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Appointments

Wafik El-Deiry, MD, appointed associate dean for Oncologic Sciences at Brown/Lifespan

WAFIK EL-DEIRY, MD, PhD, FACP, from the Fox Chase Cancer in Philadelphia, has been appointed to lead the Brown-Lifespan Joint Program in Cancer Biology and serve as the inaugural associate dean for Oncologic Sciences at Brown University. He will have appointments in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and the Department of Medicine.

In his role as the director of the unified cancer biology program, El-Deiry will design, recruit, and lead the cancer biology programs at Brown and Lifespan affiliates Rhode Island Hospital, Hasbro Children’s Hospital and The Miriam Hospital. He will also serve as the inaugural director of the Joint Program in Cancer Biology in the Departments of Pathology and Medicine.

In these roles he will work to develop a basic and translational cancer research program of national and international stature with the goal of advancing cancer diagnosis, treatment and prevention. The program will simultaneously contribute to the training of graduate students and postgraduate fellows, including those from hematology/oncology, pathology, and pediatrics.

In his role in the dean's office, he will work with the dean and stakeholders at Lifespan hospitals to catalyze and facilitate collaborative, innovative, patient-centered oncologic research across Brown and Lifespan.

JACK A. ELIAS, MD, senior vice president for health affairs and dean of medicine and biomedical sciences at Brown, said, “We are absolutely delighted to welcome Dr. Wafik El-Deiry to this strategically important leadership role at Brown University, the Warren Alpert Medical School, and the affiliated hospitals. Developing a transdisciplinary, translational cancer biology program with innovative science, and collaboration across institutions can be transformative for our institutions. As a former Howard Hughes Investigator and American Cancer Society Research Professor, Dr. El-Deiry is a person of immense stature in oncology and oncologic sciences. I look forward to watching our programs grow and our oncologic services to the people of Rhode Island expand under his leadership.”

“I am honored and excited to be joining Brown’s Alpert Medical School, and Lifespan,” said El-Deiry. “I look forward to working with outstanding colleagues throughout the university and hospitals to shape an exciting future of collaboration and discoveries that help patients. In the end, patients are our primary focus and always need to be. I look forward to engaging with Brown alumni to share the excitement of the cancer program at Brown.”

Since 2014, El-Deiry has served as deputy director for translational research and co-leader of the Molecular Therapeutics Program at Fox Chase Cancer Center. Prior to that, he served as the chief of hematology/oncology and associate director of the Cancer Institute at Penn State University, and as a tenured professor of medicine, genetics, and pharmacology at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, and co-program leader at the Abramson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

El-Deiry received his MD and PhD from the University of Miami School of Medicine and completed internal medicine residency and medical oncology fellowship training at the Johns Hopkins Hospital and Johns Hopkins Oncology Center.

El-Deiry has published over 280 papers and is the principal investigator on two National Institutes of Health (NIH) research grants and several industry grants supporting clinical trials. He has been continuously funded by the National Cancer Institute for two decades and currently serves as the chair of an NIH Study Section.

“We recruited Dr. El-Deiry after a competitive national search and believe we have found the ideal physician-scientist leader and role model for our students and fellows,” said HOWARD SAFRAN, MD, chief of the Division of Hematology/Oncology at Lifespan Cancer Institute. “Dr. El-Deiry embodies the 21st century ‘quadruple threat’ of physician, scientist, teacher, and academic leader.”

“We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Wafik El-Deiry to Brown where there is a need to pull together and integrate the cancer biology and clinical research efforts across disciplines and institutions,” said DR. JONATHAN KURTIS, Stanley M. Aronson Professor of Pathology and chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and director of the Warren Alpert Physician-Scientist MD/PhD and Advanced Training Program at Brown University. “He will also be a major force in teaching and mentoring students, fellows, and faculty in the area of cancer at Brown.”
Appointments

Dr. Audrey Tyrka named Co-Chair of the ACNP Women’s Task Force

AUDREY R. TYRKA, MD, PhD, director of the Laboratory for Clinical and Translational Neuroscience (LCTN) and director of research at Butler Hospital, and professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, has been appointed co-chair of the Women’s Task Force of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP).

