, director, Pastoral Services; Michelle L. Collins, MSN, RN-BC, ACNS-BC, manager, Nursing Professional Development & Education/Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing Leader, Center for Educator Development and Patient-Family Education; Tabassum Salam, M.D., FACP, associate residency director, coordinator, Women's Health, Department of Medicine; Carrie Young, senior education coordinator, Information Technology; and Loretta Consiglio-Ward, MSN, RN, Quality & Safety education specialist, Patient Safety & Accreditation.



Rosa Colon-Kolacko, Ph.D., MBA, senior vice president, System Learning/Learning Institute, and chief diversity officer, presents Allen Friedland, M.D., FACP, FAAP, and Seema Sonnad, Ph.D., with Distinguished Mentor awards (above), and presents Cheryl Swift, BS, MSN, RNC-OB, and Danielle Sofia BSN, RN, CCRN, with Rising Star Educator awards (below).



Christiana Care's Learning Institute, launched in 2011, is a virtual institute designed to engage and inspire learning across traditional department lines. It contains distinct centers that nurture ideas and best-practice educational services for all levels of the organization. ●

Christiana Care pioneers U.S. trial of absorbable scaffold for heart patients



Unlike traditional stents, the Absorb device opens blocked arteries with a mesh tube made of naturally dissolvable material, allowing the body to absorb it after implantation.

Christiana Care Health System is one of a handful of institutions in the region to participate in ABSORB III, the first clinical trial in the United States of an absorbable vascular scaffold for patients with coronary artery disease.

Unlike traditional metallic heart stents, the Absorb Bioresorbable Vascular Scaffold device made by Abbott opens blocked arteries with a mesh tube made of polylactide, a naturally dissolvable material commonly used in dissolving sutures. After the device is implanted, the body absorbs it, allowing the artery the potential to regain its normal physiology.

“This could be a life-changing treatment for patients with coronary artery disease,” said Wasif Qureshi, M.D., medical director of the Structural Heart Program at Christiana Care’s Center for Heart & Vascular Health and the principal investigator in the trial at Christiana Care. “We are always looking for innovative treatments that can lead to better outcomes and improve the lives of our patients.”

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the United States. Coronary artery disease is the most common type of heart disease and occurs when the arteries that supply blood to the heart become narrowed by a buildup of plaque, which is composed of fat, cholesterol, calcium and other deposits.

Since the 1970s, metallic stents have been used to open blocked arteries and deliver medicine to the vessels. The stent remained in the patient for the rest of his or her life. The Absorb device is called a scaffold because it is designed to be temporary.

After the scaffold is absorbed, it no longer takes up room in the artery, allowing greater blood flow. The artery also regains its ability to contract and expand naturally.

The Absorb device was approved in Europe in 2011, where an earlier trial determined that no patients developed clots within three years of receiving the scaffold. Absorb also is in use in the Middle East and parts of Latin America and the Asian Pacific. In the ABSORB III trial, the goal is to enroll 2,250 patients, most in the U.S., including about 20 at Christiana Care.

In the trial, two out of three patients will receive the scaffold, while one will receive a traditional metallic stent. Investigators will compare outcomes for the two groups, measuring the safety and effectiveness of the device. ●



“This could be a life-changing treatment for patients with coronary artery disease. “We are always looking for innovative treatments that can lead to better outcomes and improve the lives of our patients.”

—WASIF QURESHI, M.D.

Daily team huddles set the stage for The Christiana Care Way

By Kathy Lewis, manager, Patient Guides and Valet Services



It's 9 a.m. at Christiana Hospital, time for our daily huddle.

Colleagues from many teams — Patient Guides, Valet, Guest Services, Junior Board and Volunteers — gather in a circle, and we introduce ourselves.

Mel Land, a patient guide in the Center for Heart & Vascular Health, leads the huddle. He informs our group that there is an event that day at the Ammon Center, a heads-up that our visitors will be looking for directions. An extra shuttle will be running to accommodate guests. One colleague in the Emergency Department, Elliott, is off that day. So when someone in the Emergency Department needs a Patient Guide, Mel will fill in. In closing, he reminds everyone that a colleague is leaving for military duty. Our work family will gather that afternoon to share cake and wish him well.

Then everyone touches hands in a giant handshake to exclaim our team motto: "PATIENTS FIRST!"

The entire process takes seven minutes. In that brief amount of time, people from five different departments have come together as a team, communicated, and ensured that patients and visitors will receive caring, respectful service.

These colleagues are the first people patients and visitors will encounter when they come to the hospital. Recognizing the vital role of the front-of-house teams, Margarita Rodriguez-Duffy, director of Visitor and Volunteer Services, proposed that we start this practice of a daily huddle to share information and nurture cooperation between teams.

It's a gem of an idea, one that we polish every day so that it sparkles.

Long ago, when I was looking for insights on how to improve the Patient Guide and Valet Service, the first person I turned to was Ron Turner, who serves visitors in the parking lot. Ron is the patriarch of our patient guides, with many years of experience.

We already knew that the colleagues on our team care deeply about patients and their loved ones and want to do the best they can to help them. By listening to our colleagues we learned one of their greatest frustrations was when patients had to wait longer than they should because Patient Escort was busy. The patient guides wanted to bridge the gap but weren't permitted.

While patient escorts do a wonderful job at getting people where they need to go, why couldn't our guides help when the escorts are busy taking care of other patients?

So we changed one of many rules in order to free them up to effectively do their jobs. If an escort isn't available, a guide who has coverage can take the patient or visitor to his or her destination, followed by a respectful handoff so there is a smooth transition. "This is my colleague, Mary Smith, who will take care of you from here."

In addition, our lobby volunteers can now provide a concerted handoff from the guides.

Cooperation among teams allows us to be better partners with patients and visitors. We aren't able to provide them with expert clinical care at the door, but we can care for them in other ways, offering information, guidance and a warm welcome to people who may be ill, frightened or confused.

A framework in which teams support one another is good for colleagues, enhancing job satisfaction.

Betty Santiago, a patient guide veteran of 14 years, loves to help people. Recently, she was able to quickly arrange for someone to cover her post in the Christiana Hospital main entrance lobby so she could personally guide a visitor to the bedside of her gravely ill uncle.

Julia Tindall, a Guest Services representative, began working at Christiana Care in December. One of the things she likes most about her job is being part of a team in which making a great first impression is a priority, notably changing the face of our entrances.

Before moving to the Heart Center Entrance, Mel was an outdoor patient guide, serving our neighbors on the campus shuttle. After many years, he got to know many of the patients and families he would drive to the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute. He cared about them and wanted to make certain their ride was pleasant and reliable.



With a cheer of “Patients first!” the front-of-house staff at Christiana Hospital concludes their morning huddle. Since introducing this daily ritual, the teams that make up Visitor and Volunteer Services have experienced greater cohesion, cooperation and support from each other, making it easier than ever to be expert, caring partners with our neighbors.

As Mel says, we are all ambassadors. As colleagues, we work as a team to serve our neighbors as caring, respectful partners in ways that our neighbors value. It’s The Christiana Care Way. When someone arrives at the hospital, our arms and hearts are open to them. As a team, we will get everyone safely and efficiently to their destination — and always with a kind, generous smile.

We can provide the best support to our patients and our guests when we support each other. That support starts with our daily huddle. ●

Daily team huddles are scoring points with patients and staff at Christiana Care’s Concord Health Center.

“It’s a brief time for people to gather together and share updates on staffing needs, safety concerns, special patient needs, operational needs, employee recognition — all the things that help us to deliver great care in a one-stop setting,” says Nicole Brown, operations practice manager for the pediatrics and medical group at Concord Health Center.

Each day, there are three separate huddles, each with between four and eight participants: primary care and clinical staff; the reception staff; and an interdepartmental huddle in which each department is represented by an ambassador. After that huddle, ambassadors e-mail a brief summary to everyone in their departments.

Brown leads the center’s ambassadors. The group came up with huddles as a system to enhance communication and consistently provide patients with expert, respectful, efficient care. The model was launched Feb. 10.

“If there is going to be downtime on the MRI machine, everyone knows about it and can plan accordingly,” she says. “If there is a patient with special needs, our greeter is ready with a wheelchair when that patient arrives.”

Each huddle lasts six minutes, enough time to share information but not so much time that it interferes with patient care. Ideally, each participant speaks for no longer than 30 seconds.

“The last one to arrive at the huddle starts first,” Brown says. “So everyone rushes to get there on time.” ●

Patient Relations ambassadors help lift patients' spirits, improve hospital experience



Patient relations ambassadors are specially trained volunteers who visit patients soon after they are admitted to the hospital, providing a warm welcome and helping to ensure that their hospital stay is off to a good start.

As Brittney Smith rested in her Christiana Care hospital room after surgery, volunteer Peggy Collins dropped by to see if there was anything she could do to make Smith's stay better.

"It's good so far," said Smith. "The nurses are really nice and responsive."

"That's generally what I hear, but I never get tired of hearing it," said Collins, a retired mortgage banker who is now a volunteer Patient Relations ambassador at Christiana Care.

In her welcoming role, Collins loves meeting patients and enjoys the good feeling that comes from brightening their day.

The Patient Relations Ambassadors program began with a trial run in December and is now in full swing at Christiana Hospital and Wilmington Hospital. The 20 trained volunteers make it their goal to drop in with a friendly welcome within 48 hours of every patient's hospital admission.

Patient Relations ambassadors orient patients to the call bell and lights, show them how to use the GetWell Network patient education system, and provide general information about the hospital.

While asking how things have been going, the volunteers will offer to grab an extra blanket or pillow.

They do not discuss medical issues, which are outside their expertise. "When in doubt, I go find a nurse," Collins said.

