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Appointments

Ziya L. Gokaslan, MD, FACS, appointed chief of neurosurgery at RIH, Miriam; chairman of the department of neurosurgery at Alpert

PROVIDENCE – **ZIYA L. GOKASLAN, MD, FACS**, has been appointed chief of neurosurgery at Rhode Island Hospital and The Miriam Hospital, and chairman of the department of neurosurgery at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, effective July 1, 2015.

In this role, Dr. Gokaslan, who comes to Rhode Island from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, will lead all clinical, research and teaching efforts in neurosurgery across the entire Lifespan system. In addition, he will serve as the clinical director of the Norman Prince Neurosciences Institute where he will be responsible for continuously enhancing collaboration and advancement among the institute's neurosciences faculty and the Brown Institute for Brain Science.

"Dr. Gokaslan is a skilled surgeon, a talented educator and scientist, and he understands the strength of academic medicine," said Jack A. Elias, MD, dean of medicine and biological sciences at Brown University. "His mentorship of medical students, residents and fellows is well known, and we admire his dedication to the advancement of knowledge in the neurosciences."

Most recently, Dr. Gokaslan has served as the vice chairman of the department of neurosurgery, director of the neurosurgical spine program, director of the neurosurgical spine metastasis center and a professor of neurosurgery, oncology and orthopedic surgery at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. Prior to joining Johns Hopkins, Dr. Gokaslan was an associate professor of neurosurgery at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston and served as deputy chair of its department of neurosurgery.

Dr. Gokaslan's clinical practice focuses on the radical surgical treatment of both primary and metastatic spinal tumors, sacral neoplasms and spinal cord tumors. He developed many novel approaches for resection of pancoast tumors, spinal neoplasms, as well as sacral tumors, including total sacrectomy and complex spinal and pelvic reconstruction. He transformed the surgical treatment of spinal neoplasms and devised techniques rendering certain tumors resectable once deemed inoperable. These led to significant improvement of survival in patients with various neoplastic conditions. His basic research focuses on the development of new animal models to study the pathophysiology

of neoplastic spinal cord compression and to define the roles of proteolytic enzymes in tumor invasion and to devise novel therapeutic approaches to treat spinal tumors.

He is a prolific researcher serving as principal investigator and collaborator on numerous projects regarding spinal oncology and surgery. He has authored over 300 peer-reviewed papers and presented more than 250 national and international lectures since 1996. He has authored and co-authored four book and numerous book chapters. He serves on the editorial boards of top academic journals, including the *Journal of Spinal Disorders & Techniques*, *European Spine Journal*, *Nature Reviews in Neurology*, the *Journal of Surgical Oncology*, and *World Neurosurgery*. He also served as co-editor of *Journal of Neurosurgery-Spine* from 2012 to 2013. He is a member of numerous prestigious societies, notably the Society of Neurological Surgeons, the Cervical Spine Research Society, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the Congress of Neurological Surgeons and the North American Spine Society as well as Scoliosis Research Society. He is also a past president of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons' disorders of the spine and peripheral nerves section.

Dr. Gokaslan was recently awarded the Leon Wiltse Clinical Research Award by the North American Spine Society for his excellence in leadership and clinical research in spine care.

He earned his medical degree from the University of Istanbul, Turkey. He completed an internship in general surgery, a fellowship in neurotraumatology and a residency in neurosurgery at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. From 1993 to 1994, he was a fellow in clinical spinal surgery at New York University Medical Center. ❖



LIFESPAN

Appointments

Maureen G. Phipps, MD, Elected to Professional Board

PROVIDENCE – **MAUREEN G. PHIPPS, MD, MPH**, of Wrentham, MA, chief of obstetrics and gynecology at Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island and Care New England, was elected to serve on the Council of University Chairs of Obstetrics and Gynecology (CUCOG) through 2017. Dr. Phipps is also chair and Chace-Joukowsky professor in the department of Obstetrics & Gynecology and assistant dean for teaching and research in women's health at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, and professor of epidemiology at the Brown University School of Public Health.