Founded in 1961, The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology is a professional, international organization of leading brain scientists. Selected primarily on the basis of original research contributions, membership of the College is drawn from scientists in diverse subfields of neuroscience, including behavioral pharmacology, clinical psychopharmacology, epidemiology, genetics, molecular biology, neurochemistry, neuroendocrinology, neuroimaging, neuroimmunology, neurophysiology, neurology, psychiatry, and psychology.

Dr. Tyrka received her MD and PhD in medicine and psychology through a combined program at the University of Pennsylvania. She completed a psychiatry residency at the Warren Alpert Medical School and further research training in clinical neuroscience at the Mood Disorders Research Program and Laboratory for Clinical Neuroscience at Butler and Brown. Dr. Tyrka is also director of Research Training in the Brown psychiatric residency program and principal investigator of an NIMH-funded R25 research training program.

Alexios Carayannopoulos, DO, appointed chief of new physical medicine and rehabilitation department at RIH

Interventional physiatrist ALEKSIOS CARAYANNOPOULOS, DO, MPH, FAAPMR, FAAOE, has been appointed chief of Rhode Island Hospital’s newly created physical medicine and rehabilitation department. An expert in clinical practice and research, Carayannopoulos is nationally known as a leader in both interventional spine and pain medicine.

The new department is focused on building upon existing patient programs to provide integrated, seamless patient care and to standardize care across the continuum with the goal of further reducing readmissions and improving patient outcomes.

Carayannopoulos, a resident of both Barrington and Boston, serves as the medical director of the Comprehensive Spine Center at Rhode Island Hospital and Newport Hospital, and division director of Pain and Rehabilitation Medicine within the Rhode Island Hospital department of neurosurgery.

“We are excited to have Dr. Carayannopoulos’s leadership as we endeavor to better align our physical medicine and rehabilitation services across the hospital,” said MARGARET M. VAN BREE, MHA, DRPH, president of Rhode Island Hospital. “His proven record of leadership for the Comprehensive Spine Center and within the division of neurosurgery made him the ideal person to shape this new department and new era.”

The department has 19 physiatrists who practice across Rhode Island Hospital departments, including the spine center, inpatient rehabilitation unit and the concussion center.

Carayannopoulos is involved in clinical research on spinal cord stimulation and stem cell therapy. He is also a consultant in spinal cord stimulation, working with academia and industry to advance the field of neuromodulation through research and education.

Carayannopoulos earned his bachelor’s degree in English literature with a chemistry minor at Connecticut College. He subsequently served 13 years in the U.S. Navy as a diver, submarine officer and medical officer, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. In the course of his military service he became a doctor of osteopathic medicine, graduating from Nova Southeastern University’s College of Osteopathic Medicine in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. He also holds a master’s degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.

Carayannopoulos completed his Navy medical training at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD, and the Naval Undersea Medical Institute in Groton, CT. He completed his residency at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital/Harvard Medical School in Charleston, MA, where he also became certified in medical acupuncture. He completed a fellowship at Dartmouth Medical School in Lebanon, NH, and is currently a fellow of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, through which he is dual board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation as well as pain medicine. He is also a fellow of the American Association of Osteopathic Examiners, which is the organization that supports the distinctiveness and integrity of osteopathic medical licensure.

Carayannopoulos is a clinical associate professor of neurosurgery at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and has served as a faculty member or visiting lecturer at various clinics and symposiums around the country and internationally. A widely published and award-winning clinician and researcher, he practiced and taught at the Lahey Hospital and Medical Center in Burlington, MA, and at the Emerson Hospital in Concord, MA, before joining Lifespan and Brown in 2014. Carayannopoulos assumed his new role in December.
Phyllis A. Dennery, MD, named president of Society for Redox Biology and Medicine

PHYLLIS A. DENNERY, MD, pediatrician-in-chief at Hasbro Children’s Hospital is the new president of the Society for Redox Biology and Medicine (SfRBM).

Formed in 1987, SfRBM is comprised of scientists, clinicians, and researchers investigating redox biology, a unifying theme in the pathophysiology of human diseases. Their work focuses on developing medical interventions to improve health outcomes.

As a member for almost 30 years, Dennery has held several leadership positions within the society, including executive council and as associate editor of its flagship journal, Free Radical Biology and Medicine.

