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Recognition

Patrick Sweeney, MD, receives ACCME national recognition

CHICAGO – On December 7, the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) awarded **PATRICK SWEENEY, MD, PhD, MPH**, with its 2016 Rutledge W. Howard, MD, Award for Individual Service to the Intrastate Accreditation System at its annual State Medical Society Conference in Chicago. This award is named for Rutledge W. Howard, MD, who helped develop a national

system for accrediting intrastate CME providers. It recognizes volunteers for their contributions and commitment to advancing community-based continuing medical education (CME) programs and the intrastate accreditation system.

For the past 23 years, Dr. Sweeney has chaired the Rhode Island Medical Society's (RIMS) Continuing Education Committee. Under his leadership, RIMS has been continuously designated as an ACCME Recognized Accreditor of intrastate CME. More than wisdom and experience have played a role in Dr. Sweeney's stewardship of the Medical Society's CME program. He has given tremendous amounts of his time and talent to intrastate CME, both locally and nationally.

In his career, Dr. Sweeney has been honored 27 times for Excellence in Teaching in various settings. As a site surveyor for the ACCME, he has traveled the country and surveyed over 75 nationally accredited CME programs over the past 23 years. He has served as a member of the ACCME Committee for Review and Recognition and as Vice Chair and Chair of the ACCME Accreditation Review Committee. He was also active with the Alliance for Continuing Education for Healthcare Professionals (ACEhp) as a member of its Board of Directors and CME Advisory Committee, and served on the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' National Committee on CME as a member, Vice-Chair, and Chair.

On a local level, Dr. Sweeney has served in many roles at Women and Infants Hospital, including as Director of Medical Education, Director of CME, Chair of the CME Committee, and Chair of the Graduate Medical Education Committee. He also spent 17 years as Associate Dean of Medicine for CME at Brown Medical School.

"Through his commitment to advancing high-quality accredited CME throughout Rhode Island and across the US, Dr. Sweeney has demonstrated the power of education to make a difference for the medical profession and the patients we serve," stated Graham McMahon, MD, MMSc, President and CEO, ACCME. "For more than two decades, he has served as a leader and champion of CME. The Rhode Island Medical Society, the ACCME, and our communities of accreditors, CME providers, and physician learners have benefited from his expertise, professionalism, and passion for education. We celebrate Dr. Sweeney's decades of service and contributions to communicating the value of CME and to improving healthcare on the local and national levels."

On behalf of the Rhode Island Medical Society's leadership and all its members, we proudly acknowledge Dr. Sweeney's outstanding accomplishment. ❖



Dr. Sweeney and wife, Eve, at the December 7-8 ACCME conference in Chicago.

Women's Care Midwifery Service earns National Golden Commendation

The American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) recently awarded a Golden Commendation to Women's Care Midwifery Service, part of the Care New England Medical Group, for providing innovative and compassionate midwifery care to families for more than 20 years.



The practice – which includes **FIONA CLEMENT, CNM, MPH; JENNIFER HOPLEY, CNM, MS; MAGGIE KUCH, CNM, MS; LINDA NANNI, CNM, MS, FACNM; LISA PILE, CNM, MS; CYNTHIA SIEGEL, CNM, MS; and DANIELLE WEISNER, CNM, MS** – was recognized at the ACNM's recent regional meeting.

Women's Care Midwifery Service was opened in 1996 to provide the full scope of care to all women, from teenagers to the elderly.

"In addition to offering care in our Providence office, we see patients in Woonsocket, East Greenwich, East Providence, at community health centers in Coventry and Cranston, and at two inner city offices," says Nanni, a founding member of the practice and its current director. "This has allowed the entire population to have access to midwifery services regardless of location, social risk, ethnicity or medical risk."

The ACNM award recognizes this legacy.

Golden Commendations recognize practices across the country for helping to expand access to women's health care and "putting the heart of midwifery into practice," according to the ACNM website.

