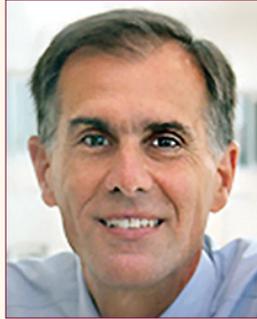


Appointments

Peter Hollmann, MD, appointed president of the American Geriatrics Society

NEW YORK, NY – **PETER HOLLMANN, MD, AGSF**, was appointed president of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS) in late August. Dr. Hollmann, who is chief medical officer at Brown Medicine, will lead the 6,000-member national nonprofit through 2022. A 38-year AGS member, Dr.



Hollmann has devoted his career to geriatric care in Rhode Island.

As he dons the mantle of the AGS presidency, Dr. Hollmann, MD, AGSF, wants his colleagues, older adults, and caregivers to know that he is committed to working with leaders and members of an organization representing more than 6,000 geriatrics healthcare professionals to improve the health, independence, and quality of life of all older people.

Dr. Hollmann assumes his responsibilities as the United States continues to fight a global pandemic that has claimed more than 500,000 American lives and to confront a history of systemic racism that is deeply embedded in the fabric of our nation. Facing these two crises, Dr. Hollmann, like all of his colleagues in geriatrics, has responded by working tirelessly to ensure older adults receive high-quality, person-centered care during the pandemic. Over the past year, he has continued to champion the improvement of payment for geriatrics health professionals, and he has been a strong voice for adequate payment for telehealth services; in particular, he has advocated for telehealth using audio-only devices to be paid for on par with video telehealth, given the needs of the patient population AGS members serve. In his capacity as an AGS leader, he has helped shape our response to the COVID-19 pandemic

and is fully committed to achieving our future vision of healthcare that is free of discrimination and bias.

“Our solidarity with our colleagues, older adults, and with caregivers has never been stronger than it has in the past year, and now is the time to use our collective voice to call for long-lasting

change in healthcare and society,” said Dr. Hollmann, an accomplished geriatrics clinician, medical administrator, educator, and payment expert. “Together, we can seize the opportunity this unique moment in time presents to ensure the health, safety, and independence of us all as we age.”

Dr. Hollmann currently serves as Chief Medical Officer at Brown Medicine, a non-profit, academic medical group with practices in the Providence area, and continues to practice medicine locally. In March, he became Vice Chair of the AMA’s Specialty Society RVS Update Committee (RUC), a volunteer group of 31 physicians from each sector of medicine that advises Medicare on valuing the work of clinicians who bill for their services on the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.

An AGS member since 1983, Dr. Hollmann has been instrumental in the Society’s efforts to promote payment policies that address the needs of Medicare beneficiaries, especially those with complex and chronic conditions. He has advised the AGS on the development of new CPT codes and represented its interests in various AMA positions. Dr. Hollmann also leads very popular workshops on the CPT coding for geriatric healthcare professionals at the AGS Annual Scientific Meeting.

Beyond his work on reimbursement for the Society, the new president has served as a member and chair of its Public Policy Committee, a member of its quality advisory group, and a member of the AGS board for more than eight years.

“I consider myself incredibly lucky to not have only found the field of geriatrics, but a supportive and encouraging professional home with the AGS,” Dr. Hollmann commented. “Like good geriatrics care, the AGS recognizes the value of teams and diverse expertise, and the importance of making the older adults we serve our number one priority. Over the past year, I have been collaborating with an incredible team of AGS colleagues on our important endeavor to eradicate discrimination in healthcare and research with an initial focus on the intersection of structural racism and ageism. I look forward to continuing to work alongside our outgoing AGS President and others. I know it will take all of us working together to achieve meaningful and lasting change.” ❖

Society of Hospital Medicine–RI Chapter names Board

PROVIDENCE – Lifespan physician **BRADLEY COLLINS, MD**, has been named the first president of the Society of Hospital Medicine–RI Chapter, formed in April 2021.

Other officers named are: Vice President **JINEN THAKKAR, MD**; Secretary, **ARKADIY FINN, MD, FACP, FHM**; Treasurer, **JENNIFER O'BRIEN, MD**; Director at Large, **HUSSAIN KHAWAJA, MD**; and Events/Education/Meetings, **RICHARD LIM, MD, FHM**. ❖

Appointments



G. Alan Kurose, MD, named Lifespan senior VP of primary care and population health

PROVIDENCE – Lifespan recently announced that **G. ALAN KUROSE, MD**, has been appointed senior vice president of primary

care and population health for Lifespan. Dr. Kurose will continue to serve as president of Coastal Medical in addition to his new responsibilities.

Dr. Kurose practiced primary care internal medicine in a community-based office for 20 years and was one of the founders of Coastal Medical in 1995.