Dr. Phipps now serves on a six member executive board as an at-large member. She joins Laurel Rice, MD, CUCOG president, University of Wisconsin Medical School and Public Health; Haywood Brown, MD, president-elect, Duke University Medical Center; Daniel Clarke-Pearson, MD, secretary and treasurer, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Deborah Anne Driscoll, MD, immediate past president, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania; and David Chelmos, MD, member at large, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine.

"I am honored to represent chairs from across the country and our faculty locally to continue to promote leadership development, academic pursuits, innovative care models and clinical input into financial reform. We are facing significant challenges in medicine and being part of developing solutions, advocating for patients and providers as well as keeping physicians informed is critically important to our future success."

Dr. Phipps received a bachelor of science degree in biology from Boston College. She earned her medical degree from the University of Vermont College of Medicine and completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Brown University/Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island. She completed her masters in public health at the University of Michigan School of Public Health and a fellowship in the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar Program.

She has led numerous initiatives at Brown, Women & Infants Hospital, and in Rhode Island including leading the effort for the Brown/Women & Infants Hospital National Center of Excellence in Women's Health and the Rhode Island Task Force on Preterm Birth. Her research and academic activities involve collaborations across departments, hospitals, and state agencies.

Nationally, Dr. Phipps has been chair of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women, is an associate editor for the leading specialty journal, the American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology and is currently serving on the US Preventive Services Task Force. Phipps has been recognized on numerous occasions as an outstanding teacher and mentor, including being recognized nationally with the American Congress of Obstetrics & Gynecology Mentor Award for District I (National Recognition Award), the Council on Residency Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology Excellence in Teaching Award (National Recognition Award), and the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics Excellence in Teaching Award (National Recognition Award). Phipps' broad interest in women's health has been geared toward improving the health of underserved women. In addition to excellence in clinical care and research, she is dedicated to training the next generation of women's health providers. ❖

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Appointments

Jose Polanco, MD, named medical director of adult ambulatory services at RIH

PROVIDENCE – Rhode Island Hospital named **JOSE POLANCO, MD, FACP**, of Cranston, as the medical director of adult ambulatory services. In addition to the clinics, Dr. Polanco will oversee the Hallett Center for Diabetes and Endocrinology and the Samuels Sinclair Dental Center. He will also collaborate on the integration of all of Lifespan's 17 adult clinics.

"Dr. Polanco is a strong advocate for underserved populations and truly an asset to our hospital," said **MARGARET M. VAN BREE, MHA, DrPH**, president, Rhode Island and Hasbro Children's hospitals. "He has demonstrated ability to improve access to care and to streamline care provision. We are extremely fortunate to have Dr. Polanco as part of our team."

Dr. Polanco is a graduate of Brown University, State University of New York, Binghamton, and State University of New York Health Science Center College of Medicine. He completed his residency in general internal medicine at Rhode Island Hospital and is board certified in internal medicine.

His experience in ambulatory care includes serving as medical director and attending physician for the ambulatory center at Memorial Hospital and chief medical officer of the Blackstone Valley Community Health Care, Inc., both in Pawtucket, Rhode Island; and establishing Edgewood Medical, a large, successful independent primary care practice in Cranston.

Dr. Polanco is a clinical assistant professor of medicine at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University and serves as treasurer of the Rhode Island Medical Society.

He established and continues to participate in an educational, call-in radio program for the Latino community on Poder 1110. ❖

Margaret Bublitz, PhD, joins Women's Medicine Collaborative

PROVIDENCE – The Women's Medicine Collaborative announced that **MARGARET BUBLITZ, PhD**, has joined the Women's Behavioral Medicine team as a clinical psychologist. She began seeing patients on June 10.

A graduate of the University of British Columbia, Dr. Bublitz conducts research at the Centers for Behavioral and Preventive Medicine at The Miriam Hospital, and has extensive experience in behavioral medicine, psychoneuroendocrinology, and perinatal health.