"The spirit of midwifery lives and breathes within Women's Care," Nanni said. "We put the patients' needs and desires first. We seek to develop safe plans for birth regardless of whether the patient is low risk or more medically complex and requiring medical collaboration. We are especially enthusiastic about attending some of our births at Women & Infants' Alternative Birthing Center." ❖

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Recognition

Southcoast Hospitals Group named to Becker's Hospital Review's list of 100 hospitals and health systems with great neurosurgery and spine programs

Southcoast Health is one of 6 hospitals or systems in New England to make nationwide list

NEW BEDFORD, MASS. — Becker's Hospital Review has named Southcoast Hospitals Group to the 2016 edition of its list, "100 hospitals and health systems with great neurosurgery and spine programs." Southcoast Hospitals Group is one of only six hospitals or health systems in all of New England to be included on the list; and this is the second time in four years that Southcoast Hospitals Group has been recognized for this distinction.

"I'm incredibly thankful for the excellent work which is done in our Brain and Spine Center on a daily basis," said **DR. RICHARD MILLER**, Physician-in-Chief of the Surgical Care Center at Southcoast Health. "Being named to this list by Becker's is a public recognition of what we know internally: the right physician leaders can drive clinical excellence. Under the leadership of **DR. MATTHEW PHILIPS**, we have developed an integrated program which I agree is one of the best in New England."

According to Becker's Hospital Review, the hospitals and health systems on this year's list are national forerunners in neuroscience, providing treatment for patients suffering from various conditions and injuries pertaining to the brain and spine.

To develop this list, Becker's Hospital Review selected hospitals for inclusion based on national rankings and awards garnered for superior outcomes in neurosurgery, neurological care and spine surgery. Becker's Hospital Review's team examined U.S. News & World Report national rankings for neurology and neurosurgery; CareChex national and regional rankings for neurological care, neurosurgery and spine surgery; Blue Distinction Center for Spine Surgery designation; Healthgrades awards for spine surgery, neurosurgery, cranial neurosurgery and stroke care; and Magnet designation for nursing excellence. Becker's Hospital Review notes that hospitals cannot pay for inclusion on the list.

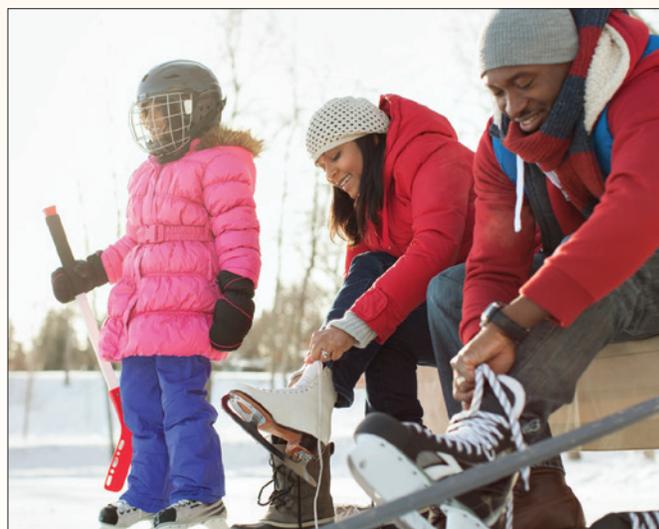
"Receiving this distinction for a second time in four years reconfirms the dedication of our staff to our mission at the Southcoast Brain and Spine Center," said Dr. Matthew Philips, Director of the Southcoast Brain and Spine Center. "That mission has always been to provide our community with the highest quality care in the most efficient and compassionate manner."

Other New England-based hospitals and health systems to make the list in 2016 include Boston Children's Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital, University of Vermont Medical Center and Yale-New Haven Hospital. To see the complete list, visit www.beckershospital-review.com/lists/100-hospital-and-health-systems-with-great-neurosurgery-and-spine-programs-2016.