In the case of Brittney Smith, Collins learned that if anything had been challenging for the 28-year-old Newark woman, it was that she had been admitted to Christiana Care through the Emergency Department because of sudden and intense pain.

"I'm sorry for any wait that you had," said Collins.

"It's OK," said Smith, appreciating Collins' empathy. "I'm feeling way better now."

Smith, who works in communications for a local energy company, said she appreciates this kind of warm personal contact and the attempt to make her stay more comfortable.

Rose Wessells, manager of Volunteer Services, says that with the new program patients seem happier, and that satisfaction is reflected in higher marks for the hospitals in patient surveys.

"It's exciting to see how much impact this is having on the patient experience," Wessells said.

"Patients appreciate if you spend a couple of minutes asking how they are. Sometimes they will say, 'Please come back and see me if you have time.'"

Sometimes there are practical patient concerns that need to be addressed. Patient Relations Ambassador Erin Dunston said one patient in a shared room asked for a private room because of a medical need.

"After she told me, I went to the Patient Relations Department and we got someone in to see her," Dunston said.

Since 1996 there have been volunteers who visit patients over the age of 60. In early 2011, there was a six-week pilot for another program in which new volunteers, many of them nursing students, visited patients on four units. That program proved very successful, said Margarita Rodriguez-Duffy, director, Visitor & Volunteer Services.

One nursing student, in her second day as an ambassador, spent three hours with a patient who was waiting for his children to arrive. She stayed with the man because he was so scared.

"The nursing student was unbelievably proud that she was able serve in this way," said Rodriguez-Duffy. "With this kind of response, we knew we were on to something."

When Shawn R. Smith, MBA, joined Christiana Care last May as vice president of Patient Experience, he reviewed the volunteer programs with Rodriguez-Duffy and others. He believed that the positive results of the two patient visitation programs should be combined into one coordinated effort. He also stepped up the goal: to have every patient visited within 48 hours of when they are admitted to the hospital.

"This is another way of extending our patient- and family-centered approach," Smith said. "We want everyone to feel welcomed and know that we're committed to a high quality of care. To me, this is an additional layer of contact to enhance the patient's experience."

Bob Puitz of Pennsville, N.J., said he felt warmly welcomed during his recent hospital stay at Christiana Care for abdominal surgery. "Seeing a friendly face check on you and ask how you're doing is always a good thing," he said.

The Patient Relations Ambassadors are gaining personal insights as they care for others. Dunston is a junior at the University of Delaware and has been thinking about a career as a pediatrician.

Testing her career goal was one of the reasons she volunteered for the new program.

"I love this and want to work in a hospital now," said Dunston, who is from College Park, Md.

In a similar vein, Tashay Clayton of Wilmington was recently certified as a medical assistant, and she decided to volunteer to better understand the hospital experience from the patient's point of view.

"Patients appreciate if you spend a couple of minutes asking how they are," said Clayton. "Sometimes they will say, 'Please come back and see me if you have time.'"

This is especially true for seniors and patients who don't have family in the area, said Arun Amin, a retired research scientist who was one of the earliest volunteers for the new program. He chuckled as he recalled one patient who, when he asked if he could get him anything, replied, "Sure! A scotch!"

His response: "Let's get you home and feeling great, then you can make that happen." ●



Patient Relations Ambassador Peggy Collins visits with patient Bob Puitz of Pennsville, N.J. In some pain after surgery but otherwise in good spirits, Puitz said he appreciated the welcome.

Volunteers pilot program to serve needs of families with babies in NICU



NICU Ambassador Donna Suro spends time with Jamie Chamberlain of Newark and her newborn daughter Kendall.

"The NICU is a bustling place, it's not unusual for us to have 60 babies. We are one of the busiest delivery hospitals in the country and Delaware's largest and busiest Level III NICU, offering the highest level of neonatal care."

—CARLOS DURAN, M.D.

Christiana Care's tiniest patients and their families are getting a dose of extra attention from volunteers in a new pilot program in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

The NICU Ambassadors program was launched in mid-February with three trained volunteers whose role is to help families navigate the complex NICU experience and to offer a helping hand to nurses and unit clerks.

"One of the most life-changing experiences for a family is having a baby, and at same time, it can be one of the most traumatic experiences to have a baby who is sick, who is taken away from them, as it were," said neonatologist Carlos Duran, M.D. "We are always trying to think how we can support families so at this incredibly

trying time they can have a little less stress. The less distressed they are, the better outcome for their baby.

"The NICU is a bustling place. Our average census is 48, but it's not unusual for us to have 60 babies. We are one of the busiest delivery hospitals in the country and Delaware's largest and busiest Level III NICU."

Rose Wessells, manager of Volunteer Services, said volunteers' first priority is attending to the needs of the family, escorting them from the hospital entrance or Labor & Delivery to the NICU, making sure they have the proper identification badge and showing them how to properly wash their hands before handling their baby.

Volunteers work from 2 to 6 p.m. one day a week each during the pilot phase

of the program. When not interacting with families, they assist nurses by getting supplies, delivering charts, making tags for the cribs or obtaining screens for nursing mothers; or they may pitch in to help unit clerks with paperwork or answering phones.

As the program develops with feedback from all involved, it may be expanded, Wessells said.

Currently, volunteers do not pick up babies, but Duran said it is something they all want to do, and nurses have indicated they would welcome extra arms to comfort crying babies. "Cuddler" training is being offered to NICU ambassadors and other volunteers as "another level of support that would benefit families, staff and babies," he said.

The program was developed by the NICU Family Centered Care Committee “as a way to make families more at ease when they come into the NICU,” said Kelly Cover, NICU Family Support Specialist with the March of Dimes. The committee worked with Volunteer Services to recruit volunteers and develop a one-day NICU-specific training program that builds on the basic training all Christiana Care volunteers receive.

Cover’s role in the training was to talk about “the feelings the families might be experiencing, things for them to watch for,” she said. “I was also a mom in the NICU, so I know what that feels like.” Sometimes, the most helpful thing a volunteer can do is listen, she said.

“An ambassador is someone who promotes goodwill, who makes others feel comfortable, someone who is friendly, and someone who represents the hospital itself,” said Staff Development Specialist Karen Davis. “When a family has a baby in the NICU they can feel very vulnerable. We show them a caring and compassionate way of delivering health care, providing some of the most innovative and technologically advanced care for these tiny patients.”

At Christiana Care, “we try to look at the patient and family as a whole system and we try to care for them in multiple aspects, medically, emotionally, spiritually and in a respectful manner, because we have many types of families that come to our door,” she said. “We try to make the families a part of their infant’s care during their stay.”

For NICU Ambassador Donna Suro, it is a labor of love. She retired a year ago after 23 years as a blood bank aphaeresis technician and knew she wanted to do volunteer work. “I have six grandchildren and I thought I would love to be around babies,” she said, so working in the NICU seemed a good fit for her.

“The first day, I was busy for the whole four hours I was there,” she said, helping families, nurses and the unit clerk. “It just makes you feel good that you’re doing something for someone besides yourself.” ●

Visiting Nigerian group led by Oyo State’s first lady tours Christiana Hospital and Graham Cancer Center



Christiana Care internist Rey Agard, M.D., cardiologist Kamar T. Adeleke, M.D., and Tammy Brown, clinical director of the Graham Cancer Center’s Cancer Program, welcomed First Lady Florence Ajimobi, the wife of the governor of the Oyo State in Nigeria.

Christiana Care internist Rey Agard, M.D., and cardiologist Kamar T. Adeleke, M.D., welcomed First Lady Florence Ajimobi, the wife of the governor of the Oyo State in Nigeria. First Lady Ajimobi and her staff were visiting the United States for the 58th Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. During a break from the conference on March 11, they came to Delaware to visit the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute and Christiana Hospital. Tammy Brown, RN, MSN, OCN, director of cancer care management at the Graham Cancer Center, also helped lead the tour.

Dr. Agard and Dr. Adeleke, a Nigeria native, have spearheaded several medical missions to developing nations to help people. During these trips, teams of Christiana Care health professionals have provided direct patient care and also shared their expertise with colleagues in Nigeria, Kenya and Haiti. In 2012, the Christiana Care team provided medical care for citizens of Nigeria’s Oyo State, where First Lady Ajimobi started the Access to Basic Medical Care Foundation, which provides free health care to citizens.

“I have a dream of starting a place as beautiful as the Graham Cancer Center in Nigeria,” the First Lady said. “I’m going to take a lot of the things I’ve learned here and bring them back to Nigeria for our people, and we are grateful for the opportunity to tour your beautiful campus.” ●

Collaboration provides health insurance help in Spanish and Mandarin

Health insurance can seem complicated in any language. Employees at Christiana Care are teaming up to make it easier.

With language expertise in Spanish and Mandarin, the Community Health Outreach and Education team at Christiana Care's Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute has partnered with Christiana Care's marketplace guides to boost health insurance enrollment in Delaware's Latino and Chinese communities.

Christiana Care's marketplace guides program, developed by the Department of Family & Community Medicine, includes 12 specially trained employees who counsel Delawareans about their insurance options under the Affordable

Care Act. During open enrollment in the U.S. Health Insurance Marketplace, the guides reached more than 12,000 people and enrolled more than 300 Delawareans in health insurance plans.

"Our guides have been highly successful in helping Delawareans without health insurance learn about their options and obtain coverage," said Michael Rosenthal, M.D., chair of Family & Community Medicine. "As part of

Christiana Care's commitment to providing access to care, extending this collaborative effort with the Cancer Center allows us to reach more members of our community."

The partnership between the marketplace guides, with two Spanish speakers on staff, and the multilingual staff at the Cancer Center puts insurance access within closer reach for Latino and Chinese Delawareans.

"Our guides have been highly successful in helping Delawareans without health insurance learn about their options and obtain coverage."

—MICHAEL ROSENTHAL, M.D.