“The world’s leading experts in redox biology have long been part of SfRBM because of the organization’s location at a crossroads between the clinical patient perspective, and the most cutting-edge scientific research,” explained Dennery. “I see a tremendous opportunity to expand upon the interaction and collaboration that SfRBM has always afforded around basic and translational science. I am also excited to have an opportunity to foster a strengthening partnership between scientists and the medical community to examine how we can better help patients through redox-related therapies.”

A graduate of Howard University College of Medicine, Dennery joined Hasbro Children’s in 2015. In addition to serving as pediatrician-in-chief and medical director, she is the Sylvia Kay Hassenfeld Chair of Pediatrics at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and a professor of molecular and cell biology and biochemistry at Brown University.

Among Dennery’s research interests are prematurity-related lung problems and early aging of the lung. She is a member of the National Academy of Medicine, the Association of American Physicians, the Society for Clinical Investigation, the American Pediatric Society and the Society for Pediatric Research, where she served as president in 2007. She has also received numerous professional awards.

Dr. Eric Berthiaume named president of University Gastroenterology

ERIC BERTHIAUME, MD, has been named the president of University Gastroenterology. In his new role, Dr. Berthiaume will be responsible for overseeing the operations of the specialty group and ensuring patients continue to receive the highest level of gastrointestinal care.

He holds a faculty position as a clinical assistant professor of medicine at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed a fellowship in gastroenterology at Brown University and a residency at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

Dr. Berthiaume also regularly provides consultative services at Kent County Memorial Hospital and the Roger Williams Medical Center. He earned his medical degree at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, and is an alumnus of the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass.

Elizabeth Decker, DO, joins University Gastroenterology

ELIZABETH DECKER, DO, has joined University Gastroenterology (UGI).

Dr. Decker received her medical degree from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2011. She trained in internal medicine at St. Petersburg General Hospital and Sacred Heart Hospital in Florida, then returned to Rhode Island to pursue her specialty training in gastroenterology at Kent Hospital.

Dr. Decker will be on staff at Kent Hospital where she will continue to be involved in the Kent Gastroenterology Fellowship as a teaching attending.
Appointments

Emiko Ishihara, DO, joins Southcoast Physicians Group
EMIKO ISHIHARA, DO, has joined Southcoast Physicians Group Family Medicine.
   She earned her undergraduate degree from Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT and completed a Post-Baccalaureate Health Profes-
   sion Program at the University of California in Berkeley, CA. She earned her degree in Osteopathic Medicine at Des Moines
   University, College of Osteopathic Medicine in Des Moines, IA. Dr. Ishihara earned a Master of Public Health in Popu-
   lation Medicine and completed her residency in Family and Preventive Medicine at Loma University in Loma Linda, CA.
   Dr. Ishihara is board eligible by the American Board of Family Medicine and Preventive Medicine. She also holds
   certification in Lifestyle Medicine Core Competency and X (Suboxone) Waiver.
   Her clinical interests include palliative and hospice care, employee wellness programs, HIV/AIDS management, weight
   management and diabetes prevention, osteopathic manipulation, acupressure and lifestyle medicine.

Mohamad Hamdi, MD, joins The South County Health Center for Women’s Health
MOHAMAD HAMDI, MD, has joined The South County Health Center for Women’s Health.
   Certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Dr. Hamdi received his medical degree
   from Beirut Arab University in Lebanon and completed residencies in obstetrics and gynecology at American University
   Beirut and the University of Cincinnati.
   Dr. Hamdi, formerly of Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island, was Chief of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
   at UnityPoint Health’s Allen Memorial Hospital in Waterloo, IA. He is a member of the American College of Obstetricians
   and Gynecologists, reviewer for Obstetrics and Gynecology, and a member of the Association of Professors of Gynecology
   and Obstetrics.

John K. Czerwein, Jr., MD, named Chief of the Division of Orthopedics at Fatima; Aaron Milam, DPM, named Chief of the
Division of Podiatry
Our Lady of Fatima Hospital in North Providence, a CharterCARE affiliate, made the following physician leadership
appointments, it was announced recently by Dr. A. Robert Buonanno, Chairman of the Department of Surgery.

