



Thursday, February 20, 2014

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**Hospitals Testify on Workers' Compensation Bill and DMHAS Budget**

On February 18, CHA [testified](#) in support of [HB 5030](#), *An Act Making Adjustments To State Expenditures For The Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015*. CHA testified in support of the Governor's recommendations to increase funding for programs and services in the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), given the critical role hospitals play in providing hospital and community-based behavioral health services.

Also on Tuesday, Connecticut hospitals and CHA provided [testimony](#) in opposition to [SB 61](#), *An Act Concerning Workers' Compensation And Liability For Hospital Services*. The bill, heard before the Labor and Public Employees Committee, would severely and fundamentally change the way claims are paid to hospitals under the workers' compensation program. If passed, SB 61 would interfere with the orderly resolution of disputes currently pending before the Connecticut Supreme Court. These pending disputes involve the refusal of a small number of workers' compensation insurers to negotiate rates and methods of reimbursement as required by law. Additionally, the amount proposed as payment for hospital services prior to adoption of a fee schedule is inadequate to cover all incurred costs. Hospital testimony posted on the Committee website includes that from The William W. Backus Hospital, Bristol Hospital, John Dempsey Hospital, Lawrence + Memorial Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Waterbury Hospital, and Yale New Haven Health System.

Additional public hearings on bills of interest to the healthcare community will be held in the coming weeks.



*Edward Romero  
Chief Financial Officer  
Waterbury Hospital*



*Stephen Frayne  
Senior Vice President, Health Policy  
CHA*



*R. Christopher Hartley  
Senior VP, Planning and Facilities Development  
Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center*

**Nearly 600 Participate in Patient Safety Programs**



Demonstrating Connecticut hospitals' commitment to patient safety, nearly 600 hospital leaders, clinical staff, and administrative personnel are participating in four patient safety programs presented throughout the week.

Participants have been enthusiastic and engaged in the interactive programs, which are led by Healthcare Performance Improvement (HPI) Senior Consultant Steve Kreiser, CDR (USN Ret.), MBA, MSM. "I train hospitals across the U.S. in strategies and methods to achieve optimal patient safety, and the level of enthusiasm statewide in Connecticut is higher than anywhere else I have seen," he said.

The training sessions have focused on identifying and cultivating safety habits that prevent errors, and providing hospital leadership with structured tools and methods to build and sustain a culture of safety. Improving quality and patient safety is a top-down proposition, and hospital leaders in Connecticut

are committed to creating cultures in which safety is reinforced as the primary foundation on which all care is delivered. Staff, department heads, and executives are communicating in daily huddles about safety issues, finding solutions to problems, and becoming more accountable for outcomes. This work is saving lives, and the supportive and collaborative environment is strengthening hospitals.

Since 2010, thousands of people in hospitals across the state have been trained in high reliability practices. Many are trained at CHA, and CHA also trains those who teach other hospital staff critical safety behaviors and error prevention tools.

## Living Our Mission: Building Healthier Choices Initiative Launches



Connecticut hospitals have long been dedicated to improving the health of those in their communities – now they are focusing on improving employee health, consistent with their missions. On February 14, CHA launched *Living Our Mission: Building Healthier Choices*, a statewide initiative focused on fostering a culture of health in hospitals, providing a model of good health for communities, and reducing healthcare costs.

The initiative is based on the 2012 AHA report, *A Call to Action: Creating a Culture of Health*, which emphasizes the critical role hospitals play in their communities, the financial case for addressing employee health, and the opportunities to prepare for accountable care and population health management. The CHA Committee on Human Resources established the Subcommittee on Employee Wellness and Population Health Management, which developed the initiative.

In 2014, the *Building Healthier Choices* initiative will focus on food and nutrition. CHA will support hospitals' development and implementation of strategies to improve employee health by providing resources, educational programs, and best practices.

## Mark Your Calendar: Smart Moves Forum on Safe Patient Handling



On Tuesday, February 25, CHA will present the eighth annual *Smart Moves Forum on Safe Patient Handling*. The keynote speaker, Mary Willa Matz, MSPH, CPE, CSPHP, President of Patient Care Ergonomic Solutions, will discuss the new *Safe Patient Handling and Mobility Interprofessional National Standards*. Ms. Matz chaired the work group that developed the standards. The discussion is intended to guide hospitals as they develop their own safe patient handling and mobility program based on the new standards.

Ms. Matz, who is also the National Patient Care Ergonomics Program Manager for the U.S. Veterans' Health Administration, has managed and led research teams in studying aspects of the science of patient handling and co-authored many peer-reviewed papers and book chapters on the subject. She was instrumental in incorporating safe patient handling protocols in the *Guidelines for the Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities*.

This year's Forum will also include educational sessions related to safe patient handling challenges and building successful programs, led by Susan Gallagher, PhD, MA, MSN, RN, CBN, WOCN, CSPHP, Senior Clinical Advisor, Celebration Institute. She will discuss tissue viability and patient handling in the care of obese patients, as well as best practices for implementing the *Safe Patient Handling and Mobility Interprofessional National Standards*.