Pedro Castaneda, who learned about the health insurance marketplace at a Christiana Care men's health conference, appreciated the Spanish-language help with health insurance available the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute.

"We've made it a goal to work across programs and bring the value of what each of us is doing directly to our patients," said Nora C. Katurakes, RN, MSN, OCN, manager of Community Health Outreach and Education at the Cancer Center. "It's in keeping with The Christiana Care Way and with our commitment to provide the best care to the patients and neighbors we serve."

Pedro Castaneda appreciated the Spanish-language help with health insurance available at the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute. While attending a conference for members of the Hispanic community, he heard about a special enrollment event at the cancer center from Luisa Ortiz-Aponte, Healthy Families project manager, who explained the steps involved in enrollment.

"The collaboration with the marketplace guides has been a tremendous benefit to our patients and community," said Katurakes. To assist in the enrollment effort, Katurakes set aside office space in the cancer center for the guides to meet with individuals and families. The marketplace guides joined the Community Health Outreach and Education team in visits to churches, community centers and the New Castle Farmer's Market, raising awareness about both cancer screenings and health insurance.



"Our partnership gives us a great opportunity to follow up with the people we meet," said Marketplace Guide Coordinator Lauren Pendergast, BS, RD.

Community Outreach Coordinator Fen Gu has worked with scores of people whose primary language is Mandarin Chinese. Using a list of patients already receiving services at the Graham Cancer Center, she contacted 60 families by phone, e-mail and in person to explain the new health care law and how Christiana Care can help with health insurance.

Christiana Care's marketplace guides and their outreach partners at the Graham Cancer Center provide help with health insurance and access to care in Spanish and Mandarin Chinese.

By March 21, she had assisted 42 families, and one of the enrollees was about to receive her first mammogram under the Affordable Care Act, she said.

"I love being able to help people go through this process," Gu said.

Nicholas J. Petrelli, M.D., the Bank of America endowed medical director of the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute, said assisting Delawareans with health insurance is an important complement to their care.

"The rate of death from cancer in Delaware continues to drop twice as fast as the U.S. rate as a whole," Dr. Petrelli said. "That's tremendous progress. As more people receive health coverage and cancer screenings, we should do even better in the fight against cancer and the overall health of our neighbors." ●

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—NICHOLAS J. PETRELLI, M.D.

Christiana Care's clinical informatics experts help pioneer official subspecialty

Two Christiana Care physicians are among the first group to receive board certification in clinical informatics, a new subspecialty destined to transform and improve patient care and population health.

Terri H. Steinberg, M.D., chief medical information officer at Christiana Care, and Edward F. Ewen, M.D., FACP, informaticist for the Department of Medicine, passed the examination in December 2013, joining 453 other first-ever clinical informatics diplomates of the American Board of Preventive Medicine.

The new subspecialty is helping to standardize training programs, increase the number of training opportunities

available to physicians and provide an immediately recognized credential for organizations in need of informaticians. Any of the 28 primary specialty fields of medicine and surgery are eligible to take up clinical informatics.

Drs. Steinberg and Ewen are both board-certified in internal medicine as their primary specialty.

Dr. Steinberg is a geriatrician who, in addition to her information technology role, sees patients with the Independence at Home program. Dr. Ewen practices internal medicine at Christiana Care's Adult Medicine Office and sees patients at Wilmington Hospital. ●



Terri H. Steinberg, M.D.



Edward F. Ewen, M.D.

Clinical Informatics: the scientific discipline that seeks to enhance human health by implementing novel information technology, computer science and knowledge management methodologies to prevent disease, deliver more efficient and safer patient care, increase the effectiveness of translational research, and improve biomedical knowledge access.



Christiana Care named one of America's 100 Great Hospitals

Becker's Hospital Review has named Christiana Care Health System to its 2014 list of 100 Great Hospitals in America, a compilation of the "most prominent, forward-thinking and focused health care facilities in the nation."

Best-in-class patient care is just one of the criteria cited by Becker's Hospital Review in including Christiana Care among its "100 Great Hospitals in America."

According to the publication, hospitals on the list are home to many medical and scientific breakthroughs, provide best-in-class patient care and are stalwarts of their communities, serving as academic hubs or local mainstays.

The publication highlights Christiana Care's U.S. News & World Report ranking as the No. 1 hospital in Delaware and as one of the top 50 hospitals in the country in gynecology for 2013 – 14. Becker's also includes Healthgrades' recognition of Christiana Care in 2014 for excellence in general surgery, orthopaedic surgery, spine surgery, pulmonary care and overall clinical excellence — which means it performs in the top 5 percent of hospitals nationwide.

To develop the list, Becker's Hospital Review's editorial team conducted research, considered nominations and evaluated reputable hospital ranking sources, such as U.S. News & World Report, Healthgrades and several other resources. The list is not a ranking.

Becker's Hospital Review is a monthly publication offering business and legal news and analysis relating to hospitals and health systems. ●

Gerard J. Fulda, M.D., named chair of Department of Surgery



Gerard J. Fulda, M.D., FACS, FCCM, FCCP, has been named Christiana Care's new chair of the Department of Surgery. Dr. Fulda has served as interim chair since July, guiding the department with strong leadership and a commitment to providing greater quality and value.

With his new appointment, Dr. Fulda remains the director of surgical critical care and the program director of the Surgical Critical Care Fellowship. Since joining Christiana Care in 1989, Dr. Fulda has led many transformational efforts to improve quality and safety.

Dr. Fulda is highly regarded in the fields of surgery and critical care medicine. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the American College of Critical Care Medicine and the American College of Chest Physicians.

In January, Dr. Fulda received the Distinguished Service Award for exceptional leadership from the Society of Critical Care Medicine. He is a four-time recipient of the Presidential

Citation Award for outstanding contributions to the Society of Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Fulda has held numerous leadership positions with the American College of Surgeons, the American College of Critical Care Medicine and the American Trauma Society, among others.

Dr. Fulda was part of the Sepsis Alert Team that helped Christiana Care to earn the prestigious Ernest Amory Codman Award from the Joint Commission in 2007. He also received the Charles W. Serby COPD Research Award from the American Respiratory Care Foundation that same year. Last year, the Gift of Life Donor Program recognized Dr. Fulda for his leadership and commitment as a member of the governing board of the organization.

Dr. Fulda graduated from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 1983. He completed his surgical residency at Christiana Care and a fellowship in critical care and traumatology at the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems in 1989 (Shock Trauma Center). He is an associate professor of surgery at Jefferson Medical College and a staff surgeon at A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children.

Dr. Fulda is the author of more than 50 articles published in peer-reviewed journals, as well as numerous abstracts, editorials and book chapters. ●

Anne Mueller appointed administrative director of Pain & Palliative Care



Anne Mueller, BSc, MBA, MBE, has joined Christiana Care as administrative director of Christiana Care's Pain & Palliative Care team.

Her addition to the team in November completed the current phase of expansion for the program, now comprising four physicians, four nurse practitioners, a chaplain

and chaplain resident, and a nurse scheduler.

The Pain & Palliative Care program at Christiana Care started in 2004 led by John J. Goodill, M.D., FACP, FCCP, chief of Christiana Care's Pain and Palliative Care Section.

"Dr. Goodill's passion to help patients and their families as they struggle with complex illness or chronic pain and disease was a driving force behind the program," Mueller said.

Mueller previously was a consultant for Applied Bioethics Advisors, Chadds Ford, Pa., leading a management/consultancy group.

Before that, she was an executive with AstraZeneca for 25 years, holding various roles in pharmaceutical research and development, including head of the company's science policy and bioethics team for North America and director, Science Policy, Bioethics, and Science Relations.

Mueller completed her master's degree in bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania in 2011.

As administrative director Mueller reports to Mike Eppheimer, MHSA, vice president, Medicine. She also is a member of the Christiana Care's Ethics Committee and a board member and adviser to several nonprofit biomedical research organizations. ●

Christiana Care leaders selected for Press Ganey Institute for Innovation

Shawn R. Smith, MBA, vice president of Patient Experience; Eric V. Jackson Jr., M.D., MBA, associate director of the Value Institute and director of the Value Institute's Center for Health Care Delivery Science, and Janine Jordan, M.D., medical director of Care Transitions and Utilization Management, Department of Quality and Patient Safety, have been selected for the Press Ganey Institute for Innovation.

The Press Ganey Institute for Innovation is a nonprofit research collaborative that provides a forum to better understand and act upon the voice of the patient, and to advance the science of improving patient care and performance.

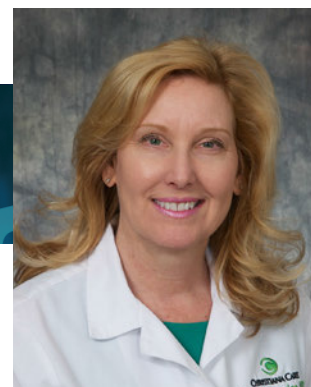
Smith, Dr. Jackson and Dr. Jordan will join other health care leaders from across the nation to research, develop and share solutions that drive quality care and partner with patients.

"We are honored to be selected for the Institute for Innovation, which gives us the opportunity to advance patient- and family-centered care for patients across the nation," Smith said. "We also look forward to bringing many of the institute's best approaches back to Christiana Care so that we can continue to strengthen our commitment to the patients and families we are privileged to serve."

The institute uses collaborative studies to test and enhance strategies for improving patient care through evidence-based research. That research enables hospitals to better understand their patients' perspectives in order to improve their experience during their hospital stay. ●



Eric V. Jackson, M.D., MBA



Janine Jordan, M.D.



Shawn R. Smith, MBA

Tammy Brown, RN, appointed director of Cancer Care Management



Tammy L. Brown, RN, BSN, OCN has been appointed director of Cancer Care Management.

