



Thursday, February 27, 2014

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New National Standards Highlighted at Eighth Annual Safe Patient Handling Forum

On February 25, more than 75 nurses, administrators, occupational health professionals, physical therapists, nursing assistants, and others attended CHA's eighth annual *Smart Moves Forum on Safe Patient Handling*. Participants enjoyed presentations from national safe patient handling experts followed by lively discussions and exhibits featuring innovative products from mobility companies.

Keynote speaker Mary Willa Matz, MSPH, CPE, CSPHP, President of Patient Care Ergonomic Solutions, discussed the new *Safe Patient Handling and Mobility Interprofessional National Standards*. Ms. Matz chaired the work group that developed the standards, which provide guidance on establishing a culture of safety and implementing a multi-faceted safe patient handling program.

"There is complexity to a good quality safe patient handling program," said Ms. Matz. "A successful program involves all caregivers, nursing, and clinical staff, and also staff from supply and distribution, infection control, contracting, and engineering. The program must be multifaceted to be truly effective."

The standards provide a framework for building and sustaining a multifaceted program that ultimately reduces injuries and costs associated with injuries, increases safety and patient mobilization, and improves care quality and job satisfaction among staff. Ms. Matz described how safe patient handling and improvements in patient mobility have been associated with reductions in falls, pressure ulcers, and other hospital-acquired conditions – all of which are goals of healthcare reform.

Other sessions were led by Susan Gallagher, PhD, MA, MSN, RN, CBN, WOCN, CSPHP, Senior Clinical Advisor, Celebration Institute, who discussed tissue viability and patient handling in the care of obese patients.

"When you think about safe patient handling and bariatric patient safety, sometimes it means simply giving the patient the proper tools, like bigger beds and wheelchairs. But we as caregivers need to take a step back and always make sure we are practicing safe healthcare. We need to be constantly asking ourselves, 'Is what I'm going to do going to protect both me and my patient?'"

Smart Moves: Connecticut's Campaign for Safe Patient Handling is a statewide initiative that aims to improve the health and safety of nurses and other healthcare workers, increase patient safety, and reduce healthcare costs. The campaign focuses on increasing awareness and education regarding safe patient handling, promoting the use of evidence-based curricula, encouraging implementation of safe patient handling programs, and increasing the use of assistive equipment and patient handling devices.

The program is presented through collaboration among CHA, the Connecticut Nurses' Association, LeadingAge Connecticut, the Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities, and the Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home.





CHA Testifies on Several Matters of Interest to Hospitals



Several legislative committees met and held public hearings this week; CHA provided testimony on several matters of interest to the healthcare community.

On February 25, CHA provided testimony in [opposition](#) to [HB 5262](#), *An Act Concerning The Pharmacy Practice Act And Counterfeit Drugs*. HB 5262 would amend the Pharmacy Practice Act and Department of Consumer Protection statutes as they relate to programs under the jurisdiction of the Department of Social Services, sterile compounding pharmacies, nonresident pharmacies, compounding pharmacies, and counterfeit substances. On February 27, CHA provided testimony in [support](#) of [SB 24](#), *An Act Concerning The Governor's Recommendations Regarding Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems And Youth Smoking Prevention*, a bill that seeks to prevent adolescents and youths from obtaining electronic nicotine delivery systems and imposes penalties on those who provide these devices and tobacco products to the state's youth. Also on February 27, CHA provided [testimony](#) in opposition to [HB 5257](#), *An Act Concerning Hospital Employees And Hospital Conversions*. HB 5257 would impose a series of burdensome and unnecessary regulatory requirements on hospitals and other healthcare providers before, during, and after the acquisition of another healthcare provider.

On Friday, February 28, CHA will provide testimony to the Public Health Committee in support of [SB 36](#), *An Act Concerning The Governor's Recommendations To Improve Access To Health Care*, and in support of [SB 223](#), *An Act Concerning The Timeframe To Complete Newborn Health Screenings*. SB 36 seeks to eliminate the requirement of a collaborative agreement for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) with three or more years of licensure. SB 223 would require each newborn screening specimen submitted by hospitals to the Department of Public Health (DPH) be tested and have results provided to the infant's primary care provider no later than 24 hours after the hospital's submission of the specimen to DPH.

Also this week, The Senate and House of Representatives met for the first time since the start of the 2014 Legislative Session. The Senate and House spent the balance of the meeting approving a series of Judicial and Executive appointments, none of which have a direct impact on the healthcare community.

CT Hospitals Invested \$1.2 Billion in Community Benefit Initiatives in 2012

In 2012, Connecticut hospitals invested \$1.2 billion in community benefit initiatives and provided more than 12.3 million services to individuals and families, according to the Connecticut Hospital Association's [2014 Community Benefit Report](#). These include support services for cancer, diabetes, asthma, and other chronic conditions, mobile vans and clinics delivering primary and preventive care, healthy lifestyle education programs, and many other programs targeted to meet specific community needs. View an infographic [here](#).

