

## Appointment



### Mukesh K. Jain, MD, appointed Brown's Senior Associate Provost for Life Sciences

PROVIDENCE [BROWN UNIVERSITY] — Effective immediately, **MUKESH K. JAIN, MD**, Brown's Senior Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of Medicine and Biological Sciences at Brown University, will assume an additional role as the University's Senior

Associate Provost for Life Sciences.

In a message to the Brown community dated Feb. 10, Brown President **CHRISTINA H. PAXSON** and Provost **FRANCIS J. DOYLE III** noted Dr. Jain's commitment to advancing research and education in medicine and the life sciences at Brown and across Rhode Island.

"Since joining Brown in 2022, Mukesh has worked to develop and implement a vision for an integrated biomedical ecosystem that allows innovations to move from discovery to real-life impact, seeking both to improve human health and to enhance economic vibrancy in Providence and Rhode Island," Paxson and Doyle wrote. "With the additional role of Senior Associate Provost for Life Sciences, he will extend this work, stewarding the continued expansion of life sciences research across the University. Mukesh is ideally suited to help Brown advance its goals in the life sciences."

In his new role, Dr. Jain will employ institutional resources to strengthen signature life sciences initiatives by partnering with campus-based departments, as well as with schools, hospitals and external partners. Chairing a new advisory group on the life sciences, he will work with leaders across the University to advance research from discovery through clinical and translational impact.

As the University prepares for the 2027 opening of the William A. and Ami Kuan Danoff Life Sciences Laboratories, Dr. Jain will chair a group of stakeholders planning for the facility centered on determining scientific areas of focus and the optimal use of the new space to maximize collaboration and impact.

"It's a privilege to take on this role at a time of extraordinary momentum for the life sciences at Brown," Dr. Jain said. "I'm excited to work closely with colleagues across the University and with affiliated partners to strengthen collaborative, cross-disciplinary research and education. Together, we have an opportunity to build something distinctive with lasting impact for our community and beyond."

Dr. Jain played a pivotal role in the expanded affiliation with the health system known now as Brown University Health, helping to expand the integration of academic medicine with clinical delivery. His support was key in the creation of the Rhode Island Life Sciences Hub, aligning academic goals with statewide economic development, innovation and workforce initiatives. ❖



### Brown University Health names Bassel George Diebo, MD, Co-Director of The Spine Center at The Miriam Hospital

PROVIDENCE — Brown University Health has named **BASSEL GEORGE DIEBO, MD**, as co-director of the

Spine Center at The Miriam Hospital. Dr. Diebo will help guide the center's clinical, academic, and strategic direction while continuing to provide expert patient care.

The Spine Center's mission is to deliver high-quality, evidence-based care to patients from across New England, and as co-director, Dr. Diebo, a fellowship-trained spine and scoliosis surgeon, will lead efforts to advance multidisciplinary spine care, strengthen collaboration across services, and drive quality and safety initiatives. .

"I'm honored to join **ADETOKUNBO OYELESE, MD, PhD, FAANS**, in leading this exceptional spine-specialized team, from our dedicated anesthesiologists and operating room staff to our inpatient teams, nurse navigator, and program leadership," said Dr. Diebo. "Patients already travel from across New England for care here, and my goal is to build on that foundation with evidence-based protocols, precision surgical planning, and world-class innovation that positions The Miriam Hospital to compete at the highest level nationwide."

"Dr. Diebo is a nationally recognized expert in spine and scoliosis care whose clinical excellence and academic leadership have been instrumental to the success of The Miriam Hospital's Spine Center," said **MARIA DUCHARRME, DNP, RN**, President, The Miriam Hospital and Chief Quality Executive, Brown University Health. "His contributions were key in earning an Advanced Certification in Spine Surgery from The Joint Commission; we are thrilled to have him serve as co-director of the program as we continue to set the standard for spine care excellence in the region." ❖

## Recognition



### Samir A. Shah, MD, MACG, 2025 Master of the American College of Gastroenterology recipient

PROVIDENCE — Designation as Master of the American College of Gastroenterology recognizes stature and achievement in clinical gastroenterology and/or teaching, and contributions to the College in service, leadership, and education.

