Good afternoon,

While all of our plates continue to be filled with efforts around process improvement, financial stability, and ensuring our acquisition by Brigham Health remains on track, I am happy to be reminded on a daily basis about our continued focus on population health and our shared vision of building healthier communities.

A major part of this effort is the growing realization that an open line of communication between patients and providers is a critical step towards this important goal. With this in mind, Integra Community Care Network, Care New England’s accountable care organization, announced last week it has joined Choosing Wisely Rhode Island, an initiative of the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Foundation created to promote better and more effective communications between patients and providers, and to advance the dialogue around avoiding unnecessary medical tests, treatments, and procedures. With research showing that these efforts lead to better outcomes and lower costs, this is truly where the rubber meets the road.

Integra, which, in addition to CNE, is comprised of the Rhode Island Primary Care Physicians Corporation and South County Health, has a mission to deliver the right care, in the right place, at the right time. Participating in the Choosing Wisely Rhode Island initiative makes sense for both providers and patients, particularly given today’s fluid health care environment. Simply put, involving patients and their families in care decisions allows them to develop stronger relationships with clinicians and ultimately make more informed choices.

Choosing Wisely Rhode Island includes an ongoing educational campaign that gives patients the tools to advocate more effectively for their care. It also includes information for providers hoping to help their patients navigate what are often complex and challenging circumstances.

Led by the Rhode Island Business Group on Health, along with support from the Rhode Island Foundation and the Rhode Island Medical Society, adoption of this nationwide effort continues to increase statewide. Now in phase two, Integra is joining organizations such as Amica, Brown University, Ocean State Job Lot, Thielisch Engineering, the State of Rhode Island, the City of Providence, and others as part of Choosing Wisely Rhode Island.

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It will always be important for providers to work harder and smarter in order to ensure a stable and financially sound future. It is just as important to focus on the patients and families who depend on us every day, and to realize that engaging them in their health care decisions benefits everyone. Visit the Choosing Wisely Rhode Island website for more information: ribgh.org/choosing-wisely-ri.

Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

James E. Fanale, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer

Women & Infants Fertility Center named Nursing Center of Excellence

The Fertility Center at Women & Infants has been named a Nursing Center of Excellence by the Nurses’ Professional Group of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM). The Fertility Center is the only such program in Rhode Island to achieve this recognition for nursing care.

"Nurses play a key role in providing compassionate, comprehensive care to patients, not to mention their importance in patient and family education and satisfaction," said Matt Quin, RN, interim chief operating officer and chief nursing officer at Women & Infants. "We are so proud of the nurses in our Fertility Center on this achievement."

A center may achieve center of excellence designation if at least 50 percent of the practice’s registered nurses and/or nurse practitioners are experienced in reproductive endocrinology nursing, and have completed additional training through ASRM. At Women & Infants’ Fertility Center, 70 percent of their nursing staff – 14 out of 20 registered nurses – completed the certificate examination. Additional nurses have already begun the coursework and preparation for the exam.

Women & Infants’ Fertility Center is a full-service reproductive endocrinology and fertility clinic. The Center’s experts have an international reputation for excellence, with more than 10 decades of combined experience dealing with complex fertility issues.

Butler Hospital holds celebratory event to honor its nursing award winners

As part of National Nurses Week, a celebratory event was held on Thursday, May 9, to recognize the exemplary work by this year’s nursing award winners. Named after the director of nursing at Butler Hospital from 1964 to 1992, the Clare Sullivan Award for Leadership in Compassionate Care is presented annually to a nurse who demonstrates leadership through Butler’s Compassionate Care Standards. This year’s winner, Donna Diprete, RN, though not in attendance, was graciously honored for the compassion, dedication, and quality service that she provides each and every day.

