Good day!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and safe holiday weekend. The Fourth of July is always a terrific opportunity to celebrate the many freedoms we all enjoy, ideally shared with family, close friends and lots of good weather. Also, a sincere thank you to everyone who helped fill this space last week, sharing your favorite sights, sounds and smells of summer, listing your favorite outdoor activities, and describing enough delicious picnic fare to last through the weekend. Most importantly, that exercise reminded us all to take a few deep breaths of fresh air and enjoy the best New England has to offer during these wonderful months. On a personal level, thanks for a number of great ideas I’ve added to my list of summer activities.

While I certainly encourage all of you to fully enjoy your time off, this summer will be a busy one around Care New England, highlighted by major technology implementations at Memorial Hospital starting this month. The transformation to fully-leveraged electronic medical records remains crucial to the future of Care New England and the health care industry as a whole. While there continue to be challenges along the way, there is no doubt we are on the right path.

For the past few weeks, the CNErgy implementation team has met with every department at Memorial to validate a common framework of care delivery and train staff in advance of the Cerner implementation scheduled for July 12. Additional training sessions are being scheduled as needed and minor tweaks to the platform continue to be made as the go-live date approaches. To make sure the transition is smooth, more than 80 support personnel will be assisting during the go-live period. Support staff will be stationed in every patient care unit and every department of the hospital for a full two weeks. The support team will be wearing bright red lanyards so they are easy to spot when staff requires assistance.

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While there are countless elements to ensure this go-live is a success, engaging physicians in adopting any new platform is critical. The Memorial Physician Advisory Group (MPAG)—led by Drs. Jonathan Gates and Joseph Diaz and including department and division chairs as well as residents and faculty—have met weekly since the beginning of this year. MPAG has overseen the adoption and proofing of order sets at MHRI for usability, quality and evidence-based care that will also assist in meeting the requirements of Meaningful Use. Drs. John Miskovsky, Shiavax Cowasji and Peter Gill have all brought tremendous insight to the process and countless others have provided valuable input that has helped define the final product.

With a committed medical staff, leadership and policy support, Memorial will soon be all electronic. To give you an idea of the importance of this project in the long term, Progress Notes in Cerner uses Dynamic Documentation—which ensures that diagnoses and problem lists are up to date and accurate. This is a key driver for the success of CNE’s population health effort, allowing Memorial to do real time adjustment of resources for at-risk patients. In addition, transitioning to ICD-10 will be eased by using Cerner’s diagnosis assistant, a key technology allowing doctors to quickly find very specific ICD-10 diagnoses.

Another significant component of the implementation is Cerner PharmNet, which includes several key functionalities. Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE) will improve the turnaround time for physician orders, eliminate legibility errors, and present physicians with clinical decision support. “Discern Rules” will help guide the care of the patient.

As this important milestone approaches, Information Services staff continues to implement a major technology ‘refresh’ to all areas of the hospital. The Virtual Desktop Interface (VDI) technology including Imprivata proximity badges are being implemented, allowing users to tap in and out of their desktops. Existing computers are being upgraded, and, as needed, new devices are being installed. IS has set up new printers throughout the hospital and plans for new scanners are also in the works. Remote access to all parts of the Cerner chart from ER and X-ray images to Rehab will be a welcome feature to busy clinicians.

If that doesn’t sound like a busy enough summer, the majority of Memorial outpatient practices will transition to EpicAmbulatory in September. As I have discussed previously, our investment in Epic allows Care New England to take a proactive approach to preparing for health care reform by addressing the need to reduce costs, coordinate care, assume risk and manage complex payment models. Care New England has now installed EpicAmbulatory in 46 locations, seeing more than 50,000 patients in Rhode Island and southeastern New England, giving them an opportunity to partner with doctors to manage their health through CNE MyChart, Epic’s online personal health record. More information on the EpicAmbulatory implementation at Memorial will be provided moving forward.

Thank you, as always, for everything you do for the patients and families we serve as well as for each other. There are many important initiatives underway around Care New England and many others to look forward to, but be sure to make the most of any well-deserved rest and relaxation you have planned for the summer.

Sincerely,

Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer
The Providence Center’s Morello named to Foundation for Addictions Nursing Board

Sharon Morello, BSN, RN, director of medical staff services at The Providence Center, was named to the board of trustees of the Foundation for Addictions Nursing for 2015. The Foundation for Addictions Nursing (FAN) supports the mission of International Nurses Society on Addictions (IntNSA), a professional organization founded in 1975 for nurses committed to the prevention, intervention, treatment, and management of addictive disorders including alcohol and other drug dependencies, nicotine dependencies, eating disorders, dual and multiple diagnosis, and process addictions such as gambling. The primary activities of FAN are to cultivate resources to advance the profession of addictions nursing, develop partnerships with individuals and organizations, and, together with the members of the organization, identify initiatives to advance the specialty.

