Recognitions

Dr. James F. Padbury Honored with Silver Rattle Award

PROVIDENCE – JAMES F. PADBURY, MD, pediatrician-in-chief and chief of Neonatal/Perinatal Medicine at Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island and the William and Mary Oh-William and Elsa Zopfi Professor of Pediatrics for Perinatal Research at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, was honored with the Silver Rattle Award from the Rhode Island Healthy Mothers, Health Babies Coalition at the coalition’s annual May Breakfast.

Since 2001, the Silver Rattle Award has been given to someone or an organization that has “shaken up the system for Rhode Island mothers and babies.” Dr. Padbury was awarded by the coalition specifically for his continued efforts to develop the single-family room neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Women & Infants Hospital, a Care New England hospital.

Dr. Padbury gave the keynote address at this year’s breakfast, during which he highlighted the history of the new model of NICU as well as the successes and challenges the unit has faced since its inception in 2009.

Kent Hospital Receives NICHE Elder Care Designation

WARWICK – Kent Hospital announced it has received distinction as a NICHE Hospital (Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders) designating its commitment to elder care excellence as determined by thorough review and evaluation by an independent and international review panel focused on improving elder care.

“The Kent Hospital nursing staff has made this distinction possible through education and implementing evidence-based best nursing practice related to the care of our elderly patients,” said Rebecca Burke, chief nursing officer, Kent Hospital. “The NICHE program provides us a framework to further improve our practice around the quality and safety of this very important and growing segment of our population.”

NICHE is an international program designed to help improve the care of older adults. The vision of NICHE is for all patients 65 and over to be given sensitive and exemplary care. The mission of NICHE is to provide principles and tools to stimulate a change in the culture of healthcare facilities to achieve patient-centered care for older adults. NICHE, based at NYU College of Nursing, has more than 550 hospitals and healthcare organizations from the U.S., Canada, Bermuda and Singapore in the network.

Dr. Christy Dibble Earns Dr. Joseph DiMase Memorial Healthcare Professional Award

PROVIDENCE – CHRISTY DIBBLE, DO, director of Women & Infants’ Center for Women’s Gastrointestinal Health and assistant clinical professor in the Department of Medicine at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, has received the Dr. Joseph DiMase Memorial Healthcare Professional Award from the Partnership to Reduce Cancer in Rhode Island, Rhode Island Department of Health.

Dr. Dibble received the award for her work as physician-chair of the Rhode Island Screening and Detection Workgroup of the Partnership to Reduce Cancer in Rhode Island, part of Rhode Island’s Cancer Control Plan. The focus of the workgroup, on which Dr. Dibble has been chair since 2005, is reducing colorectal cancer and eliminating disparities in screening and detection in Rhode Island. This award is to recognize a state’s comprehensive cancer control coalition that has successfully achieved evidence-based and measurable impact in projects and/or interventions.

The Detection and Screening workgroup, under Dr. Dibble’s direction, has served as a springboard for statewide and regional collaboration aimed at decreasing the burden of colorectal cancer for all Rhode Islanders. To this end, the workgroup supported the Screening Colonoscopies for the Underserved Program (SCUP) to address the critical issue of screening for the un- and underinsured. The SCUP program served as a vital pilot program for the state, aiming to improve eligibility for future favorable federal grant funding for colorectal cancer screening programs. Through SCUP, Partnership members gave their time to provide training and support to patient navigators at community health centers.

More than 250 colonoscopies have been performed through SCUP, including pathology and follow-up. Screenings are performed by more than 60 volunteer surgeons who provide the screenings to patients at sites either in or close to their own communities. As a result of this initiative, data for the rate of adenomatous polyps discovered, cancer detected, and polyps removed has increased significantly. This initiative has also resulted in an increase in the number of Hispanics served.

Dr. Joseph DiMase, founder of SCUP, passed away of leukemia in April 2012. Because of his vision for SCUP, the program served hundreds of uninsured Rhode Islanders, ultimately saving lives, and will continue to screen those at risk for colorectal cancer. It is because of his extraordinary efforts that the Partnership created the Dr. Joseph DiMase Memorial Healthcare Professional Award to honor those health care professionals who go above and beyond to support the mission of the partnership.
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Recognition

Women & Infants Honors Nurses During National Nurses Week

PROVIDENCE – During National Nurses Week [May 6–12, 2015], Women & Infants Hospital presented several awards of excellence.

The 2015 Mary Dowd Struck Award was presented to CHRISTINA RIBEIRO-OURIQUE, RN, BSN, of Coventry. The award for honors a nurse annually for exemplifying clinical excellence, professional collegiality, patient and family advocacy, and passion for women’s and newborn health.