Brown began her career at Christiana Care in 1993 as an oncology nurse and has held several positions over the last 20 years. For the decade previous to her new appointment she focused on cancer research, most recently as an

administrative manager in cancer research, appointed in 2006.

"Tammy is well-prepared for her new role, leading one of the cancer centers most valuable programs," said William L. Holden III, MBA, FACHE, vice president, Cancer Program, Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute.

"Tammy is very capable of reorganizing care management toward population health since cancer has become a chronic disease" said Nicholas J. Petrelli, M.D., Bank of America endowed medical director of the Graham Cancer Center.

Brown's work experience includes regulatory affairs, chemotherapy infusion and oncology medicine. She also has six years' experience working as an RN at the Delaware Center for Infertility & Reproductive Endocrinology.

She completed her master's degree in nursing at Wilmington University. She received a bachelor's degree in nursing at Wilmington College and an associate's degree in nursing at Delaware Technical and Community College in 1990.

She is a member of Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International and the Oncology Nursing Society. ●

Publishing

Richard J. Derman, M.D., et al., "Preconception Maternal Nutrition: a Multisite Randomized Controlled Trial." *BMC Pregnancy & Childbirth*. March 2014. For the Preconception Trial Group.

Marci Drees, M.D., et al., "Variation in Definitions and Isolation Procedures for Multidrug-Resistant Gram-Negative Bacteria: A Survey of the SHEA Research Network." *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology*. April 2014.

Heather Bittner Fagan, M.D., MPH, and **Nora Katurakes, RN, MSN, OCN**, "Cost-effectiveness of a Standard Intervention Versus a Navigated Intervention on Colorectal Cancer Screening Use in Primary Care." *Cancer*. April 2014.

Linda Laskowski Jones, RN, MS, ACNS-BC, CEN, FAWM, a chapter, "Adult and Pediatric Emergency Drugs." in the textbook *Pharmacology: A Patient-Centered Nursing Process Approach* (8th ed., pp. 909-926). St. Louis: Elsevier Saunders (2015). J. Kee, E. Hayes, & L. E. McCuiston (Eds.).

Amy Mackley, MSN, PCNS-BC, RNC, CCRC, Ursula Guillen, M.D., David A Paul, M.D., Robert Locke, D.O., MPH, et al., "Complementary and Alternative Medicine Use in Women During Pregnancy: Do Their Healthcare Providers Know?" *BMC Complementary & Alternative Medicine*. March 2014.

Anna Pecoraro, Psy.D., Edward Ewen, M.D., Terry Horton, M.D., Ruth Mooney, Ph.D., MN, BSN, Paul Kolm, Ph.D., Patty McGraw, MS, RN, George Woody, M.D. "Using the AUDIT-PC to Predict Alcohol Withdrawal in Hospitalized Patients." *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. January 2014.

Adam Raben, M.D., et al., "Tadalafil for Prevention of Erectile Dysfunction After Radiotherapy for Prostate Cancer." *JAMA*, April 2, 2014, Vol. 311, No. 13.

Edmondo J. Robinson, M.D., MBA, et al., "The Hospital Medicine Reengineering Network (HOMERUN): A Learning Organization Focused on Improving Hospital Care." *Academic Medicine*. March 2014.

Anthony C. Sciscione, D.O., et al., "Delivery Timing and Cesarean Delivery Risk in Women with Mild Gestational Diabetes Mellitus." *Am J Obstet Gynecol*. March 4, 2014.

Robert L. Witt, M.D., a book chapter, "The Role of Extracapsular Dissection for Benign Parotid Tumors." *Current Otolaryngology Reports*, March 2014.

Robert L. Witt, M.D., Swati Pradhan-Bhatt, Ph.D., et al., "Hyaluronan: A Simple Polysaccharide with Diverse Biological Functions." *Acta Biomater-italia*, Volume 10, Issue 4, April 2014.

Robert L. Witt, M.D., Matthew P. Hoffman, M.D., et al., "Combined KIT and FGFR2b Signaling Regulates Epithelial Progenitor Expansion during Organogenesis." *Stem Cell Reports*, December 2013.

Presentations

Abstract posters presented at the American College of Cardiology 2014, 63rd Annual Scientific Session and Expo, in Washington, D.C., March:

- **Shaukat Khan, Ph.D., Lionel J. Malebranche, M.D., Mitchell Saltzberg, M.D., Michael Banbury, M.D., Angela DiSabatino, RN, MS, Andrea Squire, RN, and Takeshi Tsuda, M.D.**, "Enhanced Bioactive TGF- β Levels in the Myocardium Suggests Early Pathological Transition in Asymptomatic Severe Mitral Regurgitation." Named Session and Expo Best Fellow-in-Training Poster.
- **Pranav P. Kansara, MBBS, MS, Subba Reddy Vanga, MBBS, MS, Sandra Weiss, M.D., William Weintraub, M.D.**, and **Ehsanur Rahman, M.D.**, "What is the Impact of New or Presumed New Left Bundle Branch Block on In-Hospital Mortality Compared to Known Left Bundle Branch Block in Patients Presenting with Suspected Acute Coronary Syndrome?"
- **Pranav P. Kansara, MBBS, MS, Anitha Rajamanickam, M.D., Sandra Weiss M.D., Ehsanur Rahman, M.D., James**

T. Hopkins, M.D., Edward Goldenberg M.D., Michael Kostal, M.D., Michael Stillabower, M.D., and William Weintraub, M.D., "Understanding the Pathophysiology of Apical Ballooning Syndrome, A Step Closer!"

- **Pranav Kansara, MBBS, MS, Subba Reddy Vanga, MBBS, MS, Sandra Weiss, M.D., William Weintraub, M.D.**, and **Ehsanur Rahman, M.D.**, "How Often Is Left Main or Left Anterior Descending Artery the Culprit Vessel in Patients Presenting with New or Presumed New Left Bundle Branch Block and Suspected Acute Coronary Syndrome?"
 - **Zaher Fanari, M.D.**, and **Wasif A. Qureshi, M.D.**, "Traumatic Myocardial Infarction in a Young Athletic Patient after a Sports Injury."
 - **Zaher Fanari, M.D.**, and **Wasif A. Qureshi, M.D.**, "Percutaneous Angioplasty of Critical Subclavian Artery Stenosis in a Patient with Coronary Subclavian Steal Syndrome with the Support of Impella Percutaneous Left Ventricular Assist Device."
 - **Subba Reddy Vanga, MBBS, MS, Pranav Kansara, MBBS, MS, Angela DiSabatino, RN, MS, Sandra Weiss, M.D.**, and **William Weintraub, M.D.**, "Prevalence and Outcomes of STEMI Patients Who Were on Chronic Vitamin K Antagonist Therapy at the Time of Presentation."
- At the American College of Cardiology 2014, 63rd Annual Scientific Session and Expo, in Washington, D.C., March, **William Weintraub, M.D.**, presented two cases:
- "A Patient with Two-Vessel CAD Involving Proximal LAD, Low-Risk Findings on Non-invasive Testing, Receiving No or Minimal Anti-Ischemic Medical Therapy, Who Has Class I or II Angina."
 - "CABG Is Best."

At the American College of Cardiology 2014, 63rd Annual Scientific Session and Expo, in Washington, D.C., March, **William Weintraub, M.D.**, chaired the ACC/AHA Task Force on Data Standards

Committee meeting and co-chaired a session titled, “Controversies in Interventional Cardiology.”

At the Alliance of Independent Academic Medical Centers Annual Meeting, San Diego, March:

- **Thomas L. Corrigan**, chief financial officer, and **Neil Jasani, M.D., MBA**, vice president for Academic Affairs, “Graduate Medical Education Funding.”
- **Robert Dressler, M.D., Neil Jasani, M.D.**, “Building the Next Generation of Medical Quality and Patient Safety Leaders: A Multi-Pronged GME Approach.”
- **Eric Jackson Jr., M.D., MBA**, and **Diane Bohner, M.D.**, “Aligning Research in the Context of Clinical and Operational Objectives: Conducting Collaborative Science with the Value Institute.”

At the Eastern Society for Pediatric Research Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, March:

- “Increased Monocytes and Bands Following RBC Transfusion: Precursor to NEC?” **Andrew M. Ellefson, M.D., Robert G. Locke, D.O., MPH, Yong Zhao, M.D., Amy B. Mackley, MSN, RNC, CCRC**, and **David A. Paul, M.D.**
- “What Is the Optimal Method to Assess the Adequacy of Bag-Mask Ventilation?” **Stephen A. Pearlman, M.D., MSHQS, Susan Coffey Zern, M.D., CHSE, Thomas Blackson, BS, RRT, Joseph A. Ciarlo, BA, RRT-NPS, Wei Zhang, MS, MA, Amy B. Mackley, MSN, RNC, CCRC**, and **Robert Locke, D.O., MPH.**
- “Noninvasive Ventilation in the Delivery Room: Lung Protection Right from Birth.” **Sandeep Sadashiv, M.D., John Emberger, RRT, Gina Moore, BSN, RN, CPHQ, Robin Maguire, MSN, Andrew Ellefson, M.D., Robert Locke, D.O., MPH**, and **John Stefano, M.D.**
- “Medical-Legal Partnership at Healthy Women/Healthy Babies Sites to Improve Health Status in Low-Income High-Risk Pregnant Women.” **Robert Locke, D.O., MPH**, et al.

- “Complementary and Alternative Medicine Use in Women During Pregnancy: Do Their Healthcare Providers Know?” **Amy Mackley, MSN, RNC, CCRC, Úrsula Guillén, M.D., David A. Paul M.D.**, and **Robert Locke, D.O., MPH.**
- “How Good Are Simulation Model Lungs?” **Susan Coffey Zern, M.D., CHSE, Stephen A. Pearlman, M.D., MSHQS, Thomas Blackson, BS, RRT, Joseph A. Ciarlo, BA, RRT-NPS**, and **Robert Locke, D.O., MPH.**
- “International Comparison of Guidelines for the Management of Extremely Premature Deliveries: A Systematic Review,” **Úrsula Guillén, M.D., David Munson, M.D.**, et al.