Continuing education credits will be awarded. Please see the brochure for more details.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

## Tejal Gandhi, MD, to Headline Patient Safety Summit



On Friday, March 7, 2014, CHA will hold the 12th Annual Patient Safety Summit. The Summit will feature nationally recognized patient safety experts who will provide strategies and tools for predicting and preventing technology-associated errors. Speakers will include Tejal Gandhi, MD, MPH, CPPS, President of the National Patient Safety Foundation; Christina Michalek, Medication Safety Specialist at the Institute for Safe Medication Practices; Rosemary Kennedy, PhD, RN, MBA, FAAN, President and CEO of eCare Informatics and former Vice President of the National Quality Forum; and Jason Adelman, MD, MS, Patient Safety Officer at Montefiore Medical Center.

The program is a continuation of CHA's successful statewide initiative to eliminate all-cause preventable harm using high reliability science to create a culture of safety.

[View Save-the-Date](#) | [Event Registration](#)

Tejal Gandhi, MD, MPH, CPPS,  
President of the National Patient  
Safety Foundation

## Education Updates

### **Lean Principles: Process Flow and Value Stream Mapping in Healthcare**

Thursday, February 27 and Thursday, March 6, 2014  
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

As health reform changes accelerate and the challenge of lower reimbursement at both the federal and state levels unfold, hospital leaders are focused on transforming their organizations through strategies that both increase revenue and sharply reduce costs. Lean principles offer leaders a management system and methodology that eliminates road blocks and allows hospitals to improve the quality of care for patients by improving processes, and reducing errors and waiting times. It is a systematic approach to reducing costs and risks, while simultaneously setting the stage for growth and expansion.

Please note: this is a two-session program--held Thursday, February 27 and Thursday, March 6. Participants should plan to attend both sessions.

Continuing education credits will be awarded to those that attend both sessions. Please see the brochure for more details.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

### **Caring for Patients with Dementia or Alzheimer's: Best Practices Across the Continuum of Care**

Friday, February 28, 2014  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

We invite you to join us on Friday, February 28, 2014, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to explore best practices across the continuum of care. This program will focus on the differences associated with care for persons living with dementia and Alzheimer's, and best practices for the transitions of care for these patients. Carolyn DeRocco, Senior Director of Education and Programs, Alzheimer's Association, will present the keynote address. A panel discussion will follow.

This program is part of a series on end-of-life care issues presented by Connecticut's Collaborations of Care partners: the Connecticut Hospital Association, the Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home, the Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities, the Connecticut State Medical Society, and LeadingAge Connecticut.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

### **HPI Level 3: Train-the-Trainer Session**

Monday, March 3, 2014  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

This train-the-trainer session is designed for hospital trainers to learn how to teach the staff safety behaviors and error prevention tools.

[Event Registration](#)

### **HPI Level 3: Leadership Training Session**

Tuesday, March 4, 2014  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Leadership Training Sessions will provide the opportunity for Level 3 hospital leaders to get training directly from the HPI staff--each session will be taught by HPI Senior Consultant Steve Kreiser, CDR (USN Ret.), MBA, MSM. The morning portion of this session will cover staff safety behaviors and error prevention tools. The afternoon will focus on structured high reliability leadership methods to ensure sustainability to help leaders find and fix problems and reinforce accountability.

[Event Registration](#)

### **Cyber Resilience Workshop**

Thursday, March 6, 2014  
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

In partnership with the Department of Homeland Security and Carnegie Mellon, CHA is pleased to offer a workshop on Cyber Resilience. This workshop is designed to introduce cyber security stakeholders and practitioners to cyber resilience concepts and to build capability and capacity across key performance areas related to cyber security, IT operations, and business continuity within critical services. The workshop is geared toward executive and operations management within critical infrastructure (public and private) sectors, and will result in tangible, useful "take-away" information related to risk-based decision-making and security planning for critical IT services underpinning core operations.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

### **2014 Patient Safety Summit**

Friday, March 7, 2014  
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Please join us for CHA's twelfth annual Patient Safety Summit, co-sponsored with Qualidigm. The Summit will mark the second anniversary of CHA's successful statewide initiative to eliminate all-cause preventable harm using high reliability science to create a culture of safety. Nationally recognized experts will present strategies and tools for predicting and preventing technology-associated errors and the Summit will include two sessions on the

importance of patient engagement, one from a patient's perspective. The program will be held at CHA in Wallingford.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

### **HPI Level 3: Leadership Training Session**

Wednesday, March 12, 2014  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Leadership Training Sessions will provide the opportunity for Level 3 hospital leaders to get training directly from the HPI staff—each session will be taught by HPI Senior Consultant Steve Kreiser, CDR (USN Ret.), MBA, MSM. The morning portion of this session will cover staff safety behaviors and error prevention tools. The afternoon will focus on structured high reliability leadership methods to ensure sustainability to help leaders find and fix problems and reinforce accountability.

[Event Registration](#)

### **HPI Level 3: Train-the-Trainer Session**

Tuesday, April 1, 2014  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

This train-the-trainer session is designed for hospital trainers to learn how to teach the staff safety behaviors and error prevention tools.

[Event Registration](#)