The 2015 Carol Opiekun Scholarship Award was presented to HEATHER MURPHY, RN, BSN, of Warwick, who has worked with Women & Infants for 17 years. Murphy is a nurse on the fourth floor oncology unit. With the scholarship, Murphy hopes to finish her Family Nurse Practitioner degree program with her “thirst for more clinical know how.” The Carol Opiekun Scholarship was established in 2012 as a means of supporting the continuing education efforts of nurses at Women & Infants Hospital.

LESLIE ROSA, RN, of Norton, MA, a nurse in the Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery, received the 2015 Home Loan Unsung Hero Award, given annually to a nurse who performs heroic acts above and beyond the scope of their regular jobs. Rosa was nominated by her colleagues for her efforts in organizing a clothing drive for domestic violence victims in her department. The clothes collected help victims who have to turn over their clothes as evidence for further investigation in their case.

Women & Infants Receives Third 2015 Women’s Choice Award

Hospital is among America’s Best Hospitals for Cancer Care

PROVIDENCE – Women & Infants Hospital has earned a 2015 Women’s Choice Award® for its Program in Women’s Oncology, making it one of America’s Best Hospitals for Cancer Care. This evidence-based designation identifies the country’s best health care institutions based on robust criteria that consider patient satisfaction, clinical excellence and what women say they want from a hospital.

“This is the third Women’s Choice designation Women & Infants has earned in 2015 – first as an America’s Best Hospital for Obstetrics and next as Best for Breast Care. Each of these announcements highlights the outstanding care we provide women and their families every single day,” said Mark R. Marcantano, president and chief operating officer at Women & Infants Hospital. “Our Program in Women’s Oncology is one of the nation’s leading services for the diagnosis, treatment and research of women’s cancers. We are very proud that this excellence is being recognized.”

Women & Infants is among the elite group of 331 hospitals that have earned the 2015 Women’s Choice Award by meeting the highest cancer care accreditation standards of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer, as well as for their excellence in clinical performance with regard to patient safety measures, and for their high recommendation rate, a measure that is very important to women in choosing a hospital.

Center for Reproduction and Infertility at Women & Infants Earns Nursing Center of Excellence Distinction

PROVIDENCE – The Center for Reproduction and Infertility (REI) at Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island, a Care New England hospital, has earned the status of a Nursing Center of Excellence from The Nurses’ Professional Group of the American Society of Reproductive Medicine (ASRM). This approval status will be active for the next three years. The Nursing Center of Excellence status indicates that at least 50 percent of the registered nurses and/or nurse practitioners in the Center for Reproduction and Infertility are experienced in reproductive endocrinology nursing and have completed the additional training in this area through the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) eLearn REI Nursing Certificate Course.

A total of 16 nurses from Women & Infants Hospital completed the training course, including: SUSAN BACON, RN; LYNNE BROWNING, RN, CNM, interim nurse manager; SUSAN BYRNE, RN; LINDA CAMPBELL, RN; BARBARA DOCKRAY, RN; NANCY DONAHUE, RN; REBECCA ENRIGHT, RN; CONI FERLAND, RN; LISA KONVAR, RN; ANGELA MATARESE, RN; SUSAN MCLINDEN, RN; LISE MCPARLIN, RN; HITHERIAS MERLINO, RN; DEIDRE MITCHELL, RN; SUSAN PEARSON, RN; and DIANE SHARKEY, RN. ANGELLEEN PETERS-LEWIS, RN, PhD, chief nursing officer and senior vice president of patient services is happy to see nursing at Women & Infants continue to take steps to improve the patient experience. “The literature suggests that nursing specialty certification improves quality of care and patient outcomes. As we move toward a health care system that is focused on quality and outcomes, I am thrilled that our nurses are preparing themselves to practice to the fullest potential and make significant contributions to the quality agenda.”
Recognition

Vareen O’Keefe-Domaleski Receives Excellence in Leadership Award

Bradley Hospital Chief Nursing Officer Honored by New England Chapter of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association

EAST PROVIDENCE – VAREEN O’KEEFE-DOMALESKI, RN, MSN, EdD, vice president for patient care and chief nursing officer of Bradley Hospital, has been awarded the Nancy M. Valentine Excellence in Leadership Award, given annually by the New England Chapter of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association [NEAPNA]. The award recognizes a NEAPNA member who demonstrates vision, tenacity, perseverance, commitment, initiative and facilitation in improving mental health care and the advancement of the profession of psychiatric nursing.

O’Keefe-Domaleski was nominated for the award by nursing staff at Bradley Hospital. Kristin Lundsten, MSN, BSN, RN-BC, a clinical nurse manager at Bradley Hospital, spoke of O’Keefe-Domaleski’s encouraging and proactive role as a nursing leader in her nomination letter.

