

Bradley Hospital starts OCD program

For children, teens with moderate to severe OCD

EAST PROVIDENCE – Bradley Hospital recently launched a new program aimed at helping children with Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD), a condition that affects one in 200 children nationwide.

The Intensive Program for Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, the first of its kind on the East Coast, uses a milieu-based model to treat kids who experience a significant disruption to their daily lives due to OCD and obsessive-compulsive spectrum disorders.

The evidence-based program helps children, from five to 18 years old, alleviate symptoms, such as extreme anxiety, unreasonable thoughts and fears, and repetitive behaviors or rituals, all while improving daily functioning. The program also helps kids stay involved in school and family activities.

“For children and teens with severe OCD, the disruption to their daily lives can be profound,” said Jennifer Freeman, PhD, clinical co-director of the Intensive Program for OCD. “This program can be an effective care option for youth who have not responded to traditional outpatient treatment or who lack specialized OCD services where they live.”

In addition to Freeman, the program is led by a team of child behavioral experts, including medical director Brady Case, MD, and clinical co-director Abbe Garcia, PhD. Freeman and Garcia also co-direct the Pediatric Anxiety Research Clinic at the Bradley Hasbro Children’s Research Center.

Patients are treated utilizing a specific form of cognitive behavioral therapy called exposure and response prevention (EX/RP), which has been found to be the most effective form of treatment for OCD. This therapy strengthens a child’s ability to manage anxiety by helping him or her gradually face fears and ultimately reduce the repetitive rituals of OCD.

Patients in the program receive treatment after school for daily three-hour sessions at Bradley Hospital, as well as twice weekly EX/RP sessions at their home, school and other community settings. The integration of community- and hospital-based treatment helps to avoid academic and social disruption, and help children and teens return to family life as quickly as possible. ❖

Kent Hospital opens Ambulatory Surgery Center

WARWICK – Kent Hospital recently held a ceremonial ribbon cutting and community open house marking the completion of construction on the new 30,000 square-foot Ambulatory Surgery Center.

The surgery center is equipped with eight surgical suites, five expansive and three smaller rooms, designed specifically for endoscopic technology and interventional spine procedures.

Located on the second floor of the Ambulatory Services Pavilion, it has 28 oversized pre- and post-operative bays for a patient’s preparation and recovery. The waiting room offers free Wi-Fi, a café, and monitors so friends and family can privately track a patient’s progress.



The cost of the surgery center, which was completed in approximately 24-months and on budget, was \$15 million and also includes the cost of the next phase of the project – a 10-bed short stay unit, renovations to the existing main hospital lobby and a new connector to join the two buildings together. The short stay unit and lobby renovation work are slated for the fall. Additionally, work continues on the first floor of the new building to construct a one-stop facility for patient centered medical care, housing physician offices, lab, pre-op testing and specialty care clinicians.

“This is an exciting day for Kent Hospital and our community,” said Sandra L. Coletta, COO, Care New England and Kent president and CEO. “It marks an important milestone in the care and services offered here with a facility that was designed to efficiently and effectively provide patients, physicians and staff with an optimum outpatient surgical experience.”

Coletta also thanked J. Winslow Alford, MD, chief medical director of the new facility and Rene Fischer, RN, Kent Hospital senior vice president and chief nursing officer for their joint leadership in the Ambulatory Surgery Center operational oversight process. In addition, she also thanked Joseph DiPietro, Esq., Kent’s senior vice president and chief administrative officer for his leadership in overseeing the project. ❖

Home & Hospice Care of RI named Hospice Honors recipient

Award recognizes top 100 hospice agencies in patient care

PROVIDENCE — Home & Hospice Care of Rhode Island (HHCRI) has been named a 2013 Hospice Honors recipient, a prestigious award recognizing hospice agencies providing the best patient care as rated by the patient’s caregiver.