JOHN K. CZERWEIN, JR, MD, has been named Chief of the Division of Orthopedics. He replaces Dr. David Moss who served
as Chief for the last 7 years. Dr. Czerwein is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon and graduated from the Chicago Medical School.
He completed his residency in orthopedic surgery at Montefiore Medical Center in New York and
his orthopedic spine fellowship at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, where he is also a clinical assis-
tant professor. He is associated with the Center for Orthopedics in Johnston.

AARON MILAM, DPM, has been named Chief of the Division of Podiatry. He replaces Dr. Angelo Bigelli who served for 25 years
as Chief. A board-certified podiatric surgeon, Dr. Milam joined the medical staff in 1998 and is associ-
ated with North Providence Foot & Ankle. He is a graduate of Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine and Health Science and
completed his podiatric orthopedic and podiatric surgical res-
didency at West Roxbury Veteran Affairs Medical Center and
the Providence Veterans Affairs Medical Center.
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Recognition

Steven Brown, DMD, receives 2018 Hamolsky outstanding physician award

The medical staff of Rhode Island Hospital recently honored STEVEN BROWN, DMD, with the 2018 Milton W. Hamolsky, MD, Outstanding Physician Award. Brown, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon and consultant to the Samuels Sinclair Dental Center, joined the Rhode Island Hospital staff in 2003.

He was nominated for the award by Eileen Danaher, DMD, Sara DiNardo, DMD, and Elizabeth Benz, DMD. Benz is the director and DiNardo the assistant director of Samuels Sinclair Dental Center, which provides dental services to children and to intellectually or developmentally disabled patients of all ages. Their letter praises his clinical skill, his warmth and empathy with his patients, and his love of teaching. The nomination noted Dr. Brown’s history of treating the most complex cases.

Danaher read part of the nomination letter at the January annual meeting of the Rhode Island Hospital Medical Staff Association. “While maintaining a busy practice in East Greenwich, [Brown would] arrive at the hospital to round on patients before and after his scheduled day…Dr. Brown is rarely alone while making rounds in the hospital. He is often followed by plastics, pediatric, dental and ENT residents, all of whom love him. Dr. Brown is constantly teaching and encouraging these residents.”

The letter also noted Brown’s bedside manner that endears him to patients at the dental center, many of whom are medically and behaviorally challenging to treat. Brown, who served for 12 years on active duty in the U.S. Army prior to coming home to Rhode Island, volunteers his services through the Dental Lifeline Network, connecting medically fragile and disenfranchised patients with free care, and the Rhode Island Mission of Mercy, an annual free clinic.

“The Milton W. Hamolsky Physician of the Year Award is meant to honor doctors who have distinguished themselves with skill, leadership and professionalism,” said LATHA SIVAPRASAD, MD, chief medical officer of Rhode Island Hospital. “Dr. Brown meets and exceeds all of these marks, and is an enormously valued member of our dental and surgical teams. Aside from being an excellent clinician, he is known to all here as an outstanding person. He is highly deserving of this award.”

Brown is currently researching antibiotic resistance in deep neck infections caused by dental sources.

The Milton W. Hamolsky Outstanding Physician Award is presented each January to a doctor who has made exceptional contributions to patient care and leadership. The late Milton Hamolsky, MD, was an endocrinologist who came to Rhode Island Hospital in 1963 and served as the first full-time physician-in-chief from that time until 1987. Hamolsky served as the chief administrative officer of the Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline and was a noted pioneer of medical education in Rhode Island.

Lisa Frappier, DO; James Ingraham, MD, named APA Distinguished Fellows

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) recently approved LISA FRAPPIER, DO, and JAMES INGRAHAM, MD, to become APA Distinguished Fellows, the highest membership honor the APA bestows upon members.

They will be recognized at the Convocation of Distinguished Fellows during the 2019 APA Annual Meeting in San Francisco on May 20, 2019.

The Fellowship is awarded to outstanding psychiatrists who have made significant contributions to the psychiatric profession in at least five of the following areas: administration, teaching, scientific and scholarly publications, volunteering in mental health and medical activities of social significance, community involvement, as well as for clinical excellence.
Recognition

L. Anthony Cirillo, MD, elected to the ACEP Board of Directors; receives ACEP Health Policy Award

L. ANTHONY CIRILLO, MD, FACEP, has been elected to the Board of Directors for the American College of Emergency Physicians during the annual meeting of the ACEP Council on September 30, 2018 for an initial three-year term of office.