“She is a transformational leader who role models for other nurses in a way that inspires them to move forward on important mental health initiatives within the organization,” said Lundsten. “When Vareen arrived at Bradley Hospital, many of the disciplines, including nursing, were compartmentalized in different silos. Through her gentle leadership, she has successfully moved us toward a systems view of the organization where all disciplines, units, and departments work collaboratively as a single entity.”

O’Keefe Domaleski has served as chief nursing officer at Bradley Hospital since 2012. She oversees the nursing staff within Bradley Hospital’s many programs and services, as well as guides strategic planning, nursing practice and quality. In her role as vice president for patient care she oversees several other key departments at Bradley Hospital. She joined Bradley Hospital from Brattleboro Retreat in Vermont, a 149-bed psychiatric and substance abuse hospital serving children, adolescents and adults in acute, partial and residential levels of care. She has also held senior level positions at Hampstead Hospital in New Hampshire; Sheppard Pratt Health System in Baltimore, Maryland; and McLean Hospital in Belmont, Massachusetts.

O’Keefe Domaleski received her registered nurse diploma from Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, followed by a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Worcester State College in Worcester, Massachusetts. She later received her master’s degree in administration in nursing services from the University of Lowell in Lowell, Massachusetts and a doctoral degree in leadership and human and organizational studies from The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. O’Keefe Domaleski is also a Johnson & Johnson/Wharton Fellow in nurse executive management.

Jeffrey Burock, MD, Named 2015 Physician of the Year at The Miriam

PROVIDENCE – JEFFREY BUROCK, MD, division director of psychiatry at The Miriam Hospital, is the recipient of the Charles C.J. Carpenter, MD, Outstanding Physician of the Year Award for 2015. The annual recognition distinguishes a physician, nominated by his or her peers, for outstanding contributions to the field of medicine, as well as professionalism and patient care.

Dr. Burock received this year’s honor at The Miriam’s annual meeting of the Medical Staff Association.

The Charles C.J. Carpenter, MD, Physician of the Year Award recognizes a physician for qualities that Dr. Carpenter, an esteemed infectious diseases specialist, embodies. As director of the Lifespan/Tufts/Brown Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) and a professor of medicine at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, he has achieved widespread recognition for his efforts to treat diseases in developing countries and train researchers in international health.

“It is an honor to receive this important recognition for work that I feel privileged to be able to do,” said Dr. Burock. “Up to 40 percent of our medical-surgical patients have co-morbid mental health conditions which often go untreated. It is truly rewarding to have the opportunity to treat the whole patient and assess and factor in physical as well as mental well-being on the path to delivering health with care.”

A geriatric psychiatrist, Dr. Burock’s expertise is far reaching – ranging from treating Alzheimer’s disease and Parkinson’s disease, delirium, and post-stroke complications to schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and addictive disorders.

Dr. Burock, a resident of Warren, attended medical school at Creighton University School of Medicine and completed his residency and a fellowship at Brown University-affiliated hospitals. Board certified in psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, and psychosomatic medicine, he has worked on numerous committees and initiatives aimed at improving the quality of mental health care at The Miriam and Rhode Island hospitals. He is a native of Center Valley, Pennsylvania.
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Appointments

Deborah Stamp Named VP, Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer at Fatima

NORTH PROVIDENCE – DEBORAH STAMP, RN, BSN, MED, CCM, has been named Vice President, Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer for Fatima Hospital. She has served as Interim Chief Nursing Officer since March and previously served as Systems Director of Case Management with CharterCARE Health Partners since 2010.

She has held a number of senior leadership roles within CharterCARE since joining Roger Williams in 2005 as Director of Case Management. Previously, she served as Chief Operating Officer and Vice President of Clinical and Quality Management at Northwest Community Nursing. Stamp received her MED in Health Education from Rhode Island College. She received her BSN in Nursing from Salve Regina University. Stamp has a long history with both CharterCARE hospitals, having held her first nursing job at Fatima following her graduation from the School of Nursing at Roger Williams Medical Center. She is a consultant and speaker on Joint Commission preparedness, regulatory compliance and case management issues.

“Deb brings more than 40 years of nursing, clinical, quality and leadership experience to this position,” said Thomas Hughes, president of Fatima Hospital. “She is a proven leader who understands and supports the importance of quality patient care, the patient experience and a relationship-based model of care.”

Fatima Hospital is an affiliate of CharterCARE Health Partners.

M. Patricia Haskins Named Director of St. Joseph Health Center

PROVIDENCE – M. PATRICIA HASKINS has been named Director of the St. Joseph Health Center, a comprehensive community-based health center providing primary care and specialty care services to the communities of South Providence, Pawtucket, and Johnston. The Health Center is an affiliate of CharterCARE Health Partners. Haskins is a resident of Foxboro, Mass.