In 2012, Connecticut hospitals spent:



- \$52.8 million - community services to improve the health of the community.
- \$26.1 million - research and programs to advance care for patients and the community.
- \$10 million - donations to help support community organizations.
- \$8.4 million - community building to create stronger, healthier communities.
- \$3.2 million - subsidized health services to provide care needed by the community.*
- \$222.5 million – incurred cost for uncompensated care.
- \$868.3 million – incurred cost due to unpaid government-sponsored healthcare.

“Hospitals in Connecticut are deeply invested in the health of our communities,” said Jennifer Jackson, President and CEO, CHA. “Connecticut hospitals not only care for the sick, but they also work with their communities to identify and address key health issues people are facing, so they can live healthier, better lives.”

Hospitals in Connecticut have been conducting community health needs assessments, working collaboratively with local public health and community partners. The assessments are providing valuable information that is helping hospitals develop strategies to effectively address community health issues.

*Most subsidized health services funds are reflected in the “unpaid costs of government programs” numbers.

Hospital Leaders Join Congressman Courtney In Telephone Town Hall



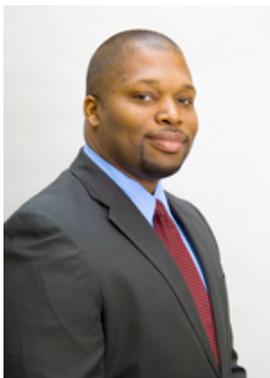
On February 20, hospital leaders from across the state joined Congressman Joe Courtney (D-2) in CHA's inaugural Telephone Town Hall. During the hour-long conversation, Congressman Courtney provided members with an overview of the political climate in Washington DC, offered an update on the 2-midnight rule, spoke of the challenges and successes Connecticut is having in implementing healthcare reform, and described how policy makers must always be mindful of patients when developing public policy.

CHA thanks those who participated in the telephone town hall and extends a special thanks to Peter Karl, President and CEO, ECHN, and Dennis O'Neill, MD, President of the Board of Trustees, ECHN, for hosting Congressman Courtney for the telephone town hall.

CHA will hold additional telephone town halls with state and federal policy makers in the upcoming months.

(l-r) Jim Iacobellis, CHA, Congressman Joe Courtney (D-2), Peter Karl, President and CEO, ECHN, and Dennis O'Neill MD, President of the Board of Trustees, ECHN

Special Election Held In New Haven: Gary Holder-Winfield Elected To Succeed Toni Harp



On February 25, voters in New Haven and West Haven elected Representative Gary Holder-Winfield (D-New Haven) to represent them in the State Senate. He succeeds former Senator Toni Harp, who vacated the seat in January upon being sworn into office as New Haven's mayor. Senator-elect Holder-Winfield beat Republican Steven Mullins by an unofficial tally of 3,235 to 1,045. Election results will become official once certified by Secretary of the State Denise Merrill.

As a state representative, Gary Holder-Winfield was a lead proponent of abolishing the death penalty. He has served on the Appropriations, Education, and Judiciary Committees. It is expected that he will be named as Chair of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. A special election will be held to fill the House seat being vacated as a result of the special Senate election.

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. Keynote speaker Tejal Gandhi, MD, MPH, CPPS, President of the National Patient Safety Foundation, will discuss new directions in patient safety that are critical to ensure that hospitals, health systems, and providers in the ambulatory care center are providing the safest care. Based on extensive experience in patient safety research and operations, Dr. Gandhi will describe these new areas (such as patient engagement, safety across the care continuum, and health information technology) in which significant work needs to be done to continue to move the safety agenda forward as rapidly as possible to prevent harm to patients.



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

Other speakers include 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.

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

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

CHA Annual Meeting Awards: Requesting Submissions



*Western Connecticut Health Network, 2013 John
D. Thompson Award recipients*

CHA is requesting entries for two prestigious awards that will be given at its 96th Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 18, 2014. The presentation of the awards is an important part of the CHA Annual Meeting and a valuable opportunity to showcase Connecticut hospital and staff achievements.

The 2014 *John D. Thompson Award: A Commemorative Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Healthcare Through the Use of Data*, now in its 20th year, recognizes outstanding achievement in patient care quality initiatives. It is sponsored by CHA's education and research affiliate, the Connecticut Healthcare Research and Education Foundation (CHREF).

The 2014 *Connecticut's Hospital Community Service Award*, now in its 22nd year, is an excellent opportunity for recognition of outstanding achievements in community service. The award is sponsored jointly by CHA and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). (Please note that there is a three-year period of ineligibility for previous Community Service Award

winners, and a two-year period of ineligibility for previous John D. Thompson Award winners.)

The deadline for all entries is March 14, 2014.

[Click here](#) for the 2014 John D. Thompson Award entry form.

[Click here](#) for the 2014 Connecticut's Hospital Community Service Award entry form.

Education Updates

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.

Continuing education credits will be awarded.

[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](#)

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 12th 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.

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

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