Established by Deyta, the annual honor recognizes the top 100 agencies that continuously provide the highest level of satisfaction through their care as measured from the caregiver’s point of view. Deyta used the Family Evaluation of Hospice Care (FEHC) survey results from over 1,200 partnering hospice agencies contained in its national, FEHC database with an evaluation period of January through December 2012. Deyta used the five key drivers of caregiver satisfaction as the basis of the Hospice Honors calculations.

“We are beyond thrilled to learn that Home & Hospice Care

of Rhode Island has received the ‘Top 100’ award and is now included among the best hospices throughout the country for family satisfaction,” said Diana Franchitto, president and CEO of Home & Hospice Care of Rhode Island. “With over 5,000 hospices in the country - we are clearly a leader in family satisfaction. This award means that families rank HHCRI at the very top when it comes to keeping them informed of their loved one’s care, recommending us to others, responding to the needs of their loved ones and having the confidence in us to do what was needed to care for their loved ones,” she added.

The award was announced at the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization’s Management and Leadership Conference, which took place at the end of April in National Harbor, Maryland. ❖



From left, Diana Franchitto, president & CEO of HHCRI, Kevin Porter, president & CEO of DEYTA, and Sandy Dubey, HHCRI’s chief clinical officer, at the April meeting of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPKO), where HHCRI picked up the 2013 Hospice Honors award.

Greenhealth recognizes The Miriam for environmental efforts

Blue Wrap Recycling Program noted

PROVIDENCE – The Miriam Hospital recently received the “Partner Recognition” Award from Practice Greenhealth. The award – one of the Environmental Excellence Awards given each year to honor environmental achievements in the health care sector – recognizes health care facilities that have begun to work on environmental improvements, have achieved some progress and have at least a 10 percent recycling rate for their total waste stream.

Leading The Miriam Hospital’s sustainability efforts is its “Greenways” team, which includes both hospital employees and community members. One of the team’s most successful programs is the Blue Wrap Recycling Program, which was piloted in 2012 in the hospital’s operating room, in an effort to recycle “blue wrap” – the plastic-coated material that keeps surgical instruments

sterile prior to surgery. Because it is a No. 5 plastic, blue wrap is not widely accepted at many recycling centers in the United States, including Rhode Island, even though it is often recycled in other states. Blue wrap is opened just before the patient is brought into the operating room and is immediately thrown away in the regular trash.

The Greenways team worked to identify a community partner who would agree to pick up the wrap for baling and recycling, and also educated and encouraged OR staff to recycle the material by placing it in a designated container, rather than the trash. Since launching this pilot program, The Miriam Hospital was able to successfully

divert 2,500 pounds of blue wrap from entering the state landfill from April to December 2012.

The award was presented in Boston on April 25. ❖



Hasbro sees upsurge in all-terrain vehicle accidents

Recent influx of patients admitted with severe orthopedic trauma

PROVIDENCE – As the weather continues to warm and families are spending more time outdoors, Hasbro Children’s Hospital has experienced an unsettling increase in the number of children coming in to the hospital with severe injuries sustained from all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). Unfortunately, these types of injuries are not new. In the past five years, 29 children between seven and 16 years old were admitted to Hasbro Children’s Hospital following ATV accidents. Three of those admissions have occurred within the past few weeks.

ATVs are powerful, motorized vehicles that can weigh several hundred pounds and reach speeds of more than 60 mph. Even experienced drivers can lose control of ATVs, or suffer accidental collisions or rollovers. Children are at a higher risk of accidental injury because they are frequently passengers on these vehicles, which are meant for single riders.

“Families need to understand that significant injuries can occur as a result of an ATV accident,” said Jonathan Schiller, MD, a pediatric orthopedic surgeon at Hasbro. “In the past month alone, three children have required hospital admission due to injuries sustained while riding an ATV. Their injuries included severe bleeding in the brain, and spine and long bone fractures. All required surgery and in one instance, multiple trips to the operating room and continuing care in a rehabilitation facility.”