“Lifespan is taking the next step in its integration efforts with Coastal to strategically elevate primary care and population health across the Lifespan system, and this appointment recognizes that priority,” said Lifespan President and CEO Timothy J. Babineau, MD.

Lifespan’s focus on population health is intended to provide individualized care to patients while encouraging medical teams to produce high-quality outcomes across entire patient communities. Population health takes into consideration not only a patient’s illness but also the barriers in their community to effective treatment and long-term positive health outcomes.

“This is a critical time in healthcare and elevating the primary care role and expanding population health and value-based care for more patients is extremely important. I’m truly excited about deepening care coordination for patients seeking care outside the primary care office - in the hospital, at a specialist in the community, or in the emergency department, so no patient gets lost in the system, and patients receive the best care in the best setting,” said Kurose. “This strategic decision will benefit patients, physicians and all members of the healthcare team and the communities we serve and is good for the future of healthcare locally.” ❖



Latha Sivaprasad, MD, named CMO for VA New England Healthcare System

BEDFORD, MA – The Department of Veterans Affairs this week announced the appointment of **LATHA SIVAPRASAD, MD**, as the new chief medical officer of VA New England Healthcare System (VISN 1). Dr. Sivaprasad will oversee the clinical delivery of health care to approximately 252,000 Veterans throughout the six New England states.

Dr. Sivaprasad joins the VA from her previous position as Senior Vice President, Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer at Rhode Island Hospital and Hasbro Children’s Hospital, which she has held since 2013. She also served as Associate Professor of Medicine, Warren Alpert Medical School, Brown University. Dr. Sivaprasad has over fifteen years of clinical experience in multiple, large hospital settings with an emphasis on physician training, mentoring and leadership development.

She received her medical degree from University of Missouri, Kansas City, and completed her residency in internal medicine from Washington University School of Medicine, Barnes Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, Mo. She has been recognized as one of 25 Healthcare Leaders Under 40, Becker’s Hospital Review, and with the 2015 Leadership Excellence Award from the National Diversity Council. ❖

Ponnandai S. Somasundar, MD, named Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology, at Roger Williams Medical Center

PROVIDENCE – **PONNANDAI S. SOMASUNDAR, MD, MPH, FACS**, Associate Professor of Surgery Boston University, has been named Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology, Department of Surgery, at Roger Williams Medical Center. The announcement was made by N. Joseph Espot, MD, MS, FACS, Chair of the Department of Surgery.

Dr. Somasundar completed his general surgical training at the West Virginia University Department of Surgery serving as Chief Resident. Subsequently, he completed a research fellowship in molecular signaling pathways in cancer from West Virginia University. He rose to the rank of Assistant Professor at the same institution before completing a Fellowship in surgical oncology at Roger Williams Medical Center in 2007. Dr. Somasundar subsequently completed a Master’s in Public Health from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2011.

Dr. Somasundar has been an active member of the Roger Williams medical staff since 2007 and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Surgery at Boston University School of Medicine in 2013. He has held numerous prestigious positions both locally and nationally, including President of the RWMC medical staff, chair of the bylaws committee, board member for the advisory board of Roger Williams Medical Center, and several peer-reviewed editorial boards. He is the author of over 100 published peer review articles, abstracts, and chapters and is regarded as an authority on the topic of geriatric oncology.

The Division of Surgical Oncology administers a fully accredited AGCME postgraduate fellowship in complex general surgical oncology and is comprised of Dr. Jim Kones, Dr. Joseph Espot, and Dr. Abdul Calvino, in addition to Dr. Somasundar. ❖



Appointments



Newport Hospital appoints Valentin Antoci, MD, to lead Total Joint Program

NEWPORT – **VALENTIN ANTOCI, MD, PhD**, has been appointed medical director of Newport Hospital's Total Joint Program effective September 1.

Dr. Antoci, an Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the Alpert Medical School and Director of Outpatient Adult Reconstruction with University Orthopedics, completed his surgical training at Harvard with privileges at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

Dr. Antoci focuses on hip and knee adult reconstruction. He has special interests in minimally invasive surgery, partial knee replacement, modern approaches, and implantation techniques, as well as various revision and reconstructive procedures, including trauma. His experience is augmented by his extensive and ongoing research – in such areas as joint implant design, tissue engineering, and biological interactions at the implant interface – which have put him at the forefront of orthopedic advancements.

Dr. Antoci has authored and coauthored two books, over a dozen book chapters, and many journal articles. He served as an associate editor for the *Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma*, a reviewer for *Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research*, *JBJS Case Reports*, *Arthroplasty Today*, and *BMC Infectious Diseases* journals. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgery, member of the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons, and the Orthopedic Research Society. Among his awards are the Infectious Diseases Society of America Edward H. Kass Fellowship and the Musculoskeletal Infection Society Jeannette Wilkins Award. ❖

David Curley, MD, PhD, named medical director of Miriam ED

PROVIDENCE – **DAVID CURLEY, MD, PhD**, has been appointed medical director of the Emergency Department at The Miriam Hospital.