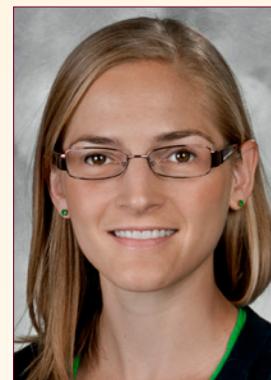
"It's exciting to have Dr. Bublitz join the Women's Medicine Collaborative staff as part of Women's Behavioral Health," says Teri Pearlstein, MD, director of Women's Behavioral Medicine at the Women's Medicine Collaborative. "With the research she is doing on potential connections between psychological stress and dysregulation of biological systems and poor health, Dr. Bublitz has a real passion for women's behavioral health that is evident in her expert, compassionate approach to patient-centered care."

Dr. Bublitz's past grant work examined the etiology of preterm birth in victims of child sexual abuse. She is currently co-investigator on two National Institutes of Health Research Project (R01) grants: Fetal Behavior; Brain & Stress Response: Ultrasound Markers of Maternal Smoking and Neural Response to Peer Rejection. Bublitz completed her clinical psychology internship and NIH T32 post-doctoral fellowship in cardiovascular behavioral medicine at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, where she is also an assistant professor in the Centers for Preventive and Behavioral Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior.

"I have a particular interest in exploring the link between maternal history of early-life stress and preterm birth," says Dr. Bublitz, "and my hope is to identify changes that at-risk patients can make during pregnancy to reduce rates of preterm birth." ❖



RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL



LIFESPAN

Dr. Charles Rardin named vice president of the American Urogynecologic Society

PROVIDENCE – **CHARLES RARDIN, MD**, a urogynecologist in the Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery and director of the Robotic Surgery Program for Women at Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island, director of Minimally Invasive Surgery at Care New England, and associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, has been named vice president of the American Urogynecologic Society (AUGS).

This appointment starts a four-year

process that will culminate in Dr. Rardin being named president of AUGS in 2017.

A graduate of the University of Rochester School of Medicine, Dr. Rardin completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, followed by a fellowship in urogynecology and pelvic reconstructive surgery at Mount Auburn Hospital and Harvard Medical School. He has achieved certification in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery (FPMRS) by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG).



WOMEN & INFANTS

Appointments

Drs. Mckaila Allcorn, Raneem Islam, Lisa Salisbury join Memorial staff

PAWTUCKET – Memorial Hospital recently appointed **MCKAILA ALLCORN, DO**, **RANEEM ISLAM, DO** and **LISA SALISBURY, MD**, to its medical staff in the Emergency Department. All three physicians will work out of Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Allcorn earned her medical degree from Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Tulsa, Oklahoma. She completed her emergency medicine residency at Kent Hospital, Warwick, RI, University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dr. Allcorn is a member of the Rhode Island Medical Society and American College of Emergency Physicians. She is certified in advanced trauma life support, advanced cardiac life support, basic life support and pediatric life support.

Dr. Islam earned her medical degree from Michigan State University, College of Osteopathic Medicine, East Lansing, MI. She completed her emergency medicine residency at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Paterson, NJ. Dr. Islam completed a fellowship in International Emergency Medicine, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester,



Mckaila Allcorn, DO



Raneem Islam, DO



Lisa Salisbury, MD

PHOTOS: MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

MA. She also completed a Master's of Public Health from Tufts University.

Dr. Islam is a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, American College of Emergency Physicians, International Emergency Medicine, Women in Emergency Medicine and American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians. Dr. Islam is certified in advanced trauma life support, advanced cardiac life support, basic life support, pediatric life support and level III ultrasound certification.

Dr. Islam's clinical interests include global public health issues, health

systems strengthening and increasing access to emergency care in low-resource settings with involvement in ongoing projects in Uganda and Bangladesh.