Haskins most recently held positions with Southcoast Health System as Director of Operations for both the primary care and physicians’ group. In these positions, she provided leadership and direction to multiple primary care practices, walk-in centers, and specialty practices in orthopedics, cardiology, pediatrics, and surgery. Previously, she served with the Steward Physicians Network as Director of Physicians Practice Operations for both the system and practices based at Steward Carney Hospital. She is a cum laude graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Healthcare Administration from Stonehill College.

As Director, Haskins will manage the day-to-day operations of the Health Center, which offers numerous services including adult prenatal, pediatric and adult primary care programs, specialty clinics, an extended hour walk-in clinic, as well as a highly successful pediatric and adult dental program. She will also oversee related clinics in Pawtucket and Johnston.

“We are pleased to welcome Patricia Haskins to this leadership role with the St. Joseph Health Center,” said Lester P. Schindel, CEO of CharterCARE. “The Health Center is committed to a healthier community through delivery of primary, pediatric, and specialty care, along with numerous programs in preventative medicine.”

Maureen A. Chung, MD, Surgical Oncologist, Joins Southcoast Physicians Group

DARTMOUTH, MASS. — MAUREEN CHUNG, MD, a renowned surgical oncologist specializing in diseases of the breast, has joined Southcoast Physicians Group as Medical Director of their Breast Care Program.

Prior to joining Southcoast, Dr. Chung was a breast surgeon at Women & Infants Hospital and Rhode Island Hospital, and previously served as program director of the Breast Disease Fellowship at Women & Infants Hospital. She was also on the Board of Directors of the Rhode Island Breast Cancer Coalition. Subsequently, Dr. Chung served as the director of the Margie Petersen Breast Center at Saint John’s Health Center, as well as the director of the Breast Oncology Fellowship Program and the Margie and Robert E. Petersen Breast Cancer Research Program at John Wayne Cancer Institute in Santa Monica, CA.

Dr. Chung attended McGill University in Montreal, Canada, where she earned her undergraduate and master's degree in science. She received her medical degree from McGill University and her doctorate degree from Brown University. Dr. Chung completed a general surgery residency at McGill University and a surgical oncology fellowship at Brown Medical School in Providence.

Board certified in general surgery, Dr. Chung is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Dr. Chung is also a member of numerous surgical organizations, including the Society of University Surgeons, the Society of Surgical Oncology, the American Society of Breast Surgeons, the New England Surgical Society, the American Association for Cancer Research and the Rhode Island Medical Women’s Association.
Appointments

Dr. Vivian Sung Named to International Urogynecological Association Committee

PROVIDENCE – VIVIAN W. SUNG, MD, a urogynecologist in the Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery at Women & Infants Hospital and an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at The Warren Alpert Medical School, has been selected to serve on the International Urogynecological Association Terminology and Standardization Committee.

The committee, which is comprised of 10 members selected from across the globe, is responsible for the development, publication and management of international documents aimed at standardizing the terminology, classification and outcomes for the field of female pelvic disorders. The committee frequently collaborates with other international organizations, including the International Continence Society, to develop joint reports for the field.

Recognition

Coalition For Children Names Louis Giancola 2015 Champion For Community Change

WAKEFIELD – South County Hospital HealthCare System President & CEO Louis Giancola has been named the 2015 Champion for Community Change, an award presented by the Washington County Coalition for Children.

The award was presented at the Coalition’s 13th Annual Children’s Issues Forum on June 3.

“In the midst of tumultuous changes in healthcare, Lou Giancola understands the importance of community,” said Louise Kiessling, MD, who presented the award.

Dr. Kiessling lauded Giancola specifically for his favoring of a community health planning committee, which led to collaboration with the Coalition and others to establish the new South County Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds Collaborative. The Collaborative, which serves one of Rhode Island’s 11 Health Equity Zones, is set to receive an estimated $1 million in federal funding over four years with the goal of improving residents’ health.

“His actions embody the Coalition’s mission: Be a voice that advocates for the health and well-being of children,” she said.

In addition to directing the community health planning committee, Giancola has been actively engaged in Rhode Island’s Care Transformation Collaborative [CTC], where he fostered the implementation of one of the state’s two Community Health Teams in South County. The Health Team provides supports and wraparound services to high-cost Medicaid users in an effort to improve health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs.

“I am thrilled to have received this award from the Washington County Coalition for Children,” Giancola said. “They do wonderful and important work on behalf of the children in our community, and it’s an honor to be recognized by such an organization for such a worthwhile cause.”

Louise Kiessling, MD, presented the award to South County Hospital HealthCare System President & CEO Louis Giancola.
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Kent Hospital's Fifth Class of Resident Physicians Honored at Graduation Ceremony

Research awards announced

WARWICK – Kent Hospital held its fifth graduation for residents who have completed the Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine and Internal Medicine Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs on June 18 at Quidnessett Country Club.