Dr. Cirillo is an ABEM board-certified emergency physician who has been active in the healthcare policy and advocacy arena for many years. He received his medical degree from the University of Vermont College of Medicine and completed his residency at the UMass Medical Center in Worcester, MA.

During the ACEP 18 meeting held in San Diego, Dr. Cirillo was awarded the Colin C. Rorrie, Jr, PhD Award for Excellence in Health Policy, which is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to achieving the health policy objectives of the College and/or who has demonstrated outstanding skills, talent, and commitment as an administrative or political leader.

Dr. Cirillo has previously served as President of the RI Chapter of ACEP and served for seven years as Chair of the Rhode Island Medical Political Action Committee (RIMPAC). Dr. Cirillo is employed by US Acute Care Solutions, a national emergency medicine group, where he serves as the Director of Health Policy & Legislative Advocacy. Dr. Cirillo lives in North Kingstown and works clinically in New London, CT and at Westerly Hospital.

Breast Health Center at Kent Hospital earns national accreditation

The Breast Health Center at Kent 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.

The Breast Health Center at Kent Hospital opened in January 2010, and has received full NAPBC accreditation three times since its inception. The program is a collaboration with Women & Infants Hospital.

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: patient navigation, breast cancer surveillance, pathology, support and rehabilitation, and educational resources.

The surveyors recognized the leadership of CANDACE L. DYER, MD, the medical and radiation oncology staff, imaging and pathology services, and the plastic surgery services.

Brown Dermatologists honored during American Cancer Society Event

PROVIDENCE – Members of the R.I. General Assembly, and physicians from Brown Dermatology were honored during the annual Cancer Research Breakfast at Roger Williams Park Casino in December for their leadership in helping pass legislation that makes it illegal for minors to use tanning beds in Rhode Island.

DR. HELENA KUHN, DR. MARY TEEPLE, and DR. MARTIN WEINSTOCK were each presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from ACS CAN for providing testimonies in support of the tanning bill sponsored by Senate Majority Whip Maryellen Goodwin and Deputy Majority Leader Mia Ackerman. All three doctors are faculty members of the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

“We are proud to have contributed to the successful effort to protect minors from indoor tanning, an important, potentially addictive carcinogen targeted at teenagers and young adults. We would also like to congratulate ACS-CAN and our state legislators for advocating this important skin cancer prevention effort,” Brown Dermatology physicians said in a joint statement.

“If you are under 18, you cannot go to a tanning booth,” said BERNARD JACKVONY, a national board member of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), which hosted the event. Jackvony praised the efforts of General Assembly members, and Brown Dermatology physicians who have helped make Rhode Island a national leader in cancer prevention.

From left to right: Dr. Mary Teeple, Dr. Martin Weinstock, and Dr. Helena Kuhn.
Recognition

Rhode Island Hospital earns Blue Distinction® Centers+ designation for cardiac care

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island has recognized Rhode Island Hospital with a “Blue Distinction Centers+ for Cardiac Care” designation, as part of the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program. Blue Distinction Centers are nationally designated providers that show expertise in delivering improved patient safety and better health outcomes, based on objective measures that were developed with input from the medical community and leading accreditation and quality organizations. Rhode Island Hospital is the only hospital in the state to be awarded the designation.

Only those hospitals that first meet nationally established quality measures for Blue Distinction Centers are considered for designation as a Blue Distinction Centers+.

Hospitals recognized with this designation are assessed using a combination of quality information supplied by hospitals and third party data registries, and cost measures derived from Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies’ medical claims.

South County Health Cancer Center re-accredited by Commission on Cancer

The Commission on Cancer (CoC), under the auspices of the American College of Surgeons, has re-accredited the South County Health Cancer Center through 2021.

The CoC is an organization that monitors comprehensive quality of care to improve survival and quality of life for cancer patients. As a result of the survey, conducted on October 9, 2018, the CoC awarded the Cancer Center a three-year accreditation for complying with the organization’s strict standards, noting seven areas earning commendation.