Charles Alexandre, PhD, RN, senior vice president and chief nursing officer, also presented the Linda Damon Scholarship Award to this year’s winner, Peter Karmue, RN. Named after the senior vice president and chief nursing officer from 2005 through 2015, the Linda Damon Scholarship Fund was created to honor a Butler nurse who demonstrates leadership in nursing through superior communication, innovation and mentorship, dedication to practice excellence and quality patient care, as well as a commitment to advancing nursing practice, and continuous lifelong learning. Peter was awarded with a scholarship of $500, to be used in pursuing his advanced education, either through certification in psychiatric mental health nursing or more formal education.
Certified Nurse’s Tea at Kent Hospital

On Monday, May 6, Kent Hospital hosted its first Certified Nurse’s Tea during National Nurses Week in honor of the Kent Hospital nurses who recently achieved certification. Kent Hospital has 63 registered nurses who hold specialty nursing certifications. At the event, Donna Horrocks, PhD, RN, presented her book, “The Spirit of Nursing,” along with information on the nursing scholarship opportunities that are available. Twenty nurses attended this special event – food, certificates, and small gifts were hand delivered to those who were unable to attend. Thank you all again for your hard work, dedication, and excellence!

Pictured left to right: Joe Rocheleau, RN, nurse director 5W and rehabilitation; Karen Wholey, professional practice coordinator; Mary Quinn, RN; Donna Horrocks, PhD, RN; Judy Thorpe, MSN, RN, senior vice president of patient care services and chief nursing officer; Deb Quirk, RN; Mary Slattery, RN; and Ginny Wilcox, RN, nurse director, ICU, 4N, and dialysis.

Pictured left to right: Laurie Chatterley, RN; and Mary Quinn, RN.

Pictured left to right: Barbara Bird, MSN, APRN, CCNS, RN-BC; Joe Rocheleau, RN, nurse director 5W and rehabilitation; and Beata Lewkowski, RN.

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Teacher Appreciation Week: Recognizing The Providence Center School and Anchor Learning Academy employees

Last week, during Teacher Appreciation Week, we recognized and honored the important contributions of teachers and staff from The Providence Center School (TPCS) and Anchor Learning Academy (ALA). From occupational and speech therapists, to teams of elementary and middle school teachers and teacher assistants, it is the efforts and initiatives of these employees who shape the lives of young adults with impact that extends far beyond the classroom.

Both TPCS and ALA are programs of The Providence Center, providing a full array of community-based care to help individuals of all ages live happy and healthy lives.

The Providence Center School is a therapeutic, out-of-district placement school, which offers a unique learning environment for students from pre-kindergarten through high school, experiencing acute behavioral and emotional symptoms.

Anchor Learning Academy is a recovery high school program, combining academics and therapeutic support for students overcoming drug and alcohol addiction.

Individuals in both of these programs can receive a high level of academic and clinical support which prepares them for their next steps in education and a long-term future of success. To learn more about these schools and the programs they offer, please visit providencecenter.org.

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VNA of Care New England to host job fair

The VNA of Care New England is hosting a job fair on Thursday, May 16 from 7 to 9 a.m. and 2 to 5 p.m. They will be offering on-the-spot interviews for hospice RNs, home care RNs, home care LPNs, physical therapists, and physical therapist assistants. Do you know someone who has a desire to grow a career in home care and hospice? Tell them about the job fair! And if you don’t already, follow the VNA on Facebook – facebook.com/vnacne – to see photos and videos of some VNA team members. Share these posts on your own pages and proudly tell your own community why you love working with the VNA of CNE.

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Pictured left to right: Matt Mauro, teaching assistant; Cynthia Jackson, teaching assistant; Lisa Smith, behavior support teaching assistant; and Melissa Varin, teacher.

Pictured left to right: Kate Dimaio, occupational therapist; Kate Williams, speech and language pathologist; Cheryl Weinstein, teacher; and Rachel Slack, teaching assistant.
Information security advisory: Phishing scams

Care New England (CNE) has recently been the target of a number of different phishing scams. Many of these attempts are geared at gathering information about an organization to later be used in a more malicious attempt. Called “social engineering,” this can be a very effective way of infiltrating an organization and probably the hardest to detect or stop. Many of the attempts CNE has seen recently have been targeted at payroll and accounts payable for the purpose of stealing money from the organization.

