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Two Connecticut Hospitals Achieve Magnet Designation for Nursing



Two Connecticut hospitals – Greenwich Hospital and Stamford Hospital – have received Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), placing them among the approximately seven percent of more than 5,600 hospitals nationwide – and two out of only six in the state – to achieve this honor.

Magnet designation is the highest recognition an organization can receive for nursing care as established by the ANCC, a division of the American Nurses Association. This award recognizes healthcare organizations that provide the very best in nursing care and uphold the tradition of professional nursing practice.

With this designation, Greenwich and Stamford Hospitals join four other Magnet hospitals in Connecticut – Bristol Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, St. Vincent's Medical Center, and Yale New Haven Hospital.

According to ANCC, healthcare organizations that achieve Magnet status attract and retain top talent; improve patient care, safety, and satisfaction; foster a collaborative culture; and advance nursing standards and practice.

"The Magnet designation recognizes Greenwich Hospital at a national level for the excellent patient care and clinical outcomes we witness every day. Our motto of 'Exceptional Nurses, Exceptional Care' accurately reflects the level of expertise and dedication of our nursing staff throughout every corner of the organization. This achievement is a testament to our culture of excellence," said Susan Brown, RN, MSN, Executive Vice President, Operations and Patient Care Services, and Chief Nursing Officer at Greenwich Hospital.



"Being recognized with Magnet status is a testament to the exceptional care our nurses provide to patients and families every day," said Ellen Komar, RN, Vice President, Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer at Stamford Health. "We are incredibly proud of our team for achieving this most prestigious distinction."

The ANCC Magnet Recognition Program identifies healthcare organizations that stand out with exceptional patient care and outcomes, nursing excellence, and innovations in professional nursing practice. The hospitals must also adhere to national standards and demonstrate exceptional leadership and sensitivity to culture and ethnic diversity.

To achieve this designation, hospitals must undergo a rigorous process over several months, including both a comprehensive document submission and an onsite evaluation of patient care and outcomes. Magnet hospitals must also provide an annual status report on their progress and undergo re-evaluation every four years to retain the designation.

Connecticut Hospitals Recognized For Promoting Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation



Twenty CHA member hospitals were recognized this week by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for promoting enrollment in state organ donor registries.

Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Hartford Hospital, and Yale New Haven Hospital received platinum recognition. Johnson Memorial Hospital received gold recognition. Bridgeport Hospital, Bristol Hospital, The Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, Day Kimball Hospital, Griffin Hospital, Manchester Memorial Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, MidState Medical Center, Rockville General Hospital, the Hospital of Central Connecticut, Waterbury Hospital, The William W. Backus Hospital, and Windham Hospital received silver recognition. The Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Lawrence + Memorial Hospital, and UConn John Dempsey Hospital received bronze recognition.

The hospitals conducted awareness and registry campaigns to educate staff, patients, visitors, and community members about the critical need for organ, eye, and tissue donors. They earned points for each activity implemented between May 2015 and April 2016 and were awarded recognition through the HRSA Workplace Partnership for Life Hospital Campaign. Nationwide, the campaign has added 400,000 donor enrollments to state registries nationwide since 2011.

HRSA's Workplace Partnership for Life campaign encourages hospitals to increase the number of people in the country who are registered organ, eye, and tissue donors, with the goal of increasing the number of organs available for transplant. The campaign unites donation advocates at hospitals with representatives from their local organ procurement organizations, Donate Life America affiliates, and state and regional hospital associations.

Stamford Hospital Joins Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Care Collaborative



The Stamford Hospital Carl & Dorothy Bennett Cancer Center announced this week that it is the newest member of the Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Care Collaborative (DF/BWCCC), and the first in Connecticut.

Participation in the collaborative reflects the Bennett Cancer Center's demonstrated commitment to excellence by meeting a wide array of standards and best practices.

As part of the membership process, Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Center clinicians and other staff conducted an extensive review of Stamford's outpatient medical oncology and radiation oncology practices and procedures, including patient safety protocols, nursing and pharmacy practices, chemotherapy administration, and information systems.

"We are proud to be the newest member joining the well-regarded and nationally recognized institutions behind the Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Care Collaborative," said Brian G. Grissler, President and CEO, Stamford Health. "As we prepare to open our new hospital in September, this relationship will expand our cancer expertise and solidify our vision to provide the best cancer care for our community today, while ensuring access to the latest in treatments and research for the future."