“I would like to congratulate all of our GME residents on their graduation. Their hard work and dedication is clearly visible by this impressive achievement,” said MICHAEL DACEY, MD, MS, FACP, president and COO Kent Hospital. “I would like to wish these physicians well as they embark on this exciting time both personally and professionally.”

“Graduate Medical Education at Kent continues to grow and gain national recognition,” said JOSEPH SPINALE, DO, FACC, senior vice president, chief medical officer and director of medical education at Kent. “Our program at Kent continues to grow as we welcome in a new class of students and wish our graduates all the success they deserve. Each year we continue to grow and build our program as we prepare these physicians for a successful career.”

2015 Graduating Class
The graduates, who comprise the fifth graduating class include:
Love Daoud, DO, Emergency Medicine
Anthony DePalma, DO, Emergency Medicine
Elysia Mallon, DO, Emergency Medicine
Kelly McDonough, DO, Emergency Medicine
Vincent Varamo, DO, Emergency Medicine
Khatija Zahiruddin, DO, Emergency Medicine
Amanda Beretta, DO, Family Medicine
C. Tyler Vogt, DO, Family Medicine
Chelsea Michaud, DO, Internal Medicine
Danica Buzzniak, DO, Internal Medicine
Todd May, DO, Internal Medicine

Kent Hospital is a major teaching affiliate of the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. Graduate Medical Education at Kent started in 2008 and currently has 46 residents and four fellows enrolled.

Research Recognition
Residents at Kent Hospital participated in the Fourth Annual Research Forum at Kent Hospital on April 27, 2015. Five residents and one student were asked to present their research or cases during the program. The event was attended by residents and attending physicians from Kent. Medical students had their own research assembly on April 23, 2015.

14th Annual NEOMEN Research and Scholarship Forum at the University of New England in Biddeford, ME
Almost all residents were accepted and attended the event. Monetary prizes were awarded and winners from Kent were:
1st Place Resident Original Research
Clinicians’ Smart Phones in the Emergency Department: Functional or Fomite?
Khatija Zahiruddin, DO; Kelly McDonough, DO; Nick Billings, DO; Victoria Leytin, MD

1st Place Resident Case Reports
Case of Irregular Wide Complex Tachycardia
Vincent Varamo, DO; and Nicole Durfey, MD

3rd Place Student Case Presentation
Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome: A Forgotten Diagnosis for Fever
Alison Dengos, MSIII; Alisa Merolli, MD

Psychiatrist Opportunity
Arbour-Fuller Hospital, a 103-bed private behavioral health hospital located in South Attleboro, Massachusetts is currently recruiting full-time psychiatrists to work on the Adolescent or Adult Inpatient Units. Enjoy a positive work/life balance with Monday through Friday schedule with no call required. The Hospital offers a highly competitive compensation and benefits package. Arbour-Fuller is licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health and accredited by The Joint Commission. For more information on the opportunity to work with an outstanding administrative and clinical team, please contact in-house recruiter Andree Paige at Work 617-390-1437; Cell 617-429-4240 Email: andree.paige@uhsinc.com
Graduation

Memorial Holds 37th Annual Residents’ and Fellows’ Graduation

PAWTUCKET – Graduation day exercises were held on June 19 for residents and fellows completing their training at Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island. EDWARD SCHOTTLAND, president and COO, performed the dual role of congratulating the graduates and greeting the new residents and fellows coming to the hospital in their wake.

Family Medicine

In the Family Medicine Department, Melissa Nothnagle, MD, residency program director, Fadya El Rayess, MD, MPH, associate program director, Anna Filip, MD, assistant program director and Jeffrey Borkan, MD, PhD, physician-in-chief, Department of Family Medicine, announced the graduates and welcomed new residents.

Family Medicine graduates included: Cara Berkowitz, MD, who will continue her training as an ER Fellow at Maine General Hospital; Krissy Conner, MD, who will be starting a Fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Medicine at Brown University; Alexis Drutchas, MD, will be a family physician working in the inpatient and outpatient setting at Fenway Health Center in Boston, MA; Lauren Goddard, MD, is joining Jamestown Family Practice; Carmen Goojha, MD, will be teaching medical students in the Brown Doctoring Program; Jessica Huang, MD, will be joining a family medicine practice in Massachusetts; Jennifer Lu, DO, will move on to be a family physician based in Orange County, California; Melissa Mackel, DO, is staying with Brown Family Medicine in the Sports Medicine Fellowship; Tania Menz, MD, will be joining a family medicine practice in Massachusetts; Daria Szkwarko, DO, will be starting in a Global Health, Preventive Medicine Fellowship at the University of Massachusetts in Worcester, MA; MarkTurshen, MD, is co-owner/physician at Direct Doctors; Sara Watson, MD, will join the practice at Thundermist South County; and Erin Wisman, MD, is joining a federally qualified health center in Rhode Island.