In order to combat these attempts, it requires all employees to be diligent and understand the indicators and what they mean. Here are some tips on what to look for:

- Look closely at the email address (not the display name) from the sender to determine the validity. Keep in mind that executive leadership will never send requests from their personal email.
- Emails coming from outside of the CNE corporate email system will have [EXTERNAL] added in the subject line and have a yellow highlighted WARNING banner within the message.
- Bogus emails may have different fonts, poor grammar, and misspellings within the body of the message, but this may not always be the case.
- In many cases, the sender creates a sense of urgency (for example, “you need to act on this immediately” or “direct deposit”).

In addition, Outlook users have the ability to mark an email as spam or phishing by right clicking on a suspicious message and selecting “Report Spam.” Users will then get a menu which allows you to report spam or phishing. By clicking on either, you will alert our email gateway vendor of a potential malicious email.

Please keep these other best practices in mind regarding email:

- Never send any confidential information or protected health information outside of Care New England through email.
- If someone sends you suspicious instructions through email, be sure to check directly with them in person or by phone. There aren’t any viable scenarios where an executive of Care New England would be asking you to send employee information, patient information, financial information, or money outside the organization.
- Never click on embedded links or attachments unless you are certain of the source.

To learn more about phishing and for other cyber security information visit InfoSec’s Cyber Security section on carenet at carenet/is/cyber-security/.

Nurse and clinical job recruitment at Care New England

We are currently recruiting for nurse and clinical positions across Care New England. We encourage you to serve as hospital ambassadors and draw from your personal talent pool of friends, professional contacts, and others whom you believe have what it takes to join us and be a part of our energized and focused team concentrating on clinical excellence, quality and safety, professional development and education, collaboration, and teamwork. Sign-on bonuses are offered in key nursing areas. If you have any questions, please stop by HR. To learn about our current job openings in nursing, visit carenewengland.org/nursing, for other clinical job openings, visit carenewengland.org/careers.
Reminder: Walk from Obesity
Saturday, May 18 | Registration: 7:30 to 9 a.m. | Walk: 9 a.m. to 12 noon
Warwick City Park | 185 Asylum Road, Warwick, RI

Taking steps to raise awareness of obesity in our community, Care New England has teamed up with the ASMBS Foundation (American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery) to support the Walk from Obesity on Saturday, May 18. The cost for the event is $25 online, until Friday, May 17 at 1 p.m. and $35 onsite prior to the event. All online registrations include a complimentary Walk from Obesity t-shirt and bag, which can be picked up at the walk. Shirt sizes are first-come, first-served and are available while supplies last. Children under the age of 12 may be registered to participate for free with a registered parent or guardian. To register, click here. For more information about this event, or the surgical weight loss program at Kent Hospital, contact Jane Sylvestre at (401) 736-3731 or jsylvestre@kentri.org.

Kent Hospital celebrates EMS Appreciation Week
Tuesday, May 21 | 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. | Kent Hospital, Emergency Department Side Parking Lot

In recognition of national EMS Week, Kent Hospital would like to extend sincere thanks and appreciation to our EMS colleagues.

Kent will be hosting a cookout on Tuesday, May 21, at the Emergency Department Side Parking Lot, featuring hamburgers, hotdogs, and sides. Please join us as we celebrate our EMTs and paramedics and everything they do for our community.

Kent Hospital signature event: Aloha from Hawaii
Thursday, June 13 | 6 p.m. | The Dunes Club | 137 Boston Neck Road, Narragansett, RI

Escape with us to a seaside celebration at this magnificent venue to enjoy Polynesian-inspired delicacies and Hawaiian melodies in support of Kent Hospital. The event will take place at The Dunes Club, 137 Boston Neck Road, Narragansett, RI. Cocktails and passed hors d’oeuvres will be served starting at 6 p.m. with dinner to follow. Please RSVP by May 30 or by May 16 to receive special pricing. Attire for this event is business casual, please no denim or shorts. Hawaiian-inspired dress is encouraged. For more information, contact Cezarina (Sue) Jackson at (401) 921-8508 or visit foundation.kentri.org/event. Payroll deduction is available and forms are available in Kent’s Human Resources Department or by contacting the Philanthropy Office.