Stamford Hospital's Bennett Cancer Center's membership in the collaborative enhances staff access to educational opportunities and the ability to consult with medical specialists at Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Center in Boston regarding complex cases. In addition, patients will have greater access to the latest cancer research and clinical trials. The practices and procedures of DF/BWCCC members are reviewed annually and new innovations and standards in patient cancer care will be shared and rapidly implemented at member hospitals.

"Dana-Farber exists to help relieve the burden of cancer for as many people as possible," said Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, president of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. "We fulfill this mission by conducting research to help create better preventative and diagnostic capabilities and therapies, by caring for our patients, and most recently, by working with other institutions, such as the Bennett Cancer Center at Stamford Hospital, to help them provide great care close to home. We are excited about working more closely with such a strong and high quality partner as Stamford Hospital."

Dr. Stuart Marcus To Leave St. Vincent's Health Services



Stuart G. Marcus, MD, FACS, will be leaving his role as President and Chief Executive Officer of St. Vincent's Health Services in Bridgeport, Connecticut, as he considers other opportunities within Ascension, of which St. Vincent's is a part. Ascension is the nation's largest Catholic and non-profit healthcare system.

"I have been privileged to serve alongside the tremendously talented and compassionate associates and medical staff at St. Vincent's for ten years, and I have tremendous confidence that St. Vincent's is poised to move to an even greater level of success and service to the Bridgeport community," said Dr. Marcus.

"While St. Vincent's is losing a dedicated and compassionate leader, I look forward to Ascension's continuing to benefit from Stuart's clinical and operational expertise and his commitment to the Mission of Ascension," said Patricia A. Maryland, DrPH, President, Healthcare Operations and Chief Operating Officer of Ascension Health, the healthcare delivery subsidiary of Ascension.

Longtime Ascension leader Vince Caponi will now serve as President and CEO of St. Vincent's Health Services. Mr. Caponi most recently served as interim Wisconsin Ministry Market Executive for Ascension Health. Earlier he led Ascension's St. Vincent in Indianapolis from 1998 to 2013, and later assumed the position of Executive Board Chair for the Central Indiana Health System. He also served as Executive Board Chair of

Ascension Texas, and he continues to serve in a consultative role to Health City Cayman Islands (HCCI), Ascension's partnership with Narayana Health of India to provide care for underserved populations in the Caribbean.

Dr. Marcus was named President and CEO of St. Vincent's Health Services in 2014. He also served as Ascension Ministry Market Leader for New York and Connecticut from January 2014 to May 2015. He joined St. Vincent's in 2006, and served as Senior Vice President, Chief Medical Officer, and Chairman of Oncology. Dr. Marcus was named President of St. Vincent's Medical Center in 2012. He also serves as professor of surgery for the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University, and was instrumental in establishing St. Vincent's as the principal clinical partner for the school. A specialist in gastrointestinal cancer surgery, Dr. Marcus led the development of the Elizabeth M. Pfriem SWIM Center for Cancer Care at St. Vincent's, which opened in 2010.

Dr. Marcus has served on the Connecticut Hospital Association Board of Trustees, as well as in the role of Co-chairperson of the Connecticut Asthma Initiative.

State Announces New Protocols For Zika Testing

State officials announced last week the creation of a new sentinel system for the southern part of the state that is intended to detect locally transmitted cases of the Zika virus.

Under the new system, the Department of Public Health (DPH) will be working with local outpatient urgent care centers and clinics in Bridgeport, Stamford, and Stratford to identify and test roughly 10 people a week who may have symptoms linked to Zika, but who have not traveled to Zika-affected areas, such as Puerto Rico or the Dominican Republic, where the virus is spread locally through infected



mosquitoes.

“We have implemented a system to identify locally acquired Zika virus infections to supplement the mosquito monitoring program in Bridgeport, Stamford, and Stratford,” said Dr. Raul Pino, Commissioner of the Department of Public Health. “This system is based in outpatient clinics since most patients will not require hospitalization for this illness and hospital emergency departments are busy with many other acute illnesses that require their resources. I want to emphasize that the risk of Zika infection in Connecticut is very small and that the greatest risk is to travelers to affected areas out of the continental United States.”

Although DPH reports 31 confirmed cases of Zika since testing began, none of them have been transmitted by mosquitos in Connecticut, and all are travel-related. Three of the confirmed cases involve pregnant women, which is of concern because the virus leads to serious birth defects. In addition to being transmitted via mosquitos, the disease can also be spread through sexual intercourse.

The state has applied for more than \$900,000 in federal funding to help fight Zika and, to date, has received \$322,000, according to state officials.

