IN THE NEWS

PROVIDENCE – KENNETH K. CHEN, MD, director of the Division of Obstetric and Consultative Medicine and co-director of the Integrated Program for High Risk Pregnancy at Women & Infants Hospital, and RAYMOND O. POWRIE, MD, FRCP, FACP, interim chief of medicine at Women & Infants Hospital, an attending physician in the Center for Obstetric and Consultative Medicine and senior vice president for Quality and Clinical Effectiveness for Care New England, served as lecturers at the International Society of Obstetric Medicine (ISOM) Regional Course and 6th Maternal Medicine Course at Singapore General Hospital in May.

“These lectures were given to a number of delegates - mainly of the Asia-Pacific and Oceania regions – from various medical specialties who wished to learn more about the management of pregnant women with preexisting and/or acquired medical disorders,” said Dr. Chen. “A number of delegates proceeded to sit the RCOG [Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists] fellowship examinations which were held shortly after the completion of the course and the general feedback was that this course prepared them very well for this examination.”

Dr. Chen delivered lectures titled: Updates in Treatment Options for Diabetes in Pregnancy, Obesity and Pregnancy Post Bariatric Surgery, Endocrine Disorders in Pregnancy, and Critical Care in Obstetrics. Dr. Powrie gave the following lectures: Prescribing Medications in Pregnancy, Neurological Disorders in Pregnancy, and Common Hematological Problems for Obstetricians. Additionally, Drs. Chen and Powrie both served on a workshop panel to discuss complex cases of medical disorders in pregnancy.

Memorial Earns $1.25M Grant to Boost Primary Care Coverage for Children, Adolescents In Underserved Areas

PAWTUCKET – The U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration [HRSA] recently awarded a five-year, $1.25-million grant to the Department of Family Medicine at Memorial Hospital to improve the availability of primary care for children and adolescents in underserved areas.

The grant, entitled “Transforming Family Centered Primary Care for Children and Adolescents in Underserved Areas,” will focus on care provided by Memorial’s Family Care Center to families in Pawtucket and Central Falls.

“The purpose of this grant is to enhance the training of medical students, family medicine residents and family medicine faculty at Memorial, as well as community faculty throughout these two underserved communities,” says MELISSA NOTHNAGLE, MD, MSc, residency director for The Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University Family Medicine Residency Program at Memorial, and principal investigator on the grant.

In addition to cultivating a workforce of primary care providers who are well prepared to deliver patient and family-centered care for children and adolescents, the intent of the grant is to encourage practitioners to work in underserved communities.

“We will be looking to these practitioners to become the future leaders in transforming primary care delivery systems,” Dr. Nothnagle explains.

The nation’s health care system is evolving to be more focused on keeping people well instead of helping people when they are sick. This grant, according to JEFFREY BORKAN, MD, PhD, chief of the Department of Family Medicine at Memorial and chair of the Department of Family Medicine and assistant dean for Primary Care-Population Health Program Planning at Alpert Medical School, will help further the efforts to strengthen the primary care services at Memorial and broaden their availability.

“This grant is a wonderful accomplishment and it will directly benefit the training of our residents and the patients for whom they care – both now and in the future. An incredible family medicine residency team put together a top-notch grant and this award will support continued educational innovation and the care of Rhode Islanders,” Dr. Borkan says.