Randy Gaboriault and **Linda Laskowski Jones, RN, MS, ACNS-BC, CEN, FAWM**, “Improving ED Patient Care: Driving Improved Patient Care and Operational Efficiency in Christiana Care’s Emergency Departments with Realtime Locating Solutions.” Microsoft Mid-Atlantic Health Care Summit in Malvern, Pa., March.

Linda Laskowski Jones, RN, MS, ACNS-BC, CEN, FAWM, was conference chair, master of ceremonies and general session speaker at the Nursing2014 Symposium, Wolters Kluwer Health / Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Las Vegas, Nev. March. Her lecture was titled “Help – Is Anyone Here a Nurse?”

Kathleen W. McNicholas, M.D., FACS, JC, LLM, “Never Worry Alone: Fostering Interprofessional Communication As a Key to Patient Safety,” at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American College of Medical Quality, Alexandria, Va., March.

Heather A. Panichelli, BSN, RN, CEN, “Bringing the Intensive Care Unit to the Emergency Department.” poster presentation at the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists conference, Orlando, March.

At the Society of General Internal Medicine Regional Meeting, New York, N.Y., in March and the national Meeting, San Diego, in April:

- **Edward Ewen, M.D., Sara Schenk, M.D., John Donnelly, M.D.** “Embracing the Huddle in a Resident Teaching Clinic.”
- **Vishal Patel, M.D., William Weintraub, M.D., Edmondo Robinson, M.D., Roger Kerzner, M.D., Tabassum Salam, M.D., Daniel Elliott, M.D.** “Factors Contributing to Readmissions for Patients with Ischemic Heart Disease.”

Charles L. Reese IV, M.D., FACEP and **Linda Laskowski Jones, RN, MS, ACNS-BC, CEN, FAWM**, participated in the Third Benchmarking Consensus Summit to define national ED performance metrics, a summit comprising some 40 participants from across the country, including ED leaders, CMS, AARP and the National Quality Forum, in Las Vegas, Nev., February.

Robert L. Witt, M.D., “Thyroid Surgical Care: Impact of Molecular Testing” at the National University in Singapore, March.

Robert L. Witt, M.D., and **Swati Pradhan-Bhatt, Ph.D.**, “Restoring Salivary Gland Function with a Modular Cellular Approach,” at the American Association of Dental Research (AADR) in Charlotte, N.C., March.

Appointments

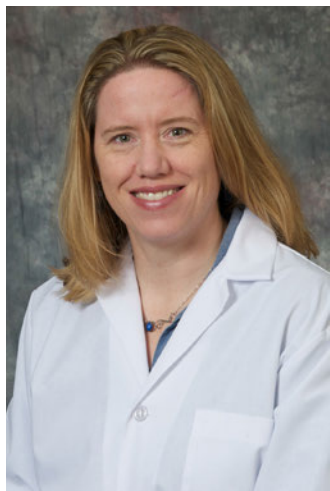
Louis Bartoshesky, M.D., MPH, will serve as chair of the American College of Medical Genetics Social Ethical and Legal Issues Committee through 2016.

The Professional Advancement Council congratulates these nurses on their promotion to RN III: **Andrea Fell, 5C; Cynthia Fowser**, Labor and Delivery; **Christina Hoddinott**, Wilmington ED; and **Melissa Ouellette**, Christiana ED.

George D. Moutsatsos, M.D., was inducted into the American College of Cardiology (ACC) Board of Governors and appointed ACC’s Governor of Delaware.

Gerald M. O’Brien, M.D., is a diplomate of the American Association for Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology for the period 2014 through 2024. ●

Marci Drees, M.D., led study highlighting need for national standards to improve infection prevention



Marci Drees, M.D., MS, FACP, DTMH, infection prevention officer and hospital epidemiologist for Christiana Care, is the lead author in a major study in the April issue of *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*.

The study found that infection control practices for detecting and treating patients infected with drug-resistant bacteria vary significantly worldwide between hospitals.

Inconsistencies in the microbiological definition of multidrug-resistant gram-negative bacteria among hospitals — along with differences in treatment protocol — could be contributing to an increase in multidrug-resistant bacteria, Drees and other researchers found. The researchers conclude that public health agencies should promote standard definitions and uniform treatment protocols in order to limit the spread of multidrug-resistant bacteria.

“Differences in definitions and practices for multidrug-resistant bacteria confuse health care workers and hinder communication when patients are transferred between hospitals,” Dr. Drees said. “The danger these inconsistencies represent affects not only individual patients and hospitals, but the broader community because patients are frequently transferred between health care centers, including long-term care facilities, furthering the spread of these bacteria. By promoting standard definitions and management of multidrug-resistant bacteria, we can eventually limit their emergence and their spread.”

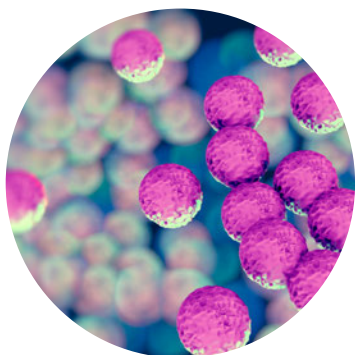
Researchers reviewed results of an online survey of 70 hospitals representing 26 states and 16 countries, collecting information about how different hospitals detect and treat these infections. Researchers also collected information on how hospitals define these pathogens and whether patients are treated under the proper hospital precautions to prevent the germs from spreading through contact.

Researchers found that participating hospitals had up to 22 unique definitions for multidrug-resistant gram-negative bacteria, which determined whether they would receive contact precautions. Also, some hospitals isolated patients only when they found bacteria resistant to three or more classes of antimicrobials, while others isolated patients if there was resistance to only one. The duration of isolation also significantly varied from hospital to hospital.

“We can better protect our patients by creating and standardizing global protocols to stop these bacteria from spreading,” Dr. Drees said.

Christiana Care uses an evidence-based protocol to treat multi-drug resistant pathogens, including multidrug-resistant gram-negative bacteria, and tracks measures related to hospital-acquired infections as part of its commitment to patient safety. In 2013, Christiana Care’s Infection Prevention Department was recognized with two HAI Watchdog Awards for its successful efforts in preventing health care associated infections.

The study was published by the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America Research Network, a consortium of more than 200 hospitals collaborating on multi-center research projects. Co-authors on the study include Lisa Pineles, MA, and Anthony D. Harris, M.D., MPH, of the University of Maryland School of Medicine; and Daniel J. Morgan, M.D., MS, of Veterans Affairs Maryland Healthcare System. ●



“By promoting standard definitions and management of multidrug-resistant bacteria, we can eventually limit their emergence and their spread.”

— MARCI DREES, M.D.

Christiana Care earns award for innovative communication technology



Dr. Howard Landa, Alameda County Medical Center chief medical information officer, and Paul Frisch, RFID in Healthcare Consortium President and Chief Technology Officer, present the 2014 Most Innovative Use of Business Intelligence Award to Leslie Mulshenock and Matthew P. Esham.

The RFID in Healthcare Consortium and Intelligent Hospital.org recognized Christiana Care with an award for Most Innovative Use of Business Intelligence.

The award was given to Leslie Mulshenock, director for Christiana Care's Heart and Vascular Interventional Services, and Matthew P. Esham, business relationship manager for Heart and Vascular Services, a member of Christiana Care's Information Technology Department.

Mulshenock and Esham led a team that harnessed real-time location services technology to enhance communication with patients and their families, and optimize lab throughput. Upon check-in, patients receive an RTLS tag that provides updates on their location to clinicians and family members as they move through phases of care. Families of patients who enter the heart and vascular interventional labs are provided with an ID number so they can receive real-time updates on a monitor in the patient waiting area that informs them when their loved one enters the procedure lab, when the procedure begins and ends, and when they arrive in the recovery room. The team's innovative work helped increase the already high patient satisfaction scores and efficiency at the Center for Heart & Vascular Health. ●

Easter Bunny visit brings spring cheer



Sheriff Trinidad Navarro and the New Castle County Sheriff's department brought the Easter Bunny for a surprise visit to Christiana Hospital on April 16. The Easter Bunny visits children at hospitals throughout the U.S. in the weeks before Easter, courtesy of the National Sheriffs' Association. ●

Fitness champion inspires his colleagues to live healthy



At the employee fitness center at Christiana Hospital, John Fields Sr. motivates staff assistant Marquis Matthews during one of their daily half-hour power sessions.

John Fields Sr. might not think of himself as a champion, but to those he has helped on the road to wellness, that name suits him perfectly. Fields, who works in Environmental Services at Christiana Hospital, serves as a wellness champion for Christiana Care's Wellness Program. He spends every lunch time motivating other employees as they work out in the hospital's fitness center during what is called their "half hour power session."

"Fitness has been part of my life for the past 20 years, and I am grateful that I can share my knowledge and enthusiasm for

living a healthy lifestyle with my colleagues," Fields said. "Whether it be weight lifting or using the cardio machine, I encourage everyone to keep moving and never give up."

As part of Christiana Care's commitment to improving employee health, the Wellness Champion Program was initiated in 2008. Christiana Care employees volunteer their time in helping their colleagues become healthier by sharing wellness information, organizing department activities and supporting system-wide health and wellness programs.

"Fitness has been part of my life for the past 20 years, and I am grateful that I can share my knowledge and enthusiasm for living a healthy lifestyle with my colleagues."

—JOHN FIELDS SR.

