One of the things that makes me most proud working at Care New England is seeing our team learn, grow, and develop. From staff who seek to further their careers through education, to researchers who grow and develop through innovation and discovery, to leaders who seek further our prominence in health care.

This week, I am proud to highlight a recent accomplishment of Dr. Maureen Phipps, who is chair and Chace-Joukowsky Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and assistant dean for Teaching and Research in Women’s Health at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, professor of epidemiology at the Brown University School of Public Health, and chief of obstetrics and gynecology at Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island and Care New England Health System.

Apparently all of those titles are not enough, because Maureen has recently been named president-elect of the American Gynecological & Obstetrical Society (AGOS), an organization comprised of individuals attaining national prominence in scholarship in the discipline of obstetrics, gynecology, and women’s health. AGOS advances the health of women by providing dedicated leadership and promoting excellence in research, education, and medical practice.

This is a very prestigious organization—and Maureen is the second Women & Infants physician to lead it, as Dr. Donald Coustan, former chief of ob/gyn, was president of AGOS in 2014.

I’m also pleased to announce that three Women & Infants physicians have been inducted as fellows of AGOS—Dr. Ruben Alvero, director of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility; Dr. Paul DiSilvestro, director of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology; and Dr. Vivian Sung, of the Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery.

Fellowship in AGOS is by invitation only and is reserved for individuals who are nationally and internationally recognized as leaders in their field. These three fellows join other Women & Infants’ physicians who are continued >
fellow of AGOS—Dr. Donald Coustan; Dr. Skip Granai; Dr. Deborah Myers; Dr. Maureen Phipps; Dr. Dwight Rouse; and Dr. Katharine Wenstrom. With these additions, Women & Infants/Alpert Medical School will be among the top departments in the country in the number of leaders in AGOS.

I’d also like to congratulate Dr. Phipps on receiving the Wellness/Healthcare Leadership Award at the first R.I.S.E (Realizing Inspiration & Sustaining Excellence) Women’s Leadership Conference, held last week in Providence. Congratulations also to Tish Devaney, Care New England’s senior vice president of human resources, who participated in a wellness panel discussion at the event on “Work-Life Balance and Integration.”

The focus of the conference, of which Care New England was proud to be a presenting sponsor, was to “bring discussion, thought leadership, and connectedness across a diverse and broad range of phenomenal women,” and I can’t think of someone more deserving than Dr. Phipps for her efforts toward improving the health of women, their families and communities, and her dedication to training the next generation of women’s health providers.

Lastly, I hope you have all seen and heard elements of the advertising campaigns Care New England has been conducting over the past few months. To date, we have launched efforts in support of orthopedic and general surgery, and starting this week the focus will be on the exceptional primary care services we offer, all based on the highest standards for access, quality, and service. For more information you can visit [http://carenewengland.org/primary-care](http://carenewengland.org/primary-care).

Sincerely,

James E. Fanale, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer

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The 29th annual William E. McKenney Jr., MD, Memorial Conference to focus on “Clinical Updates for the Busy Clinician”

Dr. William McKenney was a member of the Kent Hospital medical staff for 32 years, the second medical director of the hospital, and the first personnel health physician. Dr. McKenney also helped to establish Kent’s Intensive Care Unit, and was instrumental in establishing the hospital’s Quality Assurance Program. He was known for his irrepressible good humor, abundant warmth, and disarming, boisterous charm. This year the conference held in his name includes experts from across Care New England highlighting recent advancements in their area of expertise.

Speakers and topics to be presented are:
- Ashley Stuckey, MD, FACOG, FACS, “New Principles of Screening for Breast and Ovarian Cancer”
- Chester Hedgepeth, MD, PhD, “Screening for Cardiovascular Disease and Managing Risk During Transitions of Care”
- David Lowe, MD, “The Surprising Truth About Advancing Wellness through Exercise”
- Michael Ross, DO, “Screening for Cognitive Impairment”
- Melissa Murphy, MD, “Enhanced Recovery After Colorectal Surgery (ERAS) and Its Impact on Patient Outcomes”

Upon conclusion, participants will be able to: summarize advances in cardiovascular disease screening; identify practice guidelines to assure quality transition of care; describe preventive and screening measures for patients with suspected breast or ovarian cancer; motivate patients to adopt regular exercise regimes; utilize clinical practice guidelines for the evaluation of cognitive impairment; and summarize the components in the ERAS pathway and the positive patient outcomes associated with ERAS.

The CME conference will be held on Wednesday, October 17, at the Radisson Hotel in Warwick, RI. Advance registration is required. The attendance fee is waived for all Care New England physicians and providers. All Kent Hospital providers have been mailed a registration form, but if you are accredited at another CNE organization your participation is also encouraged. To register or for additional information contact Judith Gould, continuing medical education coordinator, at (401) 274-1122, ext. 42383.