Southcoast Health's neurology program has recently been recognized as a Top 100 Hospital by CareChex, designated as a Blue Cross Blue Shield Center of Distinction, named a five-star

recipient for treatment of stroke by Healthgrades for five years in a row (2012–2016), and recognized by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association with the Get With the Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award in 2015.

"I am honored to be recognized as a part of one of the top neurosurgery programs in the country," said Dr. Alvin Marcovici, Director of Neurosurgery at Southcoast Health. "I am also humbled by the very hard work performed by our nurses, office personnel and hospital staff. This recognition goes to them as much as to the surgeons. Being acknowledged twice in the past four years only shows the consistent hard work done by the Southcoast Brain and Spine team. We are extremely proud to be held in the same company as Baylor Hospital in Houston, Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles, The Cleveland Clinic, Duke and Johns Hopkins. We are equally proud of providing the same world-class care to our local community." ❖



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Recognition



Dr. John Gelzhiser recognized by ACP Hospitalist magazine

WARWICK – **JOHN GELZHISER, MD**, system director of inpatient medicine at Care New England and hospitalist at Kent Hospital, has been named a Top Doc by the American College of Physicians (ACP) Hospitalist magazine. Dr. Gelzhiser was featured in the November 2016 issue of ACP Hospitalist, a

monthly publication from the American College of Physicians that was established in 2007 and helps to keep hospitalists informed about the latest trends and issues in the field.

The ACP Hospitalist Top Doc award recognizes hospitalists who have made notable contributions to the field of internal medicine through exceptional clinical skills, patient safety, improved workflow, leadership, community involvement, and quality improvement.

“On behalf of Kent Hospital, we are extremely proud of Dr. Gelzhiser for this great achievement and for the exceptional work he has accomplished at Kent Hospital and across Care New England,” said **MICHAEL DACEY JR., MD**, chief operating officer, Kent Hospital. “Dr. Gelzhiser started at Kent as a newly educated physician and has grown to lead a very important department and group of physicians. We are grateful for his dedication and clinical expertise each and every day.”

“I am honored to have received this award from ACP Hospitalist magazine and look forward to further advancing the inpatient medicine field and improving practices to ensure the best quality care is given to our patients,” said Dr. Gelzhiser.

Dr. Gelzhiser joined Kent Hospital in 2007 following medical school at Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia, and a residency through Brown University at Rhode Island Hospital. When Kent Hospital created an internal medicine residency program in 2010, Dr. Gelzhiser became a faculty attending physician to the residents. Last year, Dr. Gelzhiser was awarded the Faculty of the Year Award by the internal medicine residents. Three internal medicine residents have joined the Kent Medical Staff and three more will be joining in July 2017.

Before becoming the health system’s director of inpatient medicine in January 2016, Dr. Gelzhiser served as associate director of the hospitalist program at Kent Hospital for five years.

As an administrator, Dr. Gelzhiser has overseen many changes at Kent Hospital over the past year, including instituting multidisciplinary rounds on all floors. These morning rounds include the hospitalist, nurse manager, nurse, pharmacist, case manager, and sometimes a social worker. Multidisciplinary rounds have helped to keep patients on the same floor, with the same familiar physicians, nurses and managers, and have led to decreased length of stay for patients. ❖

Women & Infants’ Breast Health Center earns national accreditation

PROVIDENCE – The Breast Health Center at Women & Infants Hospital has been granted a three-year, full accreditation designation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC), a program administered by the American College of Surgeons.

During the survey process, the Breast Health Center demonstrated compliance with standards established by the NAPBC for treating women who are diagnosed with the full spectrum of breast disease. The standards include proficiency in the areas of: center leadership, clinical management, research, community outreach, professional education, and quality improvement.

Best practice designation was received for eight standards, including Women & Infants’ Women’s Intimacy and Sexual Health Center (WISH) and the Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program. The surveyor noted the depth and strength of the program, including the interdisciplinary breast cancer conference, a weekly assembly of specialists who consider each

woman’s case individually. The surveyor noted, “One of the best conferences I have ever observed. Evidence based but with room for discussion and respectful differences of opinion in controversial cases.”