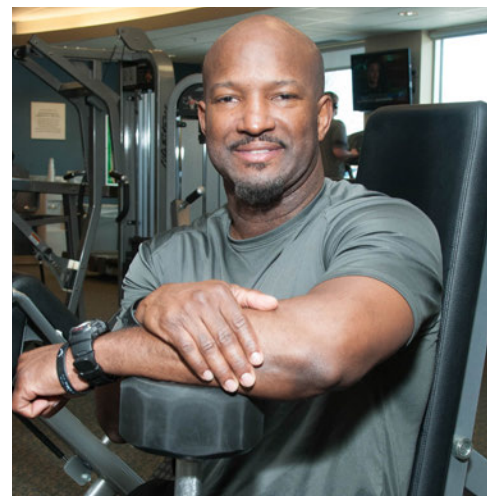
Alisa Carrozza, MS, Christiana Care's Wellness Program coordinator, said Fields was recognized to be a wellness champion because he serves as a role model for living a healthy lifestyle.

"Not only does he practice what he preaches; he encourages and teaches his co-workers to care for their bodies," Carrozza said. "He is an excellent role model and very knowledgeable."

When asked what motivated him to adopt such a leadership role, Fields said he was struck by the large number of young patients he saw while working on the cardiac floor and was inspired to help others become healthy.

"We take great pride in our commitment and results," Fields said. "Once an employee goes home, he or she most likely won't want to go out again to the gym, which is why an on-site facility is key."

Carrozza explains that Christiana Care's Wellness Program, which is led by Edward Goldenberg, M.D., director of preventive cardiology, was put into place in 2005 and designed to help employees be happier and healthier. The fitness center opened in 2007 and currently has 1,300 members. Membership includes group exercise classes and staff to assist with exercise planning. The cost for employees is only \$12 per pay via automatic payroll deduction. ●



Stretching, flexing routine helps Textiles Services team stay in shape

Handling the linens for a major health system is a huge undertaking requiring lots of physical labor.

Once a week, employees in Textiles Services take the pause that refreshes: a 10-minute session in which they focus solely on the important work of stretching their joints and muscles.

The pilot program is designed to increase workers' range of motion and decrease injuries and discomfort.

"This is a very physical job," said Guy Defibaugh, director, Textile Services. "We wanted to pinpoint what types of aches and pains people were experiencing and come up with a program to address that."

The pilot introduced employees to functional movement exercises targeting an individual's flexibility, strength, joint range of motion, motor patterns and core stability. Employees also completed a

pain survey, rating the amount of discomfort, if any, they experience.

In the survey, employees identified shoulder, neck and wrist pain as their top concerns. Rita Crowley, a group exercise instructor, worked with Alisa Carrozza, Wellness Program coordinator, to come up with a series of exercises designed to reduce strain, improve range of motion and prevent injuries.

To get things started, Crowley went to the department once a week to lead employees in exercises, assisted by Kathy Curtis and Lija Gireesh of Employee Health.

The program grew, with Olga Aviles, operation supervisor, and Rose Mary Henson, administrative assistant, assuming responsibility for scheduling and leading the sessions.

In order to keep work flowing smoothly, employees work out in groups in three

different areas: the pack room, the clean linen area and the soiled linen area. Few aids are required: stretchy bands, stress balls and a willing spirit.

"They are exercises that everyone can do, regardless of their age or level of fitness," Henson said.

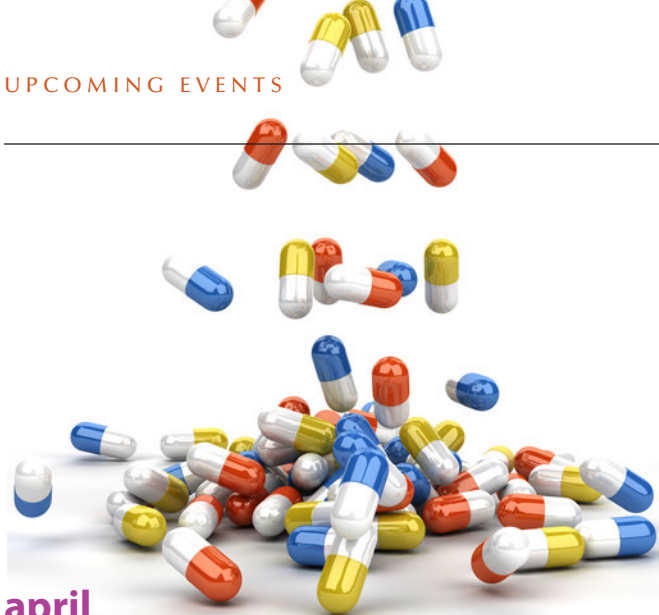
"At first there was a little giggling, but it didn't take long for everyone to get with the program," Aviles added.

In between sessions, workers are encouraged to stretch on their own. In a few months, they will be surveyed again to track improvements in their level of comfort.

"The program is beneficial for our employees, and there has been no negative impact in terms of getting our work done," Defibaugh said. "We have learned that taking a few minutes for fitness can make a big difference." ●



A weekly 10-minute exercise session is helping Textiles Services workers to increase fitness and reduce likelihood of on-the-job injuries.



april

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

Saturday, April 26, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Unwanted and expired medications will be collected for proper disposal at two Christiana Care drop-off locations: Medical Arts Pavilion 2 and the Middletown Emergency Department.

Learn more at http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html.

Delaware Military Medicine Symposium

Saturday, April 26, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

University of Delaware's John M. Clayton Hall

Learn of the advances that have come to civilian life from the tragedy of war, and learn about new treatment practices for people with traumatic brain injury and other major psychological and physical injuries. Bob Woodruff, ABC "World News Tonight" anchor and reporter, and survivor of a roadside bomb in Iraq, will share his own experience with TBI and polytrauma.

Women in military service and the impact of service on families will be sub-themes for the day, along with honors for colleagues who have served in the military. Presented by the Delaware Academy of Medicine and American College of Surgeons Delaware Chapter.

Learn more at <http://www.delamed.org/milmed/>.

Prevent Falls to Remain Independent

Wednesday, April 30, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Concord Health Center

161 Wilmington-West Chester Pike, Chadds Ford, Pa.

Each year, one in every three adults age 65 and older falls, causing mild to serious injury leading to reduced mobility and independence. In this free workshop, Renee Crossman, PT, DPT, ATC, from Christiana Care Rehabilitation Services at Concord Health Center will present simple strategies for improving balance and removing household obstacles.

To register, call 800-693-2273.

may

The Junior Board of Christiana Care 2014 Medicine Ball

Friday May 2, 7 – 11 p.m.

Delaware Museum of Natural History, 4840 Kennett Pike, Wilmington

Enjoy a night at the museum while supporting Christiana Care's Swank Memory Care Center, a unique program to support patients and their families dealing with memory disorders. The Medicine Ball features the wonders of the museum, enticing edibles and a variety of musicians, all elements of a prescription for fun.



For more information visit <http://www.christianacare.org/juniorboardmedicineball> or call 866-969-7787.

51st Annual William J. Holloway Infectious Disease Symposium

Tuesday, May 6, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

John H. Ammon Medical Education Center

Register online at <https://cchs.cloud-cme.com/Holloway2014>.

11th Annual Delaware Marathon Running Festival

Sunday, May 11, 7 a.m.

Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park, Wilmington Riverfront

Sponsored by Christiana Care. Register at <http://www.delawaremarathon.org> for the marathon, half-marathon or relay race. Or just stop by to cheer on the runners. The Helen F. Graham Cancer & Research Institute is one of the beneficiaries of the race.

This event would not be possible without the support of the hundreds of volunteers who come out, rain or shine, to support this great cause. Volunteers are always needed for registration, water stations, hospitality, course marshaling, course operations and clean up.

If you are interested in volunteering call 302-654-6400.

DELAWARE
MARATHON



may

Learning from Each Other: Building Academic-Provider-Community Partnership for Research

Monday, May 12, 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Chase Center at the Riverfront

Christiana Care will host this ACCEL community partnership conference to discuss best practices to address health care challenges facing the citizens of Delaware. Christiana Care is the ACCEL center for community engagement in a four-institution research partnership.

Learn more at <http://www.de-ctr.org>.

Bridging the Gap: Connecting Data to Decisions Value Institute Symposium

Thursday, May 22, 2014, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
John H. Ammon Medical Education Center

This symposium will feature presentations on research and other initiatives by Christiana Care Value Institute leaders, staff and scholars, including:

- “Collaborative Evaluation and The Christiana Care Way,” moderated by Seema S. Sonnad, Ph.D., director of Health Services Research, Value Institute.
- “Matching Policy and Evidence: Striving for High Reliability” with updates from the directors of the four Value Institute centers.
- “Moving Forward: A Preview of Upcoming Value Institute Initiatives,” led by Eric V. Jackson Jr., M.D., MBA, director, Center for Health Care Delivery Science and associate director, Value Institute.

Register online at <http://healthcare.christianacare.org/valuesymposium>.



Christiana Care Golf & Tennis Classic

Thursday, May 22
DuPont Country Club,
1001 Rockland Road, Wilmington

Don't miss the 23rd year of a Christiana Care tradition. Save the date for an exciting day of golf and tennis on the magnificent natural surroundings of the DuPont Country Club.

Participants will enjoy lunch, a buffet dinner, on-course refreshments, awards and prizes. Tournament proceeds will support The First State School at Christiana Care.

To learn more, call the Office of Development at 302-327-3305 or visit www.christianacare.org/classic.

june

Delaware Academy of Family Physicians Annual Scientific Assembly

Saturday, June 7,
John H. Ammon Medical Education Center

This year's assembly includes CME presentations from national and local leaders, a poster display and exhibit hall. Topics include clinical updates in epilepsy, hypertension, cholesterol and obesity, and an ICD-10 overview.