Areas of Commendation:
- Standard 1.9 Clinical Research Accrual
- Standard 1.11 Cancer Registration Education
- Standard 1.12 Public Reporting of Outcomes
- Standard 2.1 College of American Pathologists Protocols and Synoptic reporting
- Standard 2.2 Oncology Nursing Care
- Standard 5.2 Rapid Quality Reporting System (RQRS) Participation
- Standard 5.6 Data Submission, Accuracy of Data

Megan L. Ranney, MD, receives Selya Award for Excellence in Research

MEGAN L. RANNEY, MD, MPH, an emergency medicine physician and injury prevention researcher, was honored with the 2018 Bruce M. Selya Award for Excellence in Research at the Lifespan Annual Meeting. She was nominated by Brian Clyne, MD, in his capacity as Lifespan’s interim physician-in-chief for emergency medicine and interim chair of emergency medicine at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Dr. Ranney founded and directs the Emergency Digital Health Innovation Program at Brown. She is an associate professor of emergency medicine in the medical school, and of health services, policy and practice in the School of Public Health. She has published widely, with well over 100 scientific publications and 70 presentations at scientific meetings.

She serves as chief research officer for the American Foundation for Firearm Injury Reduction in Medicine (AF-FIRM) and has held roles on numerous national and local task forces related to efforts to stem gun violence, including co-chairing Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo’s Task Force on Gun Violence.
Recognition

East Greenwich Pediatrics named Cancer Prevention Champion by CDC for HPV vaccine prevention efforts

East Greenwich Pediatrics has been awarded the 2018 HPV Vaccine Cancer Prevention Champion Award, given jointly by CDC, The American Cancer Society and the Association of American Cancer Institutes.

The award recognizes clinicians, clinics, practices, groups, and health systems who are going above and beyond to foster HPV vaccination in their communities.

CDC issues the award to clinicians, clinics, practices, groups, or health systems nominated by their immunization program.

East Greenwich Pediatrics features a patient-centered medical home model of care, where the patient is the most important person in the healthcare system. Serving nearly 8,000 patients in the community, the practice fosters a culture of immunization, where the entire staff actively conveys the message that “vaccines work.”

Clinicians at East Greenwich Pediatrics promote the HPV vaccine as routine right from the start. At an 11-year old well visit, clinicians introduce the HPV vaccine with the other recommended adolescent vaccines, which helps parents understand that the vaccine is routine. The clinic describes the HPV vaccine as cancer prevention, and makes a strong recommendation for the HPV vaccination, knowing these are major factors influencing vaccine uptake. They also provide Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) handouts and FAQs, and take time to address parents’ questions and concerns and dispel myths about the HPV vaccine.

Conveying the importance of the HPV vaccine as cancer prevention has resulted in an HPV vaccine series completion rate of 87% for adolescent patients, which makes East Greenwich Pediatrics Rhode Island’s 2018 HPV Vaccine is Cancer Prevention Champion!
ROBERT “BOB” EARLE NADEAU, MD, passed peacefully on December 26, 2018 in Providence, surrounded by family.

The son of Alfred E. and Inez Nadeau, Bob was born in Lewiston, ME on September 13, 1938. He graduated in 1960 from Brown University, where he met his wife, Elizabeth Tillinghast, and was a member of the varsity golf team and Delta Upsilon. In 1964 Bob graduated from Tufts Medical School and completed his medical residency at Dartmouth. He then served as a Captain and general internist in the United States Air Force from 1966 to 1969, stationed in Spangdahlem, Germany. Bob further trained in psychiatry at the University of Rochester in Rochester, NY where he continued on as Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry. A member of the American Psychiatric Society, Bob continued in private practice and teaching until retiring in 2009.

He enjoyed summers and retirement in Little Compton, RI where he was passionately engaged in playing golf with his friends, driving his tractor and working in his woodshop. He was especially fond of the many visits from his ever growing and loving family.

Bob is survived by Elizabeth Tillinghast Nadeau, his loving wife of 58 years, and his four children Elizabeth J. Nadeau (Robert Legge) of Lyons, NY, Dana T. Nadeau (Joel Richnak) of Nevada City, CA, Robert E. Nadeau (Arielle Basch) of New York City and Jennifer J. Nadeau, MD (Jay Guthin) of Barrington, RI. He is also survived by his brother David Nadeau, eight grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Bob’s life will be held in Little Compton, RI in the summer of 2019. In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests donations be made to Butler Hospital’s Memory and Aging Program: https://foundation.butler.org/.