The surveyors also commented on the pathology reports, saying, “Excellent path(ology) reports and integration of path(ology) into the program for both benign and malignant disease. Outstanding pathology support of conference.” ❖

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Appointments

Gildasio S. De Oliveira, MD, named Lifespan's new chief of anesthesiology

He will create a new residency program and academic division of anesthesiology in the Department of Surgery at Lifespan and Brown University

PROVIDENCE – **GILDASIO S. DE OLIVEIRA, MD, MS, MBA**, has been named chief of anesthesiology at Lifespan where he will lead clinical services, educational and research activities, and administration of anesthesiology services.



De Oliveira will also serve as head of the division of anesthesia at Lifespan Physician Group. He will be on the faculty of the Alpert Medical School and serve as the director of the division of anesthesia in the department of surgery.

He previously served as clinical coordinator of Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago where he was responsible for planning the staffing and medically directing anesthesiology services for all of Northwestern's anesthetizing locations – more than 60. He served as the vice

chair for research and faculty affairs at the department of anesthesiology at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University where has been a faculty member for more than a decade. De Oliveira also served as a faculty member at The Center for Healthcare Studies in the Institute for Public Health and Medicine at Northwestern University.

"The opportunity at Lifespan to engage at every level, in clinical services, research, and education to make a difference for patients and to advance research and learning, is extraordinary," said De Oliveira, who will create a new residency program and academic division of anesthesiology in the Department of Surgery at Lifespan and Brown University.

In January, De Oliveira will also assume the role of Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Clinical Anesthesia*, a major journal in the field and the official journal for the Society for Education in Anesthesia, the Society for Anesthesiology Clinical Directors and the Society for Airway Management.

At Northwestern, De Oliveira led research in the department of anesthesiology and increased the department's scholarly activity (peer-reviewed publications) by more than 150 percent. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed articles and is internationally recognized as an expert in acute post-surgical pain. He has also led many national studies on anesthesiology residency education and is currently an oral board examiner for the American Board of Anesthesiology. He is currently funded by the National Institutes of Health and has been recently nominated as standing member of grant study section review.

"I believe strongly in providing a continuum of care from pre-op, through surgery and post-op," said De Oliveira. "The overall goal should be to improve the patients' overall experience and their quality of recovery after surgery."

A native of Brazil, De Oliveira received his medical degree from the Federal University of Bahia in Brazil, and completed

his residency at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York, where he served as chief resident. He also earned a master's degree in clinical investigation from The Graduate School at Northwestern University, and a master's in business administration with a major in operations at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

De Oliveira replaces Arthur Bert, MD, who will step down as full-time chief of anesthesiology at the end of the year. Bert will serve as interim chief until De Oliveira arrives in February.

De Oliveira will move to the area with his wife, Marcela Almeida, MD, and their three children, Gabriel, Isabella and Julia. "I grew up around the ocean, so coming to Rhode Island brings that back and that's important, too," said De Oliveira, who enjoys sailing.

"Dr. De Oliveira brings to Lifespan experience, skill and dedication to patient care, as well as a commitment to research and scholarship," said Lifespan President and CEO Timothy J. Babineau, MD. ❖

Angela Caliendo, MD, named to Infectious Diseases Society of America's (IDSA) board



ARLINGTON, VA – Pledging to continue the Infectious Diseases Society of America's (IDSA) commitment to improving the health of all people, communities and society, William G. Powderly, MD, FIDSA, assumes the reins as the new president of IDSA.

ANGELA CALIENDO, MD, PhD, FIDSA, professor and executive vice chair of medicine and director of the Division of General Internal Medicine at the

Alpert Medical School, has been named to its board of directors.

Dr. Caliendo will work with the IDSA's leadership to reach the new presidential administration and Congress to help shape their understanding of the critical challenges and opportunities facing the field infectious disease medicine.