Dr. Salisbury earned her medical degree from the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA. She completed her emergency medicine residency at Baystate Medical Center Springfield.

Dr. Salisbury is a member of the American College of Emergency Physicians and the Massachusetts and Rhode Island College of Emergency Physicians. She is certified in advanced cardiac life support. ❖

Physiatrist Mustapha Kemal, MD, joins Newport Hospital

NEWPORT – **MUSTAPHA KEMAL, MD**, has joined the Newport Hospital medical staff as part of Newport Physiatry. Dr. Kemal, who also serves as medical director of the Vanderbilt Rehabilitation Center at Newport Hospital, began seeing patients on July 13.

Dr. Kemal received his medical degree from King Edward Medical University in Lahore, Pakistan, and completed his residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He is a member of



NEWPORT HOSPITAL

the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and is board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

"The expertise that Dr. Kemal offers covers such a broad range of physical medicine and rehabilitation services focused on helping patients move more easily, independently and with less pain – all without undergoing surgery," said Crista F. Durand, president of Newport Hospital. "Whether treating fibromyalgia or tennis and golf elbow, Dr. Kemal takes the time

to listen to and assess a patient's whole condition when diagnosing injuries or illnesses that compromise his or her ability to function."

Dr. Kemal's expertise includes management of spasticity (a muscle control disorder) using medications, Botox injections and intrathecal baclofen pumps. He also has expertise in the field of orthotics and prosthetics and disability assessments.

"It is so rewarding to be able to work closely with patients to identify their physical problems and prescribe preventive or non-surgical ways to treat them and improve their mobility," said Dr. Kemal. "This can really make a big difference in a patient's daily quality of life." ❖

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Appointments

Pulmonologist John Day, Jr., MD, joins Newport Hospital

NEWPORT – Newport Hospital announced that **JOHN A. DAY, JR., MD**, has joined the Newport Hospital medical staff as part of Newport Pulmonary Medicine. He began seeing patients on July 15.

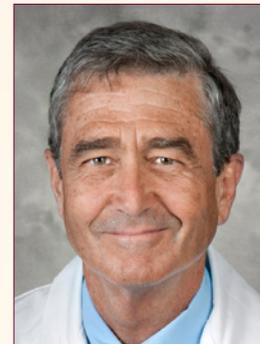
A graduate of Harvard College, Day received his medical degree from Cornell University Medical College. He completed his residency at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee, and a fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and Rhode Island Hospital. Dr. Day is board certified in pulmonary and critical care medicine. He is a fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians and a member of the American Thoracic Society, and is an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

“Dr. Day has vast experience treating a wide range of lung diseases and conditions of the chest,” said Crista F. Durand, president of Newport Hospital. “While his specialties include chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, cough, and shortness of breath, he has extensive expertise diagnosing

and managing virtually all standard pulmonary disorders. That breadth of experience and his ability to handle related clinical problems make Dr. Day a valuable asset to Newport Hospital and the Newport community.”

Dr. Day also has experience treating lung infections, pleural disease, sleep apnea, restrictive lung disease, lung nodules and lung cancer, various environmental and occupational lung disorders, and pulmonary vascular disease. The procedures he performs include bronchoscopy and thoracentesis.

“The patients who I see frequently have some difficulty breathing or another significant lung issue,” said Dr. Day, “so it is quite satisfying to be able to clarify the nature of the problem, improve people’s breathing, and help them to feel better.” ❖



NEWPORT HOSPITAL

Recognition

Dr. William Oh Honored as ‘Legend’ by Los Angeles Biomedical

PROVIDENCE – **WILLIAM OH, MD**, principal investigator of the Women & Infants/Brown Center of the Neonatal Research Network of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and neonatology professor at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, was honored by the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute (LA BioMed) as a “Legend” at the Institute’s reception in May. The Legends reception honors current and former LA BioMed researchers who have been leaders in their fields.