Dr. Shibin Cheng and team win best poster at American Society for Reproductive Immunology annual meeting

A team of researchers and physicians at Women & Infants Hospital recently won the Best Poster Award for their poster, “Understanding and predicting preeclampsia, an enigmatic pregnancy complication, using Alzheimer’s tools,” at the 35th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Reproductive Immunology at Queen’s University, Kingston, ON Canada. Team members included Shibin Cheng, MD, PhD, research scientist at Women & Infants Hospital and assistant professor of pediatrics at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University; James F. Padbury, MD, pediatrician-in-chief and chief of Neonatal/Perinatal Medicine at Women & Infants Hospital and the William and Mary Oh-William and Elsa Zopfi Professor of Pediatrics for Perinatal Research at the Alpert Medical School; Akitoshi Nakashima, MD, PhD, a visiting scientist from the University of Toyama, Japan; and Surendra Sharma, MD, PhD, a research scientist and professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Women & Infants and the Alpert Medical School.

The research examined the similarities in the development of preeclampsia, or pregnancy-induced hypertension, and Alzheimer’s disease. The link that is thought to be common between both diseases is protein misfolding and aggregation. When these proteins aggregate and jumble, they form ball-like structures that deposit in the brain in the Alzheimer’s process and in the placenta causing poor placental transfusion in preeclampsia.

“Making a link between the two diseases provides for an opportunity to understand how they develop and how best to treat them going forward,” explained Dr. Sharma.

This work is part of a long-term project in Dr. Sharma’s laboratory at the Kilguss Research Institute of Women & Infants. Work supported by the Center of Biomedical Research Excellence in Dr. Sharma’s laboratory has identified novel insights into the pregnancy disorder preeclampsia. Dr. Sharma and his colleagues are also working to develop a diagnostic test to confirm that preeclampsia can be identified much earlier in pregnancy. He said, “Identifying preeclampsia earlier will certainly lead to new and better treatments.”
Kent Hospital is pleased to welcome 13 incoming interns to the GME Program

Kent is a major teaching affiliate of the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. Graduate Medical Education at Kent started in 2008 and currently has 46 residents and four fellows enrolled. Kent Hospital is proud to provide physician residents from across the country with the clinical expertise they will need to carry on their careers in medicine. Welcome and best of luck!

**Emergency Medicine:**
- James Chapman, DO
  Midwestern University, Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine
  Hometown: Orem, UT
- Bryn Dekoksy, DO
  Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences
  Hometown: Overland Park, KS
- Matt MacAskill, DO
  University of New England COM
  Hometown: Londonderry, NH
- James McKee, DO
  NOVA Southeastern University
  Hometown: Londonderry, NH
- Joseph Pepe, DO
  Lake Erie COM, Bradenton
  Hometown: Malone, NY
- Reece Wilson, DO
  Virginia COM
  Hometown: Winston-Salem, NC

**Internal Medicine**
- Ryan Allen, DO
  Lake Erie COM, Bradenton
  Hometown: Glen Falls, NY
- Ed Medeiros, DO
  University of New England COM
  Hometown: Seekonk, MA
- William Stoutt, DO
  University of North Texas – Texas COM
  Hometown: Dallas, TX
- Kylie Swearingen, DO
  General surgery prelim year – University of Florida
  Hometown: Barrington, RI

**Family Medicine**
- Yumi Aikawa, DO
  Western University of Health Sciences/COM of the Pacific
  Hometown: Sendai, Japan
- Kara Kopaczewski, DO
  Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences
  Hometown: Dartmouth, MA
- Christopher Lonegan, DO
  University of New England COM
  Hometown: North Yarmouth, ME

**Incoming Fellows**

**Gastroenterology Fellowship**
- Elizabeth Decker, DO
  University of New England COM
  Residency–Sacred Heart Hospital–LECOM Internal Medicine
  Hometown: West Greenwich, RI

**Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine Fellowship**
- Todd May, DO
  Touro University COM, New York
  Residency–Kent Internal Medicine
  Hometown: Cheshire, CT
The Providence Center (TPC) President’s Cup Golf Tournament raises $87,000
On June 1, The Providence Center held its annual President’s Cup Golf Tournament at Rhode Island Country Club. Dozens of volunteers and almost 200 golfers made this year’s tournament one of the most successful in the history of the event. The $87,000 raised will support TPC services.

CNE outreach staff participate in Congressman Cicilline’s 4th Annual Senior Resources Fair
Care New England’s outreach staff teamed up to provide valuable information at Congressman David Cicilline’s 4th Annual Senior Resources Fair on June 30th at the East Providence Senior Center. Hundreds of individuals, seniors, family members and caregivers visited 53 participating organizations from Rhode Island. People in attendance had the opportunity to obtain valuable information about Memorial Hospital, Butler Hospital, Kent Home Medical Equipment, the VNA of Care New England and other services from CNE.

Pictured left to right: Christa Andrews, marketing representative, Kent Home Medical Equipment; Joy Vaudreuil, outreach coordinator, Butler Hospital; Congressman David Cicilline; Donna Demers, physician outreach representative, VNA of Care New England; and Cezarina (Sue) Jackson, marketing communications specialist, Memorial Hospital.