She is chair of the Microbiology Medical Devices Panel for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). She was the co-chair of the Clinical Laboratory & Standards Institute (CLSI) Subcommittee on Quantitative Molecular Diagnostics for Infectious Diseases, a member of the CLSI Subcommittee on Genotyping for Infectious Diseases and an advisor on the Subcommittee on Antiviral Susceptibility Testing.

Dr. Caliendo is past president of both the Association of Molecular Pathology and Pan-American Society for Clinical Virology. ❖

Appointments

Sophia Rizk, MD, medical oncologist, joins Southcoast Health

FALL RIVER, MASS – **SOPHIA RIZK, MD**, a medical oncologist, has joined Southcoast Physicians Group.

Dr. Rizk graduated from Tufts University and received her MD from New York Medical College. She completed her internship, residency and chief residency in internal medicine, followed by her fellowship in hematology and medical oncology at the Alpert Medical School. She is board certified in internal medicine.

Dr. Rizk belongs to a number of professional societies, including the American Society of Hematology and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She is also a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, Rhode Island Medical Society and American College of Physicians.

Dr. Rizk loves to share her skills through volunteer work, participating in numerous teaching roles at her alma mater, Brown University, and by working on many published studies and papers. She is proficient in Spanish and Greek. ❖



Allison McAteer, MD, joins Westerly Hospital surgical staff



WESTERLY – Westerly Hospital recently welcomed a new board certified general surgeon to its medical staff – **ALLISON MCATEER, MD**. Dr. McAteer is a Rhode Island native and formerly served as Chair of the Department of Surgery at Landmark Medical Center in Woonsocket, RI.

A graduate of Tufts University and Tufts Medical School, Dr. McAteer joined the Brown Medical School Program in surgery, completing her residency in 2000.

Dr. McAteer's specialties within general surgery include colon surgeries, breast surgeries, hernia repair, gall bladder surgeries, skin cancer removals and also colonoscopies and endoscopies.

A large part of general surgery is caring for patients in the Emergency Department, including urgent surgeries, and Dr. McAteer joins the local surgeons in rotation on call in the Emergency Department. ❖

First class graduates from URI's online RN to BS program

KINGSTON – The 20 registered nurses receiving bachelor's degrees in nursing from the University of Rhode Island Dec. 17 are the first graduates of the College of Nursing's online RN to BS program.

Started in fall 2015 with just under 30 students, the program now enrolls more than 450 and is expected to grow, said **KRISTINE SPRINGETT**, coordinator of the program, which complements a traditional face-to-face RN to BS program. Another 35 students are expected to graduate in May. "They come from all over: Connecticut, New Jersey, California," Springett said.

The student body is about evenly split between early career RNs and those with years of experience, she said. RN to BS programs are designed to accommodate professional nurses who have associates degrees or nursing school diplomas but want to pursue bachelor's degrees.

All courses are provided through the University's Sakai learning platform, with students participating on their own schedule. Students take six nursing courses, statistics and pharmacology and must complete a public health practicum in their communities. Some also need to fulfill general education requirements. Some of the biggest differences between traditional and online programs are in duration and intensity, said **PATRICIA BURBANK**, associate dean of the College.

Courses are offered year-round in six sessions lasting seven weeks. "The term is shortened, so it is intense. The students cover in seven weeks what they would traditionally cover in 13, so the workload is more," Burbank said.

The growth of RN to BS programs stems from an Institute of Medicine 2010 report citing research that indicated patients have better outcomes when cared for by a nurse with a baccalaureate degree. The Institute recommended that 80 percent of nurses nationwide have bachelor's degrees by 2020. ❖



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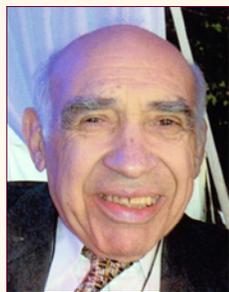


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Obituaries

 **ERMINIO R. "SONNY" CARDI, MD**, 89, of Cranston, passed away peacefully on December 15, 2016, surrounded by his loving family. He was the beloved husband of Clara F. (DelBonis) Cardi.