Kent Hospital designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.75 AMA PRA category 1 credits™ and 3.25 Risk Management credits. Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.
Alzheimer's research ‘swab party’ to be held at WaterFire

During the Friday, September 29, WaterFire held in downtown Providence, Butler Hospital will be sponsoring a free genetic testing and informational event. WaterFire participants will be able to provide a DNA sample, obtained by a simple cheek swab, that will be entered into the national GeneMatch program. GeneMatch pairs volunteers with opportunities to participate in Alzheimer’s research.

With nearly six million Americans today living with the disease, which destroys memory as it progresses to inevitable death, this disease is considered a global, public-health crisis. Visit (https://www.endalznow.org/genematch) for more information.

No participant is under any obligation to sign up for a study if she or he qualifies. To participate in GeneMatch, a person must be 55 to 75 years old, live in the U.S., and have no diagnosis of cognitive impairment. Those interested in “swabbing” should not eat anything and drink only water for one hour prior.

“We need to engage the public in a major way and encourage them to participate in research to help move the field forward,” says Dr. Stephen Salloway, head of Butler’s Memory and Aging Program (http://www.butler.org/memory/) and the Martin M. Zucker Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at Brown University. “GeneMatch could be a game-changer for Alzheimer’s research. We’re excited to be partnering with WaterFire Providence to offer the chance to swab as many Rhode Islanders as possible and spread the message of hope about research. Our goal is to find a breakthrough treatment by 2025, and the smallest state in the union is poised to be a trailblazer in Alzheimer’s disease research.”

The Providence Center introduces Child and Family Program for Blue Cross patients

The Providence Center (TPC) recently introduced CFIT (Child and Family Intensive Treatment), an intensive, home-based program for children and families insured by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island. The program treats children ages three to 21 across the state who are experiencing significant emotional and/or behavioral issues. CFIT is a multi-disciplinary program with a staff that includes a nurse, case manager, psychiatrist, and clinician. The program’s treatment level is an effective step-down from a day program or hospitalization. Services include:

- Individual and family therapy
- Behavior management and parenting strategies
- Case management
- Bilingual staff
- Flexible hours

Services are provided at TPC’s Child and Family building at 520 Hope Street in Providence, as well as in the child’s home. For more info about CFIT, please contact manager Nicole Saunders at nsaunders@provctr.org.

Care New England Centers for Rehabilitation Services holds amputee networking meeting

The New England Amputee Association will be meeting on Wednesday, September 26 from 4:15 to 6:30 p.m. at CNE Outpatient Rehabilitation, 1351 South County Trail, Building 2, Suite 200A, East Greenwich, RI.

The meeting, “From Limb Loss to Limitless,” is dedicated to bringing amputees and their families together, allowing those who have experienced amputation to share how it has changed their lives, and to give support for others facing the same struggles. Given recent events such as Hurricane Florence the networking meeting will focus on preparing for weather and environmental emergencies and how to overcome potential preparation challenges due to limb loss. To register, contact Dean at (978) 365-2580 or by email at djmdcarlson@aol.com.
State of Rhode Island Awards Federal Grant to Kent Hospital

The Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) awarded $128,000 in federal grant money under the FY2018 Department of Homeland Security Non-profit Security Grant Program (NSGP) to five non-profit organizations in the state, including $55,000 to Kent Hospital. The Non-profit Security Grant Program seeks to integrate the preparedness activities of non-profit organizations that are at higher risk of a terrorist attack with broader state and local preparedness efforts. In addition to Kent, recipients of this year’s award included the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, Roger Williams Park Zoo, New England Rabbinical College, and the Providence Hebrew Day School. Accepting the award on behalf of the hospital were Robert J. Haffey, MBA, MSN, RN, president and COO of Kent, Dave Duncan, vice president of facilities and support services for Care New England, and Brian Smith, safety technician for Kent.

“We are extremely grateful that RIEMA granted us the funding to ensure the safety of the patients, families and staff who walk through our doors every day,” said Haffey. “Upgrading our security measures is always a top priority, and opportunities to partner with the state and federal government provide us with the resources to do just that.”

The Nonprofit Security Grant Program supports the goal of “Readying the Nation for Catastrophic Disasters.”

ICYMI—Preemies celebrate four-year milestone at Women & Infants

Each year, Women & Infants hosts a reunion of four-year-old graduates of the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) who were born weighing less than 1,250 grams, or two pounds 12 ounces. These children—all born in 2014—show firsthand how the battles waged early in life can pay off tremendously as children approach school age. This event was held last weekend and was sponsored by Women & Infants Department of Pediatrics and the Neonatal Follow-Up Clinic. In case you missed out, check out this great coverage from The Providence Journal by visiting https://bit.ly/2xF7S0B.

Welcome new Care New England Medical Group (CNEMG) provider

Benjamin P. Brown, MD, MS, is an attending physician in the Division of Emergency Obstetrics and Gynecology at Women & Infants Hospital and an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, clinician educator at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. Dr. Brown’s clinical interests include high-acuity obstetrics, and management of early pregnancy complications and ectopic gestation. He enjoys mentoring medical students and residents, and has expertise in statistics and clinical medical ethics. His research focuses on policy analysis using quantitative methods and an ethics lens.