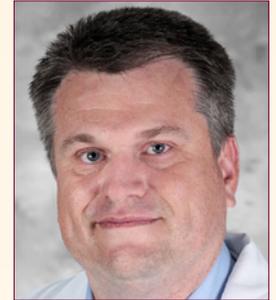
He most recently served as associate director of The Miriam's Emergency Department, a position he has held since 2018, including during the entire COVID-19 pandemic.

"Dr. Curley is well-positioned to take over as the next director. He has been a steady and effective leader in the Emergency Department for the past four years and during the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic his compassion, devotion and team-oriented approach have shined. We are extremely pleased to promote him to this very important role in an outstanding and vital Emergency Department," said Jeremiah Schuur, MD, MHS, physician-in-chief of Emergency Medicine for Lifespan's The Miriam Hospital, Rhode Island Hospital and Hasbro Children's Hospital, and president of Brown Emergency Medicine.

Dr. Curley has been deeply involved in adjusting operations and updating protocols to respond to the pandemic and serves on many key committees, including his role as co-chair of the Emergency Preparedness Committee. He joined Brown Emergency Medicine in 2014 after completing his emergency medicine residency at the combined program of Brigham & Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital. He received his medical degree and PhD from the University of Vermont College of Medicine.

Dr. Curley succeeds Ilse Jenouri, MD, MBA, who served as the department's medical director since her appointment in 2017. Prior to that she served as the associate director for six years.

Dr. Jenouri is taking on a new role as director of quality and patient safety for Brown Emergency Medicine. ❖



Andrew Kay, MD, joins SCH medical staff

WAKEFIELD – Hip and knee specialist, **ANDREW KAY, MD**, of Ortho Rhode Island, has joined the South County Health Medical Staff where he will complement the team of orthopedic experts at South County Hospital's Center for Advanced Orthopedic Surgery.

Dr. Kay is an expert in the most advanced Mako robotic arm-assisted technology, in direct anterior hip replacement, as well as minimally invasive, robotic-assisted, complex, and revision hip and knee replacement procedures.

Dr. Kay earned his medical degree at Jefferson Medical College in Maryland and completed a residency in orthopedic surgery at Houston Methodist Hospital. He also received training in Adult Reconstruction (Total Joint) by completing a Fellowship at the Rothman Orthopaedic Institute.

He is board-certified and is a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons. ❖

Appointments

Bryce Basques, MD, MPH, joins University Orthopedics



EAST PROVIDENCE – University Orthopedics announced **BRYCE A. BASQUES, MD, MPH**, is joining the practice's Center for Spine Health.

Dr. Basques specializes in spinal disorders such as disk herniations, degenerative cervical, thoracic, lumbar disease, spinal deformity, trauma, and tumors. He also specializes in correcting failed surgery and revision procedures. He has extensive experience

with the latest advances in spine surgery, including robotic spine surgery, navigation, minimally invasive spine surgery, outpatient spine surgery, and motion preservation (non-fusion surgery).

Dr. Basques attended medical school at Yale University, where he completed a combined MD and Master of Health Science (MHS) program focused on clinical outcomes research. He completed the orthopaedic surgery residency at Rush University, where he was an associate team physician for the Chicago Bulls and the Chicago White Sox. After residency, he completed the spine surgery fellowship at the Rothman Institute, where he was an associate team physician for the Philadelphia Eagles, Philadelphia Phillies, and Philadelphia 76ers.

He has more than 100 peer-reviewed publications, has edited a spine textbook, and has received grant funding from multiple sources including the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He serves on the Research Funding Committee and Clinical Practice Guideline Committee for the North American Spine Society, the world's largest multispecialty spine society. ❖



Retina Consultants

Altin Pani, MD

is pleased to announce that



Scott H. Greenberg, MD

has joined the practice specializing in diseases and surgery of the retina and vitreous.

Dr. Greenberg is a graduate of Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York. He completed a residency in ophthalmology and a fellowship in vitreoretinal surgery at Albany Medical College in New York.

Referrals welcome

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Recognition

Lifespan hospitals honored for excellence in stroke care

PROVIDENCE – Rhode Island Hospital, The Miriam Hospital and Newport Hospital have once again received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award.

The hospitals earned the award by meeting specific quality achievement measures for the diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients including use of medications and other stroke treatments aligned with the most up-to-date, evidence-based guidelines with the goal of speeding recovery and reducing death and disability for stroke patients.

RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL was additionally recognized with the **Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Advanced Therapy** designation. To qualify for this recognition, hospitals must meet quality measures developed to reduce the time between the patient's arrival at the hospital and treatment with the clot-buster tissue plasminogen activator, or tPA, the only drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat ischemic stroke. Also, "door to device times" must occur within 90 minutes for direct arriving patients and within 60 minutes for transfers (for at least 50% of applicable patients).

THE MIRIAM HOSPITAL was recognized with the **Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite** award, signifying that the hospital met quality measures developed to

reduce the time between patients arrival and treatment with tPA,

RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL, THE MIRIAM HOSPITAL, and NEWPORT HOSPITAL were all recognized with the **Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll** award. To qualify, hospitals must meet quality measures developed with more than 90% of compliance for 12 consecutive months for the "Overall Diabetes Cardiovascular Initiative Composite Score."

"This continuing recognition is a testament to the hard work of our staff who are part of a highly skilled, specialized team trained to provide rapid assessment and treatment for the acute stroke patient," said **JO-ANN SARAFIN, MS, APRN, CNP, FNP-BC, SCRNP, CDOE**, stroke program manager for Rhode Island Hospital. "It takes quick recognition of stroke in the community, including astute assessment by EMS with appropriate knowledge of stroke triage protocols. It entails efficient management in the Emergency Department encompassing clinical assessment, imaging, and state-of-the-art treatment in Neurointerventional radiology if indicated. It involves frequent monitoring, education, early rehabilitation and support to assist the stroke patient in achieving the best possible outcome. We are honored to receive this award reflecting on the entire spectrum of stroke care we provide, allowing as many patients as possible to regain their best quality of life."

"This is wonderful news. It takes a team

to be able to achieve these awards and it's due to the efforts of everyone across the hospital – nurses, doctors, rehabilitation specialists, and more. It's exciting that both The Miriam Hospital and Newport Hospital earned the Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll award this year. It is also exciting that The Miriam Hospital was also awarded the Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite for this year," said **KAREN SCHAEFER, MSN, APRN, AGCNS-BC, ASC-BC, FCNS**, stroke program manager for The Miriam Hospital and Newport Hospital.

Newport Hospital and The Miriam Hospital have met specific criteria to each be designated as a Primary Stroke Center while the Rhode Island Hospital is designated as a Comprehensive Stroke Center. Primary Stroke Centers are equipped to stabilize and provide emergency care for patients with acute stroke, and Comprehensive Stroke Centers can provide more specialized care for patients with complex strokes.

"Our team provides world-class stroke care and meets the highest quality standards. These awards are a tribute to the local commitment to improve outcomes for people with stroke," said **KAREN L. FURIE, MD, MPH**, Chief of Neurology at Rhode Island Hospital and The Miriam Hospital and Chair of Neurology at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. ❖

Recognition

William Oh, MD, to be inducted into RI Heritage Hall of Fame

The Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame recently announced its 2021 inductees. Among the Class of 2021 is **WILLIAM OH, MD**, a trailblazer in the field of neonatology.

He will be inducted on Oct. 23rd at The Crown Plaza in Warwick.

Dr. Oh, Sylvia Kay Hassenfeld Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics at Brown, was inducted into the Legends of Neonatology Hall of Fame in 2012. Also in 2012, Dr. Oh was honored with the Maureen



Andrews Mentorship Award, from the Society for Pediatric Research.

In 2019, the Journal of Perinatology published a comprehensive article highlighting Dr. Oh's career: "Reflections on the early years of neonatology. William Oh: neonatal pioneer devoted his career to groundbreaking research, expanding patient care, and mentoring others" and was co-authored by Corey Nason Reese and Jeff Reese (J Perinat (2019) 39:18-27). ❖

Brown School of Public Health re-accredited for 7 years by the Council on Education for Public Health

PROVIDENCE – On September 20, **ASHISH K. JHA, MD, MPH**, Dean of the Brown University School of Public Health, announced that the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) has approved the accreditation of the School for seven more years: the maximum award.

CEPH, the independent agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit schools and programs of public health, has re-accredited the School through December 31, 2028.

In a statement, Dean Jha noted, "This re-accreditation marks the culmination of many months of hard work by so many

stakeholders at the School, the University, and our amazing community partners. I have to acknowledge the steadfast leadership of Dean Melissa Clark whose knowledge, dedication, and perseverance throughout the process have been essential.

"In addition, I am thankful to the "village" of administrators and faculty who worked tirelessly attending meetings and gathering data for the self-study and the CEPH site visit. Between September 2019 and March 2021, the School engaged virtually with its stakeholders in a rigorous self-study process. This entailed the

active participation of faculty, staff, students, senior administrators, alumni, and community members in the assessment of all aspects of the School's operations, including its resource sufficiency, academic effectiveness, and mission accomplishment. The result was a 380+-page report bolstered by hundreds of pages of supporting evidence.

"CEPH accreditation attests to the quality of our School and will continue to enhance our national reputation as we attract the next generation of leaders who will take on the public health challenges of our time." ❖