Dr. Cardi graduated from LaSalle Academy (1945), Providence College (1948), Georgetown University Medical School (1952), and the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Medicine in General Surgery.



He served as a Captain in the United States Air Force Medical Corps during the Korean Conflict from 1954-1956, stationed at Eglin Air Force Base, Fort Walton Beach, Florida. He served his internship at Worcester City Hospital and Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn,

New York. He was a Diplomat of American Board of General Surgery, a Fellow of American College of Surgeons, a founding member of Providence Medical Society Insurance Agency, Past President of the Providence Surgical Society, Past Secretary of the Rhode Island Medical Society, Past President of the St. Joseph Hospital Medical Staff, and a member of the Board of Trustees of St. Joseph Hospital. He was on staff there from 1960 until his retirement in 1993.

The author of several articles in medical publications, including the New England Journal of Medicine, he also authored changes in Federal Medicare physician reimbursements, introduced intra-operative endoscopic surgery in Rhode Island, and was a primary mover to require all rescue services to carry life-saving adrenaline to treat acute allergic reactions.

Along with his brother Alphonse, he established the Domenic Cardi Scholarship Fund at Providence College in 1969 to help underprivileged students achieve a higher education.

He was the devoted father of the late Raymond P. Cardi, MD, Michael A. Cardi and his wife Diane, Paul D. Cardi, MD, and his wife Gail, Rosemary Hendrickx and her husband Douglas, James K. Cardi, MD, and his wife Monica, and Ginamaria Shapiro and her husband Louis.

PETER SMITH, MD, died December 9, 2016 after a ten-year struggle with Parkinson Disease and Lewy Body Dementia. His wife, Heidi, sister Laska Meseck, and children, Fiona and Kevin, were at his side.

Peter was born April 26, 1941, the son of Richard Smith and Kathryn (Winkel) Smith. His mother was a pianist with a deep love of poetry, and his father wrote and directed plays while working as a civilian safety engineer in the Army. Peter established the "Mighty Boys' Club" with his sister Laska, a concert pianist, and endlessly teased his older brother Bart, an English professor.



When Peter was 12 years old his family moved to France where he completed high school at the prestigious Lycée Louis le Grand. He met his wife while attending medical school in Basel, Switzerland. There they had two children before impetuously and inexplicably moving to Chattanooga. Four years later he drove a U Haul truck to Providence for a fellowship in pediatric hematology and oncology at Rhode Island Hospital. He joined the faculty of Brown University where he loved teaching, the intellectual challenge of medicine and the emotional intensity of working with children and their families.

Peter spoke French, German, and Spanish fluently and delighted in using his language skills at work, at home, in restaurants, and when traveling throughout Europe, West Africa, and Latin America. He enjoyed travels in Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam but never mastered Khmer. He worshiped the great outdoors, spending his spare time and vacations hiking, biking, kayaking, gardening, and bird watching. He shared his mother's love of music, joining "Les Petits Chanteurs à la Croix de Bois" boys choir in Paris, the Providence Singers, the medical school's barbershop quartet, and the Robert Shaw Chorale during his sabbatical in Atlanta.

Peter was an adventurous cook and dedicated baker of whole wheat sourdough bread, which was as solid as his ethics and tough as his discipline. He planted a lush meadow by Echo Lake and Epimedium in his woodland.

He is survived by his wife, Heidi of Barrington; his sister Laska of Warren; his daughter Fiona Smith and son-in-law Alex of San Jose, California; his son, Kevin Smith and daughter-in-law Kathy of Boulder, Colorado; and his grandsons Aiden and Kai.

In his memory, donations may be made to Doctors Without Borders or the Rhode Island chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association.