Internal Medicine

In the Internal Medicine Division, the following physicians graduated and moved on in their careers: Maxwell Afari, MD, will continue his training with a Cardiology Fellowship at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital/Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, MA; Rasha Alqadi, MD, with a Rheumatology Fellowship at Roger Williams Medical Center, Providence, RI; Mohammad Ashkiani, MD, will take a hospitalist position at Catholic Medical Center, Manchester, NH; Adil Bhutta, MD, will move on to a hospitalist position at Yale-New Haven Hospital, CT; Thomas Guerrero, MD will continue his training with a Hematology/Oncology Fellowship at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital/Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, MA; Mobeen Rehman, MD, will move on to a Cardiology Fellowship at Wayne State University/Detroit Medical Center, Detroit, MI; Mohammed Salhab, MD, will move on to a Hematology/Oncology Fellowship at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA; Hammad Shafqat, MD, will continue his training with a Hematology/Oncology Fellowship at the University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC; Rajesh Shrestha, MD, will take a hospitalist position at Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, RI, and Takehide Umeda, MD, will move on to a Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine Fellowship at the University of Minnesota Medical School, Duluth, MN.

Graduates received their plaques from Eleanor Summerhill, MD, residency program director, Dino Messina, MD, PhD, associate program director, Joseph Diaz, MD, physician-in-chief, Department of Medicine and Sabrina Witherby, MD, Sajid Saraf, MD, both assistant program directors, and Salaheldin Elhamamsy, MD, assistant program director for Continuity Practice.

Other Programs

Courtney Glenn, DPM and Andrew Knudsen, DPM both graduated from the Podiatric Medicine and Surgical Residency Program. Dr. Glenn will be relocating to Georgia and Dr. Knudsen will be relocating to North Dakota. 

Ashley Lakin, DO, Matthew Malek, MD and Julia Oat-Judge, MD, graduated from the Maternal Child Health Fellowship Program.

Amity Rubeor, DO, graduated from the Sports Medicine Fellowship Program. Andrea Miele, PhD, graduated from the Neuropsychology Program.
University Orthopedics proudly announces the appointment of Brett Owens, M.D.

Brett Owens, M.D. is a fellowship-trained, board certified orthopedic sports medicine surgeon specializing in arthroscopic repair of sports-related injuries, including complex knee and shoulder reconstructions.

Lieutenant Colonel Owens was most recently Chief of Orthopedics and Sports Medicine at Keller Army Hospital at West Point, NY, caring for soldiers and cadets at the United States Military Academy, and was Team Physician for Army lacrosse, rugby, and football teams. While deployed in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Dr. Owens was Chief of Orthopedics at the 86th Combat Support Hospital.

Dr. Owens is Team Physician for the U.S Lacrosse National Men’s Team USA, and will assist Dr. Paul Fadale and Dr. Michael Hulstyn in caring for the athletes of Brown University. He is a Professor at the Uniformed Services University and is on the faculty at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University. He will perform surgery at The Miriam Hospital and Rhode Island Hospital, and will see patients at University Orthopedics’ Butler Campus and Providence offices.

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Obituaries

DR. JAMES P. CURRAN, JR., 70, died May 29. He was the cherished husband of Rosemary (Racine) Curran whom he married April 22, 2000. He was the beloved father of James P. Curran III of No. Smithfield and Kimberly Hisode of Douglas, MA.

Born and raised in Woonsocket, Dr. Curran is a graduate of Mt. St. Charles Academy where he served as class president and was the captain of his football team. He continued his education at the College of the Holy Cross, MA, and earned a B.S. in psychology. Dr. Curran later attended the University of Illinois and received both a Master’s and a PhD in clinical psychology. Dr. Curran began his career as an associate professor of psychology at Purdue University, IN. He later returned back to his home state to accept a position at Brown University where he was appointed to the VA Medical Center in Providence. Dr. Curran began as the Director for the Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic and later became the Chief of the PTSD program which he developed.

In 1984, Dr. Curran began a clinical practice in Woonsocket and later developed Plaza Psychology & Psychiatry. He served as a board member of the RI Psychological Association and Board of Examiners in Psychology. Founder of the Coalition of Mental Health Professionals of RI, his work extended to many public safety professionals including firefighters and health care professionals. Dr. Curran’s passionate work for veteran’s rights’ and tireless efforts to help PTSD patients was truly his life’s work. Dr. Curran’s accomplishments include more than 50 articles in professional journals, approximately 20 book chapters and one book.