DR. SONIA SPRUNG was born December 12, 1921 and passed away peacefully on January 25, 2019 at the age of 97. Her life was remarkable in many ways. She was born in the Ukraine to Clara and Victor Mendelson. She had one sibling, Sara, who encouraged her to enroll in medical school. Her studies were interrupted by WWII. As the Nazis started bombing her town she and her parents escaped and travelled 1500 miles to Kazakhstan where she was able to resume her studies and become a doctor.

After the war she and her family left the Soviet Union and went to a displaced persons camp in Munich, Germany where she worked for the JDC treating refugees who arrived from Eastern Europe after the war. Her only child, Edie Nadler, was born there. In 1951, the family received permission to immigrate to the USA. When she arrived to Brooklyn, NY, she had to renew all her credentials which involved becoming an intern and resident and passing exams in English to become certified again in the medical profession.

The family then moved to Providence where she was in private practice for 40 years as a pediatrician. She was an enthusiastic member of Temple Emanuel and attended services there regularly. She reluctantly retired at 75 and then started traveling the world, 36 cruises took her to all the places she ever dreamed of visiting.

She is survived by her daughter, Edie Nadler (Jonathan Nadler); granddaughters, Lisa (Masa) and Jessica (Ryan); great-grandchildren, Miles, Ruby and Frankie as well as Shara Mendelson, Mischa Mendelson, Gideon Mendelson, Tom Tomeo and Owen, Leo and Isabella Mendelson Tomeo.

She was a true original and will be remembered with love, admiration and respect.

EDGARD TURNIER, MD, 83, of Cumberland and formerly of Newport, passed away December 27, 2018. He was the beloved husband of Carol (Sherry) Turnier.

Dr. Turnier was a political exile from Haiti. He was the first foreign graduate accepted at Rhode Island Hospital internship program, where he became the chief surgical resident. He later accepted a position at Stanford University for two years conducting cardiovascular research. Dr. Turnier then served his residency at USC for two years, performing open-heart surgery. He practiced in both southern and northern California, the Midwest and Newport, Rhode Island.

Besides his wife of 47 years, he is survived by his children, Stephanie Mitchell, Christopher Turnier, Meghan Patterson, and Bradford Turnier, and his five grandchildren.

Donations to Hope Hospice & Palliative Care of RI, 1085 North Main Street, Providence, RI, 02904, in memory of Dr. Turnier, would be appreciated.
JOHN YASHAR, MD, 91, died on January 11, 2019 in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

He was born in Iran and as a young child was a talented violinist and played Persian classical music on a weekly radio program. An accomplished student, he received his medical degree at the University of Teheran, after which he traveled to the United States in 1950, landing at Ellis Island, NYC, with $50 in his pocket.

He pursued his internship and residency at Bellevue Hospital in New York, and upon completion continued his studies at Beth Israel in Boston, where he was chief resident. He then trained in cardiovascular surgery at Case Western in Cleveland.

Dr. Yashar pioneered open-heart surgery in Rhode Island, becoming the first physician to successfully complete open-heart surgery in the state; he also helped to found and develop the open-heart surgery program at The Miriam Hospital.

Dr. Yashar was in private practice with his brother, Dr. James Yashar, and simultaneously worked and assumed leadership roles at numerous hospitals in the state. He was a Clinical Associate Professor at Brown University Medical School, where he trained hundreds of physicians, and a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgery, the American College of Cardiology, the Rhode Island Medical Society, among other associations.

Dr. Yashar was widely known for his love of medicine and compassion for others. He developed deep connections with his patients and their families. He was known for his humor, ability to spin a wonderful tale, and his unwavering support for his colleagues. His success was based on hard work, dedication, and kindness.

Above all else, he held family most dear. He was a loving and committed husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, son, and brother. He was married to Audrey M. Yashar for 54 years and they lived with their five children in Pawtucket, Providence, and Jamestown, RI, before retiring to Florida. His family was continually by his side as he battled Parkinson’s during the final year of his life. He was predeceased by his wife, Audrey. He is survived by his brother, Dr. James Yashar, and his sister, Mahin Kayvanfar, his five children: Beverly, Susan, Gail, Deborah, and Stephen; his three in-law children: John Mesberg, Christopher Smith, and Heike Yashar; his eight grandchildren; and his two great-great grandchildren.

Donations in his memory may be made to the American Heart Association.