Dr. Oh is considered one of the founders of the field of neonatal medicine and has developed much of the



WOMEN & INFANTS

current knowledge on newborn metabolism.

Originally trained in the Philippines where he received his medical degree, Dr. Oh came to the U.S. in 1958, for a pediatric residency at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago, where he became chief resident and a research fellow in neonatology. From 1964 to 1966, he initiated a series of

research projects at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm that resulted in one of the first series of papers to examine neonatal blood pressure, neonatal blood volume, neonatal hemodynamics and neonatal renal function.

Dr. Oh became director of neonatology at Michael Reese Hospital in 1966, and in 1969 joined the faculty as chief

of neonatology at Harbor General Hospital in California until 1974. In 1975, Dr. Oh left California to become pediatrician-in-chief of Women & Infants Hospital and professor of pediatrics and obstetrics at Brown University, where he was appointed chairman of the Department of Pediatrics in 1989. During this highly productive part of his career, Dr. Oh published virtually non-stop in a number of areas of neonatal medicine.

He continued his efforts toward understanding neonatal blood pressure, the role of acid-base balance upon abnormal fetal heart rate patterns and neonatal well-being, the effects of insensible water loss upon neonatal metabolism, nutritional well-being in neonates, neonatal glucose metabolism, intrauterine growth retardation, neonatal renal function, bilirubin toxicity, and many other issues. ❖

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Recognition

Valery Danilack, PhD, Receives Honorable Mention for Research

PROVIDENCE – **VALERY DANILACK, MPH, PhD**, postdoctoral research fellow in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Women & Infants Hospital and the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and recent doctoral student at the Brown University School of Public Health, received an Honorable Mention for the 2015 Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research (SPER) Student Prize Paper Award for her submission entitled “Development of a risk prediction model for cesarean delivery after labor induction.” The award was announced at the SPER Annual Meeting, June 15–16 in Denver, CO.



WOMEN & INFANTS

Pregnant women are often concerned if labor induction will end in cesarean delivery, but this outcome is not easy to predict, especially before labor has started. Dr. Danilack and her team studied individual and pregnancy characteristics among 51,327 women who had labor inductions at 14 member hospitals in the National Perinatal Information Center, Inc. from 2007 to 2012.

The best model to predict cesarean delivery after labor induction had a combination of 10 characteristics, including maternal age, race, prior birth, gestational age, and several conditions of pregnancy. Knowing these 10 characteristics, a risk score from 0 to 1 that represents the risk of cesarean delivery after labor induction could be calculated. Among women predicted to have the lowest risk, only four percent actually had cesarean delivery, and among women predicted to have the highest risk, 93 percent had cesarean delivery.

“These results are important because knowing if an individual woman’s risk of cesarean delivery after labor induction is high or low is informative for patients undergoing labor induction and useful for labor care,” explained Dr. Danilack of her findings. ❖

Neil Ead receives 2015 Founders Award from American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association



HASBRO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

PROVIDENCE – **NEIL EAD, RN, MSN, CPNP**, a pediatric advanced practice surgical nurse at Hasbro Children’s Hospital, has received the 2015 Founders Award from the American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association (APSNA). The award is presented annually at the APSNA conference to an honoree who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of the care of pediatric surgical patients.

Ead, who is also a senior teaching associate in surgery at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, was nominated for the award by a group of his APSNA peers. He has been a member of APSNA for 20 years, serving on its Board of Directors for nine of those years and president for the 2013–2014 term.

A resident of Cranston, Ead joined Hasbro Children’s Hospital and the Department of Surgery of the Alpert Medical School 17 years ago, as one of the first advanced practice members of the faculty and one within a designated surgical specialty.

In addition to his roles at Hasbro Children’s Hospital and Brown, Ead also teaches at Regis College School of Nursing, and the University of Rhode Island College of Nursing. He received his bachelor’s degree from Barry College in Florida, and his master’s degree from the Yale University School of Nursing. ❖

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