For more information: <http://www.delfamdoc.org/annualassembly.php>.



may & june

Poetry of Wellness workshop and reading events

Wednesday, May 28, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., small conference room of the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute's East wing conference center.

Maggie Rowe, award-winning poet and teacher at the Cancer Support Community, conducts her Poetry of Wellness workshop. The number of participants for this free workshop is limited to 12. Preregistration is required.

To sign-up, call the Junior Board Cancer Resource Library, 302-623-4580.

Wednesday, June 4, 6 – 7:30 p.m., Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute east-wing large conference room.

Rowe and other poets and readers will appear in an open event where registration is not required. There will be refreshments.

Call 302-623-4580 for more information.

Hundreds get moving at Dance Your Heart Out

Tracey Hammond is on a journey to reduce her risk of stroke and heart attack. She took her first steps at Dance Your Heart Out, an annual event sponsored by Christiana Care that combines screenings, education and fun to bring home to women and men the importance of exercise and a heart-healthy diet.

"I have high blood pressure, and my doctor is on me to lose weight," said Hammond, 50, of Wilmington. "My sister told me about Dance Your Heart Out, and I'm here to get started."

More than 500 people, most of them women, attended the March 20 event at the Chase Center on the Riverfront. Participants received free screenings, including blood pressure, bone density and body-fat analysis. They also learned how to measure their waist circumference, an indicator of risk for heart disease and stroke. The waist-circumference goal for women is less than 35 inches, or 32 inches for Asian women.

Carolyn Moffa, a nurse practitioner and clinical leader in the Heart Failure Program at Christiana Care, shared tips on choosing heart-healthy foods at the grocery store.

Sheri Norton of New Castle was surprised to learn the low-calorie frozen dinner she often prepares is not the healthiest choice.

"It's lower in bad fat — but it also has 300 mg of salt, which is not good for my blood pressure," Norton said.

Norton, 46, came with her 14-year-old daughter Destiny, a student in the health careers program at Hodgson Vocational Technical High School in Newark.

"In a few years I would like to be a nurse working at this event, helping people in the community," Destiny said.



"Events like this show that The Christiana Care Way doesn't stop at the hospital doors," said Sudhakar Satti, M.D., neurointerventional surgeon and honorary co-chair of the event. "We reach many more people when we take screenings and education on cardiovascular health directly to the community."

Deitre Johnson of Dover cares for her husband with heart disease. They both began eating a heart-healthy diet after his diagnosis. Johnson started exercising in earnest when she learned she was borderline diabetic.

"Now I do line dancing almost every day, and my numbers are much better," she said. "The more you learn about your health, the better you do."

Emcees for the high-energy evening were Joan Coker, M.D., a head and neck surgeon, and Ken Brown, education director of the Christina Cultural Arts Center. Raye Jones Avery, Christina

Cultural Arts Center executive director, kept the evening flowing with her stage direction.

Dancers from Christina Cultural Arts Center, Padua Academy, Broesler School of Irish Dance and Delaware State University provided entertainment and additional energy. YMCA instructors led dance fusion and line dancing, and shared recommended guidelines for physical activity.

Attendees wore rings with flashing red hearts, donned red Dance Your Heart Out T-shirts and kicked up their heels to pulsing, upbeat music.

At last year's event, Janice Arcierri of Newark learned she had signs of osteoporosis after a heel scan, a simple test that measures bone density.

"I followed up with an appointment with my doctor and was shocked to learn that I do indeed have osteoporosis," said Arcierri, 47. "I never would have known without the screening."



More than 500 people attended Dance Your Heart Out 2014. This annual event sponsored by Christiana Care Health System combines screenings, education and fun to teach about the importance of exercise and a heart-healthy diet.



This year, she brought three friends to Dance Your Heart Out. “We want to live healthier lives, and it starts with us,” Buckley said. “We want to be going to the mall together when we’re in our 90s.”

The event also included a wellness program demonstrating chair exercises and how to set a 28-day exercise plan.

“Events like this show that The Christiana Care Way doesn’t stop at the hospital doors. We reach many more people when we take screenings and education on cardiovascular health directly to the community.”

— SUDHAKAR SATTI, M.D.

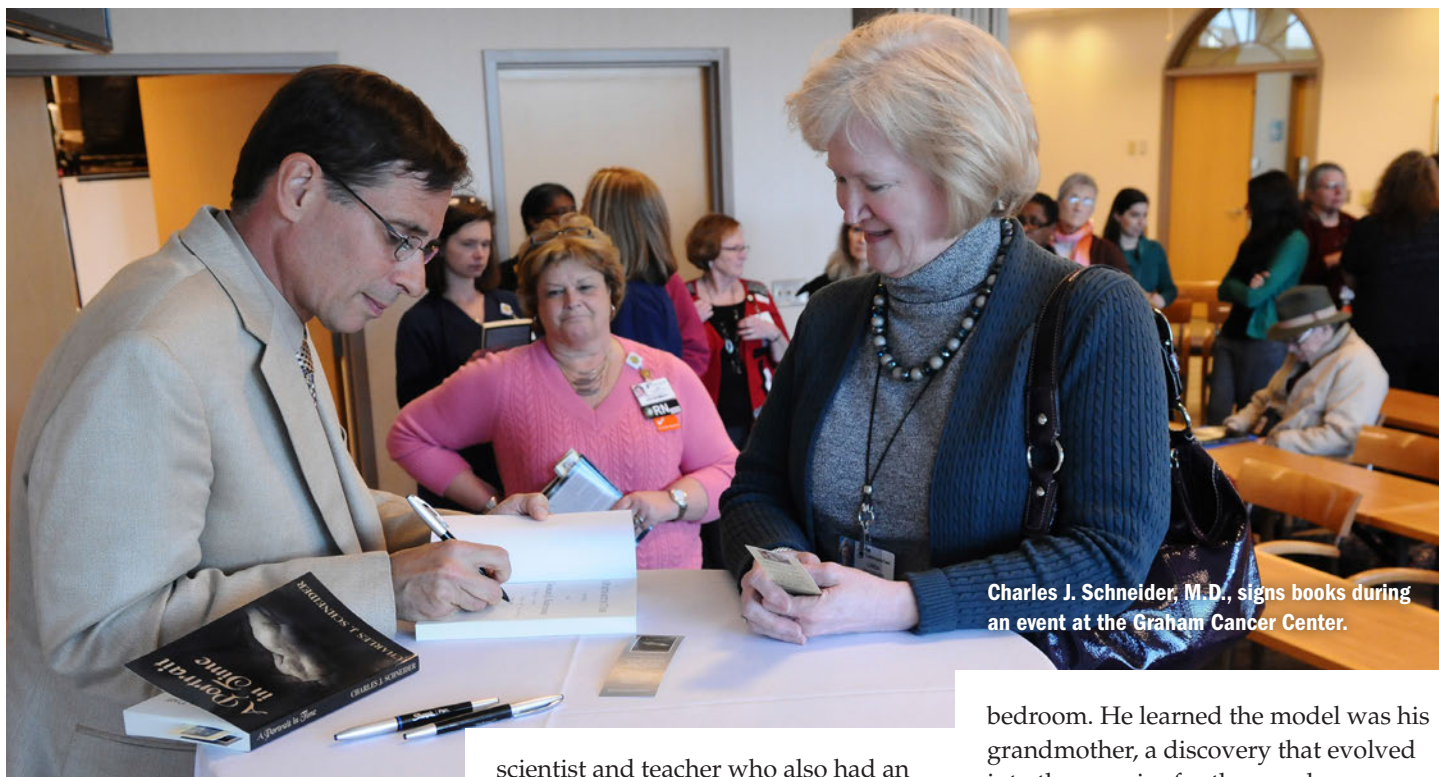
Representatives of Christiana Care Cardiac Rehabilitation and the Million Hearts Delaware initiative taught participants how to prevent stroke and identify stroke warning signs. Christiana Care marketplace guides offered expertise on enrolling in affordable health insurance plans.

In all, 213 participants received blood pressure screenings, 147 were screened for bone density and 150 had their body mass indexes calculated and measured for percentage of body fat.

The screenings were done by Weight Management Center, Imaging Services, the Center for Heart & Vascular Health and the Blood Pressure Ambassadors at Christiana Care.

Collaboration among Christiana Care departments including Family & Community Medicine, OB-GYN, Internal Medicine, Center for Heart & Vascular Health, Non-Invasive Lab, Employee Health, Nutrition and Exercise Services, Weight Management Center and External Affairs helped to make the event successful. ●

Oncologist weaves artful mystery in “A Portrait in Time”



Charles J. Schneider, M.D., signs books during an event at the Graham Cancer Center.

As an oncologist, Charles J. Schneider, M.D., cares for patients at the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute, evaluating treatments and strategies to save lives.

As a writer, he navigates scenarios and plot twists to bring characters to life. His debut novel, “A Portrait in Time,” is a murder mystery infused with art theft, romance and an accidental time traveler.

Dr. Schneider began writing as a boy, penning poems and fantasy short stories in middle school. He rode his bike to the bookstore in search of Charles Dickens, Jack London, Edgar Allan Poe — classics that piled high on his nightstand.

By the time he started college, he had decided to devote his life to medicine. Still, he remained engaged with writing, minoring in literature and drama.

He shared a love of literature with his father, to whom he has dedicated his novel. Charles M. Schneider was a

scientist and teacher who also had an artistic side, painting and writing.

“It was a disappointment to him that he was never able to get his work published,” Dr. Schneider said.

In 2006, his father was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Two years later, as the elder Schneider neared the end of his life, father and son talked about their shared love of writing.

Dr. Schneider spoke of his desire to write a popular but enduring work of fiction.

“My father said ‘you will,’ as if he knew that I would,” he said.