DR. EDWARD SPINDELL, 87, died June 24th at the Philip Hulitar Inpatient Center. He was the beloved husband of Judith (Kay) Spindell of Providence. They were married for 30 years. Born in Providence, a son of the late Simon and Jeanette (Sokol) Spindell and brother of the late Dr. Lloyd Spindell, he was a lifelong Providence resident.

Dr. Spindell was a summa cum laude graduate of Classical High School and a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Brown University. In 1953, he received his MD degree from Boston University, eventually becoming board certified in orthopedic surgery. From 1955 to 1957, he served as Captain in the U.S. Air Force at Chanute AFB in Illinois. Returning to Providence, Dr. Spindell began a private practice that covered a span of nearly 40 years. During this time, he was a senior attending physician at Miriam, Rhode Island, Memorial, and Roger Williams Hospitals. He became Chief of Orthopedic Surgery at Miriam Hospital from 1992 to 1997. Before retiring, he was honored by an evening of recognition for his many years of service to the hospital.

He leaves his loving children, Marcia Spindell and her husband, Jonathan Lentz, Ahvi Spindell and his wife, Jane Gabbert, and Stephen Spindell and his former wife, Blanche; grandchildren: Joshua and Aaron Lentz and Jessica Spindell and Simon Spindell. He also leaves step-children, Dr. Faith Tobias, Chaim Cohen and his wife, Michal, Julie Corwin, and Pamela Greiner; step-grandchildren: Yonah, Shira and Yair Cohen, and Mason and Kaden Tobias, all of whom were dear to his heart. He will be fondly remembered by his friends and patients, and held in cherished memory by his family. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to The Holocaust Resource and Education Center, 401 Elmgrove Avenue, Providence, RI 02906 or Home & Hospice Care of RI, 1085 North Main St., Providence, RI 02904.

DR. ALBERTO F. TONELLI, of Uxbridge, MA, formerly of Greenville, RI, 81, a loving and devoted husband, father, grand-father and caring physician, passed away on May 31st after a year of failing health. Dr. Tonelli is survived by his wife of 54 years, Virginia (Clegg) Tonelli, daughter Elisabetta (Bettina) Tonelli-Sippel and husband Richard, son Stefano Tonelli and wife Elisabeth (Dabney), and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was born in 1933 in Bologna, Italy, and graduated from the University of Bologna in 1959 and completed an internship at St. Joseph Hospital in Providence, RI, and a 4-year residency in Internal Medicine at the Presbyterian University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA. After running a busy medical practice in Italy, he returned to the US in 1979 to begin a 3-year fellowship in Hematology/Oncology at the Presbyterian University of Pennsylvania Medical Center and Memorial Hospital in Pawtucket, RI, following which he opened a medical practice in North Providence, RI.

He retired from private practice in 1993 but worked until his 80th birthday at Disability Determination Services (DDS) in Providence, RI, as Chief Medical consultant, in Worcester, MA, as Quality Assurance medical consultant, as well as at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Auburn, MA as Physician Advisor.
OBITUARIES

DR. ARMAND D. VERSACI, 91, of Providence passed away on June 17th at Tockwotton on the Waterfront in East Providence. Born in Endicott, NY, in 1923, he grew up in Schenectady, NY, son of first-generation Italian immigrants.

Dr. Versaci graduated from Union College, earning a BA in 1945 Phi Beta Kappa, and in 1947 was the first Italian American to receive a degree from Harvard Medical School. Dr. Versaci did his surgical internship at Roosevelt Hospital in New York City and residency at Albany Hospital. He served as Chief of Surgery at the United States Air Force Hospital in Valdosta, Georgia in 1952. From 1973 to 1990, Dr. Versaci was Chief, Department of Plastic Surgery, at Rhode Island Hospital. He also served at Women and Infants Hospital and was a consulting physician to the VA Medical Center in Providence. In his own words, he was proud to have performed “more than 20,000 surgical procedures” for Rhode Islanders.

At Rhode Island Hospital, he and Dr. Richard Sexton co-founded the first residency program in plastic surgery in New England and helped establish the program for plastic surgery at Brown Medical School. He considered one of his proudest accomplishments to be mentoring more than 60 plastic surgeons from across the globe. While at Brown, he created a plastic surgery exchange program with young surgeons from Italy. The Congress of Italian and American Plastic Surgeons facilitates exchanges and conferences among practicing plastic surgeons in Italy and the United States.

In the course of his career, he gave numerous presentations and lectures in his field. During his service at Rhode Island Hospital, he began medical missions at the invitation of poor and underdeveloped communities around the world, an activity that absorbed his time and energy during retirement. Dr. Versaci served as trustee on the Board of Directors of the Rhode Island School of Design and often provided free medical attention to artists in need.