Dina Morrissey, MD, program coordinator at the Injury Prevention Center at the hospital added, “The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that no one under 16 years old ride ATVs or other motorized vehicles; and manufacturers warn that full-sized ATVs are not toys, and are not designed to be operated by those younger than 16. But, yet, about one quarter of the fatalities seen nationally as a result of ATV injuries are children who are 16 or younger.”

The Injury Prevention Center at Hasbro Children’s Hospital urges parents to never allow children to drive or ride on ATVs, but offers the following tips for all ATV riders:

- Attend an ATV driver’s safety course.
- Never use a 3-wheeler. They are unsafe and are no longer manufactured.
- Ride an age-appropriate ATV.
- Provide constant supervision if a child is operating an ATV.
- Never carry passengers. ATVs are designed for one person.
- Do not use ATVs on the streets or at night.
- Always wear an approved helmet with eye protection.
- Wear non-skid, closed-toe shoes.
- Wear long pants and a long-sleeve shirt.
- Never operate an ATV under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Lifespan, Gateway to partner

PROVIDENCE – Lifespan and Gateway Healthcare have received state approval for a partnership that will create new models of coordination for behavioral health services for Rhode Island residents. The partnership brings Gateway under the Lifespan umbrella and will enhance coordination of services, improve access and promote efficiencies.

This move is especially important considering recent data that shows Rhode Island residents struggle with mental health and substance abuse issues at higher rates than the national average.

For the past four years, Gateway has provided behavioral health triage services in the emergency departments of Rhode Island Hospital and Hasbro Children’s Hospital. Recently, Gateway and Bradley Hospital, a Lifespan partner, launched a joint program called KidsLink, a hotline for children in emotional crisis.

In addition, Richard J. Goldberg, MD, senior vice president for Psychiatry and Behavioral Health for Lifespan, noted, “The capabilities that Gateway brings to Lifespan will help us to re-integrate psychiatric, behavioral and medical issues. This is especially important because of the impact of behavioral issues on the course and outcome of so many medical disorders.”

The two organizations plan to finalize the partnership on July 1, 2013. ❖



Lifespan opens pharmacy at Rhode Island Hospital

Adult vaccinations also offered

PROVIDENCE – On May 1, Lifespan opened a retail pharmacy, owned by Lifespan, on the campus of Rhode Island Hospital in the hospital's Davol Building.

Patients at Rhode Island Hospital will have the option of picking up their medication in the Lifespan Pharmacy at the time of discharge, or they can have it delivered directly to their home, or in some instances, delivered to the bedside. The pharmacy is staffed by pharmacists who are able to answer questions about dosages, interactions with other medicines, side effects and medication safety, as well as technicians who can assist with questions about prescription coverage. The pharmacists and technicians are using the latest in dispensing technology to help ensure prescriptions are filled quickly and accurately.

According to Christine Collins, MBA,

RPh, director of pharmacy for Rhode Island, The Miriam and Bradley hospitals, Lifespan wants to remove the obstacles patients face when it comes to their medications and make sure patients know how to take them correctly. "Medication adherence is critical to the health of our patients," Collins said. "Far too many patients are readmitted to the hospital when they don't take their medication correctly or at all. Not only do we want patients to leave the hospital with their medications, but also we want them to know how to take them correctly. This is why we've built such a strong education component into the Lifespan Pharmacy. We become part of the patient's health care team."

In addition to serving inpatients being discharged, the Lifespan

Pharmacy will also be available for patients in the emergency department, ambulatory surgery center and outpatient clinics, as well as for Lifespan employees and their families, physicians, and walk-ins, who would like to utilize the convenient, state-of-the-art services. Staff can also provide several adult vaccinations, including those for flu, pneumonia and shingles.

Prescriptions, including refills, can be ordered online at www.lifespanpharmacy.org, by phone at 401-444-4909 or fax at 401-444-2263. The pharmacy is also able to receive prescriptions electronically through e-prescribing systems. Medications can be picked up at the pharmacy or can be delivered to a patient's home without an additional cost. ❖