“A Portrait in Time” is the product of three years of work, including four rewrites. Dr. Schneider worked early in the morning, as well as during rare pauses between patients at his practice, Medical Oncology Hematology Consultants. For nine months, he worked with William Thompson, the editor who discovered Stephen King and John Grisham.

His inspiration was an enigmatic painting that hung in his grandparents’

bedroom. He learned the model was his grandmother, a discovery that evolved into the premise for the novel.

“What if the model was from another century, a relative who posed for Impressionist painters?” he asked.

In March, Dr. Schneider participated in a book-signing and Q&A event at the Graham Cancer Center, where he talked about his love of literature and how he balances his writing life with his career as a physician.

“My father received excellent care there, and I take care of patients there, so it’s very fitting,” he said. He has generously donated a portion of the proceeds from the sale of his book to support the Graham Cancer Center.

Dr. Schneider already is thinking about his next book, perhaps bringing back characters from “A Portrait in Time.”

“It ends in a way that there could be a sequel,” he said.

“A Portrait in Time” is available through Amazon and Barnes & Noble. ●

Kidney Transplant Program hosts annual brunch for donors and recipients

A brunch honoring kidney transplant patients and donors April 5 included 68 kidney recipients and the donors who provided a gift of a lifesaving, matching kidney.

Each donor wore a red rose at the special brunch held at the Sheraton Wilmington South Hotel.

The event followed the seventh anniversary of Christiana Care's Kidney Transplant Program, launched Jan. 15, 2007. To date, 189 kidney transplants have been performed at Christiana Hospital, of which 48 involved living donors.

Ryan Haydu, administrative director of the Kidney Transplant Program, said the program has grown steadily since its inception. This summer the

team expects to perform its 200th kidney transplant.

"It's a comfort for patients having this life-saving surgery to have it close to home, where they remain near their loved ones," Haydu said. ●



S. John Swanson, M.D., chief of Transplant Surgery, speaks with donors and recipients at the annual celebration.

PROGRAM QUICK FACTS

SINCE 2007:

1,471 Patients evaluated.

425 Patients currently on the waiting list.

189 Transplants performed.

44 Average number of months patients wait for organ donation.

149 Transplants enabled by deceased donors.

48 Transplants enabled by living donors.



Lynette McVoy-Vielot and the Rev. John C. McVoy.



Hubert and John Mock.



James E. Hollis and Yolanda C. Ligon.

Occupational HIV exposure and updated HIV prevention management for health care personnel

By Robert Achenchi, Pharm.D

Occupational transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) among health care personnel (HCP) is rare but does occur due to a variety of circumstances. Exposures that place HCP at risk of contracting HIV include percutaneous injuries such as a needlestick or contact of mucous membranes or non-intact skin (chapped, abraded) with blood, tissue and body fluids that are infectious. The risk of infection after exposure for a health care worker is 0.3%. The risk of transmission is correlated to the inoculum effect (the larger the viral load, the higher the risk of infection). However, this does not mean that exposure to a source patient with undetectable serum viral load precludes HIV transmission, follow-up testing, or the need for postexposure prophylaxis (PEP). PEP reduces the likelihood of seroconversion to positivity for HIV.

Christiana Care has a policy in place to address HIV exposure of HCP. After assessment of the exposed employee, an Employee Health Services (EHS) clinician will provide a prescription for antiretrovirals as part of PEP to be filled at the outpatient pharmacy or, if after hours, at the inpatient pharmacy for a three-day supply starter dose kit. Christiana Care uses the preferred PEP drug regimen outlined below.

The 2013 Updated United States Public Health Service Guidelines for the Management of Occupational Exposures to Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Recommendations for Postexposure Prophylaxis recommendations expand on the previous guidelines with two identifiable updates: HIV postexposure regimens and the duration of HIV follow-up testing. A summary of the recommendations include:

- PEP should be offered to HCP when occupational exposure to HIV occurs.
- If possible, the HIV status of the source patient should be determined to help guide PEP. If PEP is offered and taken but the source patient is determined to be HIV negative, PEP should be discontinued with no further workup.
- PEP medication regimens should be started as soon as possible after exposure and continued for a full four weeks.
- PEP regimens should contain three or more antiretroviral drugs for all occupational exposures. This is an update of the previous recommendations that called for evaluation of severity of exposure to determine the PEP regimen.
- Expert consultation should be provided for any occupational exposures to HIV, and particularly in situations such as delayed exposure reporting, pregnancy and breastfeeding, or toxicity to the initial PEP regimen.
- If a newer 4th generation combination HIV p24 antigen-HIV antibody test is used to follow-up HIV testing in an exposed worker, then HIV testing can be concluded four months after exposure, otherwise it is typically concluded at six months.

PEP regimens should be well tolerated with few side effects and convenient dosing. There should be prompt anticipation and treatment of side effects to enhance compliance. Additionally, it is important to anticipate drug-drug and drug-herbal interactions and mitigate them to improve compliance. The recommended PEP regimen at Christiana Care is raltegravir (Isentress®) 400 mg orally twice daily plus emtricitabine / tenofovir (Truvada®) 200 mg / 300 mg orally once daily. There are alternative regimens available that involve combining one drug or drug pair. The preferred agents are well tolerated with minimal side effects and drug interactions. They can also be taken without regard to meals. Common side effects of raltegravir include insomnia, nausea and, rarely, skin and hypersensitivity reactions. Emtricitabine/tenofovir may cause skin discoloration. Additionally, it should not be used in patients with acute or chronic kidney disease or a creatinine clearance less than 60ml/min. ●

Reference:

Updated US Public Health Service guidelines for the management of occupational exposures to human immunodeficiency virus and recommendations for postexposure prophylaxis. *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*, 2013 Sep; 34 (9) 875-892.

CHRISTIANA CARE COMPLIANCE HOTLINE



Christiana Care's Compliance Hotline can be used to report a violation of any regulation, law or legal requirement as it relates to billing or documentation, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. All reports go directly to Compliance Officer Ronald B. Sherman. Callers may remain anonymous. The toll-free number is: 877-REPORT-0 (877-737-6780).

✓ To learn more about Corporate Compliance, review the Corporate Compliance Policy online or contact Ron Sherman at 302-623-2873.

FORMULARY UPDATE—MARCH 2014

FORMULARY ADDITIONS

Medication – Generic/Brand Name	Strength/Size	Use/Indication	Comment
Collagenase Clostridium histolyticum injection / Xiaflex	0.9 mg per vial	Treatment of adult patients with Dupuytren contracture with a palpable cord	Use limited to the Christiana Care Surgicenters
Liquid glucose gel / Insta-Glucose or Insulin Reaction	40% dextrose	Management of hypoglycemia	
Extended-release tacrolimus / Astagraf XL	0.5-, 1- & 5-mg capsules	Organ rejection prophylaxis (e.g. renal transplant)	

FORMULARY DELETIONS

Aluminum-Magnesium Hydroxide/ Simethicone tablets	Removed because of lack of use
Meperidine 75 mg injection	Removed because of lack of use
Neostigmine tablets	Removed because of lack of use

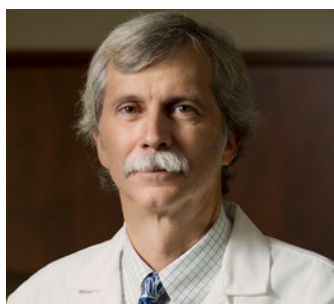
*Quality Partners update***Care management services available to all employees starting July 1**

Beginning July 1, Christiana Care is enhancing its health plan under Christiana Care Quality Partners to provide new resources for participants who are dealing with chronic medical conditions.

All employees and covered participants, whether in the Quality Partners, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware or Geisinger regional networks, will have access to robust resources to help manage chronic disease.

“Professional case and health managers, provided through our partnership with Geisinger Health Options, will offer personalized care, education and guidance, helping people manage their conditions and even prevent hospitalization,” said Alan Greenglass, M.D., medical director and CEO of Quality Partners. “They work in partnership with you and your doctors to provide health information and coordinate the services you need.”

Case and health managers can provide this support in person, over the phone or online and provide assistance with a variety of care needs, such as:



“Professional case and health managers will offer personalized care, education and guidance, helping people manage their conditions and even prevent hospitalization.”

— ALAN GREENGLASS, M.D.

- Easing the move from hospital to home or a skilled nursing facility.
- Paying careful attention to medications, follow-up appointments with providers, home health services and any other needs that may arise.
- Ensuring close monitoring of your condition.
- Helping you better understand the importance of diet and exercise.
- Ensuring you recognize when your condition may be worsening, and when to contact your doctor.
- Adult and pediatric asthma.
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
- Coronary artery disease.
- Diabetes mellitus.
- Heart failure.
- Hypertension.
- Osteoporosis.

For complex medical conditions, additional services and support are available, including coordination of follow-up medical appointments, coordination of home health and/or community services and others.

You and your covered family members can receive help, beginning July 1, for the following conditions:

You can learn more starting in late April by visiting www.thehealthplan/cchs.com. ●



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HEALTH SYSTEM

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Christiana Care is a private, not-for-profit regional health care system that relies in part on the generosity of individuals, foundations and corporations to fulfill its mission. To learn more about our mission, please visit christianacare.org/donors.

BabyCam fundraisers receive on-court honors at 87'ers game

Christiana Care sponsored a special event at the Delaware 87ers basketball game on April 4 to recognize local children who raised money for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Christiana Hospital. The young philanthropists were honored at halftime and participated in a high-five tunnel welcoming the players onto the court. The children's grassroots fundraising efforts included organizing a carwash, a karate "kick-a-thon" and a calendar and bracelet fundraiser. All proceeds from their efforts supported an initiative to equip each of Christiana Care's 72 NICU isolettes with a BabyCam camera monitoring system. The BabyCams will enable families to spend virtual time with their babies in the NICU even when they can't be there in person. ●