Following retirement from his practice in 1996, Dr. Versaci organized and participated in over 60 charitable medical missions, in association with Physicians for Peace and Brown Medical School, in rural and underserved communities in Latin America, Europe, and the Middle East, specializing in treatment for burn victims. He established children’s burn treatment facilities and trained doctors and nurses in Guatemala with Dr. Lourdes Santiso, and in Nicaragua with Mrs. Vivian Pellas, funded by the Association for Burned Children of Nicaragua.

In 1999, the Carter Family Charitable Trust established the Armand D. Versaci Research Scholar in Surgical Sciences Award at the Brown University School of Medicine that hosts an annual lecture in his honor. The biennial Versaci Lectureship was created by the Congress of Italian and American Plastic Surgeons in 2004.

With his wife, Nancy, who was Director of the David Winton Bell Gallery at Brown, Dr. Versaci collected art. They developed and shared a love for 20th century Russian constructivist painting and modern art created between the wars and always enjoyed and supported local artists.

Dr. Versaci is survived by his four children, Russell, William, Lisa, and Lori, as well as by nine grandchildren. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, July 21st at 10:30 AM at Manning Chapel, 69 Brown Street in Providence, RI. A reception will immediately follow the service at the Brown Faculty Club. Gifts in memory of Dr. Versaci can be made to the Armand D. Versaci Research Scholar In Surgical Sciences Award – Brown University, Gift Cashier, Box 1877, Providence, RI 02912.

DANIEL E. WROBLESKI, MD, 69, passed away peacefully at home with his wife and dog by his side on May 28, 2015. He was the husband of Dr. Caroline Susan Wilkel. Born in Holyoke, MA, he attended Deerfield Academy and almost got expelled during his senior year for cooking kielbasa in his dorm room. He then went on to Trinity College where he was provided an excellent pre-medical education to then receive his medical degree from Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons.

After graduation, he spent seven years of training in New York, Providence and Boston to achieve certification in colon and rectal surgery. Dr. Wrobleski was the first colon and rectal surgeon in the state of Rhode Island. He mentored and shared his outstanding surgical skills with many residents, fellows and colleagues. The “Wrobleski scissors” are legend.

Besides his wife and father he is survived by a daughter, Amanda Dillon Foley and her husband Patrick, a grandson Finn Patrick “Finnski” Foley, his dog Skipper, a sister-in-law Elizabeth A. Wilkel and his godson Zachary O’Connor.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the South Kingstown Land Trust, 227 Robinson St., South Kingstown, RI 02879 or to the East Greenwich Animal Protection League, PO Box 184, East Greenwich, RI 02818.
ROBERT A. CARNEVALE, MD, passed away on June 26, 2015 surrounded by his family at Rhode Island Hospital. Fifty years earlier, as a teenager, he had his first job sweeping the hospital floors. His son Joseph, now a third-year Brown medical student, walks these same halls as he visits patients during rounds. Dr. Carnevale was a cardiologist, a teacher, a storyteller, an explorer, a comedian, an historian but above all else a husband, father, grandfather, brother, son, and friend.

He was born, raised, and educated in Providence. He attended Classical High School and Providence College, before studying medicine at New York Medical College. In 1975, he returned to RI for an Internal Medicine residency and Cardiology fellowship at Rhode Island Hospital. From the earliest stages of his exposure to medicine he had a passion for direct patient care. In 1980, along with his wife Joanne and Cheryl McVay, he built a health practice in the Elmhurst section of Providence, which was unique in that it focused on primary care and cardiology.

As a pioneer in echocardiography, he traveled the world learning and teaching the latest technologies in cardiac imaging. As a clinical associate professor of medicine at Brown University, Dr. Carnevale devoted his time to educating medical students, sonographers, residents, and fellows in the art of medicine.

In 1995, together with friends and colleagues, he was involved in the creation of a new concept in care, a group practice but without walls. The practice was called Coastal Medical, where Dr. Carnevale served for many years as a founder, treasurer, chairman of the finance committee, and later medical director. In 2014, he was awarded the Irving Addison Beck Memorial Award from the American College of Physicians. Today, he is known to all as a teacher of those who wish to learn, an impassioned caregiver to patients, but overall a community physician who loved his patients like his family and would go above and beyond for them - no phone call was too late, no visit too far.

Dr. Carnevale is survived by his wife of 36 years Joanne, his four children Kerri, Jessie, Bobby, and Joey, two grandchildren Peter and Charlotte, his mother and father Angelo and Anna, his uncle and aunt Henry and Sheila, brothers and sister Frank, Tom, and Mary-Ellen. Donations can be made in his name to Brown Medical Annual Fund.