

Appointments



Guy R. Nicastri, MD, FACS, appointed Chief Quality Officer at CharterCARE Health

PROVIDENCE — **GUY R. NICASTRI, MD, FACS**, has been appointed Chief Quality Officer at CharterCARE Health of Rhode Island. This new role is a condition of state approval for CharterCARE's

sale and divestiture from Prospect Medical Systems.

Dr. Nicastri will lead the Medical Staff Performance Improvement Plan, working with medical staff leaders and members of both Our Lady of Fatima Hospital and Roger Williams Medical Center. He will also oversee the quality, risk management, and infection control departments, while ensuring regulatory compliance and fostering a culture of continuous quality improvement.

Board-certified in general surgery, Dr. Nicastri has special expertise in advanced laparoscopy/robotics, advanced hernia repairs, foregut surgery for reflux/GERD, breast cancer, skin cancer, including melanoma, colorectal surgery, and treatment/surgery for gallbladder disease.

Throughout his professional career in Connecticut and here in Rhode Island, Dr. Nicastri served in numerous administrative and leadership roles including chief of surgery, OR committee chair, medical executive committees, performance improvement committees, and utilization review committees.

CharterCARE CEO **JEFFREY LIEBMAN** stated, "Dr. Nicastri's decades-long clinical experience and commitment to quality improvement make him ideally suited to lead our effort to facilitate alignment between quality initiatives and the hospital's strategic plan."

He has been recognized for excellence in medical education and is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Family Medicine at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. A graduate of Boston College, he received both his medical degree and his Master of Science in Physiology from Georgetown University School of Medicine. ❖

Recognition



Brandon del Pozo, PhD, receives 2026 Bruce M. Selya Award for Excellence in Research

PROVIDENCE — **BRANDON DEL POZO, PhD, MPA, MA**, has been named the recipient of the 2026 Bruce M. Selya Award for Excellence in Research, one of Brown University Health's highest hon-

ors recognizing emerging leaders whose research advances academic medicine and improves healthcare delivery.

Dr. Del Pozo is being recognized for his research at the intersection of public health, substance use, policing, and criminal justice, an area of growing importance as communities seek more effective responses to addiction, overdose, and behavioral health challenges. His work explores how law enforcement practices and public policy influence health outcomes and examines ways to better align public health and public safety systems.

"My research explores the emerging connection between public health and public safety, investigating how policing can shape individual and community health outcomes," said Dr. del Pozo. "While encounters with law enforcement can contribute to negative health effects, they also present opportunities to protect and improve health."

Since joining Brown University Health in 2020 as a post-doctoral fellow at The Miriam Hospital, Dr. del Pozo has built a research portfolio focused on opioid use disorder, overdose prevention, harm reduction, drug policy, and evidence-based approaches to addressing substance use. Today, he serves as an assistant professor of medicine at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, assistant professor of health services, policy and practice at the Brown University School of Public Health, and a research scientist at Rhode Island Hospital.

His research has been published in leading peer-reviewed journals, including *JAMA Network Open*, the *American Journal of Public Health*, and the *International Journal of Drug Policy*. The findings from his work have informed policy discussions and public health practices at the local, national, and international levels.

As the 2026 Selya Award recipient, Dr. del Pozo will deliver a featured presentation at Brown University Health's 33rd Annual Research Day on October 29, 2026, titled "Substance Use Research at the Crossroads of Health, Safety, and Justice." ❖

Recognition

Brown University Health's Cancer Institute Stem Cell Transplant Program earns national accreditation for quality and safety

PROVIDENCE — The stem cell transplant program at Brown University Health's Cancer Institute has earned accreditation from the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT), an internationally recognized organization that sets standards for quality and safety in cellular therapy and transplantation. Effective for three years, the accreditation gives patients and referring physicians added confidence that the program meets nationally recognized standards for safe, high-quality care.

The accreditation recognizes that the program meets rigorous standards across all aspects of care, from treatment planning and patient safety to quality monitoring and ongoing improvement. For patients facing blood cancers and other serious conditions that may require a stem cell transplant, FACT accreditation provides reassurance that they are receiving care from a program that has undergone a comprehensive review by experts in the field.

"Receiving FACT accreditation reflects the clinical rigor, expertise and sustained quality standards that guide every aspect of our stem cell transplant program," said **RABIN NIROULA, MD**, clinical program director, Brown University Health Cancer Institute. "This recognition underscores our commitment to delivering safe, compassionate and evidence-based care for patients throughout their treatment journey."

To earn accreditation, programs must demonstrate compliance with rigorous standards related to patient care, safety, quality management, staff training and clinical outcomes. Accredited programs are also required to undergo regular reviews and maintain ongoing compliance with established standards.

"This achievement represents years of collaboration, preparation and continuous improvement by a dedicated multidisciplinary team," said **KATIE CHERENZIA**, clinical manager, Brown University Health Cancer Institute. "Most importantly, it reflects our shared focus on supporting patients and families with the highest level of care at every step." ❖

Fatima Hospital, Roger Williams laboratories earn CAP accreditation

PROVIDENCE — CharterCARE announced that Our Lady of Fatima Hospital and Roger Williams Laboratories have earned accreditation from the College of American Pathologists (CAP) following recent on-site inspections.

Recognized for its rigorous standards, CAP accreditation reflects a laboratory's commitment to quality, safety and continuous improvement. The accreditation process evaluates laboratory operations against established standards designed to promote excellence in laboratory medicine and support high-quality patient care.

During the CAP accreditation process, inspectors review a laboratory's records and quality-control procedures as well as staff qualifications, equipment, facilities, safety programs and overall management. The inspection process is designed to verify that laboratory practices meet CAP requirements and reflect current best practices.

CAP accreditation places Our Lady of Fatima Hospital and Roger Williams Laboratories among more than 8,000 CAP-accredited facilities worldwide. ❖