**SAMIR A. SHAH, MD, MACG**, has been recommended by the Awards Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees for designation as Master.

Dr. Shah is a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Chief of Gastroenterology at the Miriam Hospital, and a partner with Gastroenterology Associates Inc. in Providence, RI. A magna cum laude graduate of Brown University, he received his MD from Harvard Medical School. He joined the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) as a GI fellow in 1995, and as ACG Governor for RI, he was elected Vice-Chair and Chair of the Board of Governors. The coauthor of more than 200 abstracts, book chapters, and articles, he has delivered over 100 invited presentations throughout his career. He joins past and current ACG Masters, including his father, Dr. Ashok N. Shah (1939–2023) who was honored as a MACG in 2007. ❖

### Rhode Island Hospital earns Beacon Award for Excellence from American Association of Critical-Care Nurses

PROVIDENCE — Rhode Island Hospital has again earned a silver-level Beacon Award for Excellence from The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) for its Coronary Care Unit (CCU). The national designation recognizes performance in the areas of optimal patient outcomes, a healthy nursing work environment and exceptional nursing care. This marks the second submission for Rhode Island Hospital's CCU and its second consecutive Beacon Award for Excellence.

"This is an incredible achievement for our dedicated CCU team here at Rhode Island Hospital. I'm proud to say that it is a reflection of the outstanding collaborative care that is provided to our patients and families every day," said **SARAH FROST**, Chief of Hospital Operations and President of Rhode Island Hospital and Hasbro Children's.

The Beacon Award for Excellence recognizes unit caregivers who successfully improve unit outcomes and align practices with AACN's six Healthy Work Environment Standards. Units that earn this annual award with a gold, silver or bronze designation meet specific criteria established by AACN that represent the characteristics and components of the unit environment that nurses can influence to achieve nursing excellence. ❖

### Westerly Hospital honored with Press Ganey's 2025 Guardian of Excellence® Award

WESTERLY — Westerly Hospital has been honored with Press Ganey's 2025 Guardian of Excellence® Award for Patient Experience, recognizing the hospital as one of the top-performing healthcare organizations in the nation.

The Guardian of Excellence Award is presented annually to hospitals and health systems that rank in the 95th percentile or higher for patient experience performance. Press Ganey partners with more than 41,000 healthcare facilities nationwide, supporting healthcare organizations in their mission to strengthen caregiver resilience and elevate the overall safety, quality and human experience of care.

"Receiving this award once again shows how deeply our staff values every patient who walks through our doors," said **RICHARD C. LISITANO**, president, Westerly Hospital. "Their dedication to delivering safe, high-quality care is unwavering, and this recognition reflects the pride they take in serving our community every day."

Westerly Hospital also earned Guardian of Excellence awards for Patient Experience in 2023 and 2024.

This year, 211 health systems and 46 health plans across the United States were recognized with Press Ganey's Human Experience awards. The Patient

Experience award recognizes organizations that demonstrate unwavering commitment to improving the experience of those they serve, determined by key measures in the Press Ganey patient experience or Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey. The survey, developed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), are standardized tools designed to measure patient experiences across various healthcare settings, such as hospitals, nursing homes and health plans. They focus on essential aspects like provider communication, care coordination and access to services. ❖



Felipe Vivas, MD, Internist



**Blizzard Babies**

Even in a blizzard, the dedicated Care New England teams provided care to those who need it! Twins, Liliana and Amelia DiPrete, were born at Women & Infants during the height of the historic storm on Feb. 23. They were delivered at 8:44 am and 9:06 am, weighing 5 lbs. 6 oz. and 6 lbs. 5 oz. They are from Warwick. [CARE NEW ENGLAND, WITH PERMISSION OF PARENTS]



**Care New England physicians**

Talk about determination! Not even nearly three feet of snow kept Care New England staff from getting to the hospitals to care for our patients. While the powerful blizzard blanketed the region and roads became impassable, our team turned to unconventional ways to get to work—hiking and skiing! Patient care is our top priority, so they strapped on their skis and boots and made their way to Kent and Women & Infants to ensure the hospital remained staffed and patient care was uninterrupted. [CARE NEW ENGLAND]



Kalin Gregory-Davis, MD, Ob/Gyn resident



Adam Lewkowitz, MD, Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine