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## Hospitals Explore Strategies for Preventing Catheter-Associated UTIs

On August 16, nearly 80 healthcare representatives took part in CHA's Partnership for Patients (PfP) program, *Preventing Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTIs) in the Acute Care Setting*. [Eliminating CAUTI](#) is one of ten target areas of PfP, a national project to reduce preventable inpatient harm and readmissions. All acute care hospitals in the state participate in PfP, provided through a partnership with [Health Research & Educational Trust](#) (HRET). Of those hospitals, nine participate in the national *Stop CAUTI* collaborative, with which this program was coordinated.

"The climate has changed and CAUTIs are an important focus in all healthcare settings," said keynote speaker Linda Greene, RN, MPS, CIC, Director of Infection Prevention and Control at Rochester General Health System. "It's not just about putting a policy in place – it's about how people live it."

CAUTI, which occurs when organisms enter the urinary tract through a foley catheter and cause infection, is associated with increased morbidity and mortality and is the second most common cause of secondary bloodstream infections. More than 600,000 patients each year develop UTIs, and 80 percent of these infections are catheter-related.

Ms. Greene discussed core prevention CAUTI strategies, including careful consideration of the indications and contraindications of inserting a catheter, proper insertion, and appropriate catheter maintenance. She recommended doctors and nurses follow a system of guidelines and protocols for management and removal of catheters.

The day-long program included a live video stream of a PfP CAUTI session with Barbara Edson, RN, MBA, MHA, Health Research and Educational Trust, being held in Chicago.

"Our approach to improving quality is always to work on quality and safety at the same time," said Ms. Edson. "In the long run, we want to address fundamental issues to prevent harm and take steps to educate about the system of safety."



## Connecticut Leads Attendance at National Safety Improvement Fellowship Program

In collaboration with CHA, more than 40 champions of quality improvement from 25 Connecticut hospitals (the highest per capita state representation) participated in the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) Improvement Leader Fellowship Program held in Chicago on August 13 and 14.

“We learned a great deal about staff engagement, breaking down barriers, and getting people involved,” said Dawn Lantieri, Operations Manager, Bristol Hospital. “People have to understand what you’re trying to accomplish in order to achieve full participation and engagement.”

The fellowship program faculty included instructors from HRET, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, and Cynosure Health, among others. Fellows identified core principles involved in quality improvement and project tracking, and described lessons learned and best practices. The collaborative environment featured group exercises and roundtables intended for informal discussion and networking with other fellows from across the country.

This is the second of three programs intended to grow the number of front-line improvement leaders who will engage their hospitals in spreading sustainable improvement strategies. The HRET Improvement Leader Fellowship Program is part of Partnership for Patients.



## CHA to Participate in NAACP Urban Business Expo



On August 28, CHA will participate in the Connecticut [NAACP Urban Business Expo](#) at the Artist Collective in Hartford. The Business Expo is intended to educate minority, women, and small business owners in and around Hartford about potential business opportunities. CHA is hoping to engage business leaders interested in working with Connecticut hospitals.

Increasing supplier diversity is one of the key goals of CHA’s Diversity Collaborative. There are more than 150 people from 29 hospitals involved in the Diversity Collaborative, including hospital supply chain managers who have identified numerous areas of hospital spending.

CHA utilizes its Group Purchasing Organization (GPO), the CHA Shared Services Program (CHA SSP), for the Supplier Diversity effort. GPOs leverage the purchasing power of hospitals and other healthcare organizations to obtain discounts on products and services based on the collective buying power of their members.

The CHA SSP offers a portfolio of over 350 contracts for various products and services in spending categories which include: capital equipment, medical/surgical, laboratory, food services, pharmacy, radiology, professional services, and facilities.

Membership is free; there are no fees or dues required to participate. To learn more about CHA SSP products and services, contact Diane Mase at 203-294-7330 or visit the [website](#).

## Hands for Life Stamford: Making History



The health education initiative Hands for Life Stamford 2012 invites people to be part of its attempt to break a world record. On Saturday, August 25, it will attempt to train 10,000 people in hands-only CPR over the course of ten hours. To date, the largest number of individuals trained in CPR at one time involved 7,909 participants.

Each year, 785,000 Americans suffer from a heart attack. Less than one in four receives CPR from a bystander, and only about five percent of cardiac arrest victims survive. Experts agree that if more people knew how to provide CPR, more victims could be helped instantly, doubling or even tripling their chances of survival. Hands for Life Stamford 2012 was created to improve the odds for survival.

Stamford Hospital, Stamford Hospital Foundation, and Stamford Emergency Medical Services are among the event's major sponsors. The volunteer committee includes Stamford Mayor Michael Pavia and Co-Program Directors Thomas Nero, MD, Interventional Cardiologist, and Anne Fountain, MPH, Stamford Director of Public Health, among others.

Training will take place at the new Chelsea Piers in Stamford. For more information, click [here](#).

## New Survey: Use of Temporary Physicians Rising



Hospitals that can't find the permanent physicians they need are relying on temporary doctors to fill gaps, according to a recent survey by [Staff Care](#). The national temporary physician staffing firm and company of AMN Healthcare (NYSE: AHS) works with CHA's Shared Services Program.

Seventy-five percent of those surveyed said their facilities had used temporary physicians in the last 12 months, and 41 percent said they are currently looking for temporary physicians. The primary reason hospitals and medical groups cited for using temporary doctors was to fill in until a permanent doctor can be found.

"There are simply too few physicians to fill all the available vacancies today," noted Sean Ebner, President of Staff Care. According to Mr. Ebner, the number of physicians trained in the U.S. has remained flat for more than 20 years, while the population has aged and grown. He noted that shortages are greatest in primary care, but span the spectrum of specialties.

Those most in demand as temporary practitioners include primary care physicians such as family doctors and general internists, followed by psychiatrists and other behavioral health specialists.

Staff Care's *2012 Survey of Temporary Physician Staffing Trends* can be viewed [here](#).

## Education Updates

### Leaping from Staff to Management: You're a Manager. Now What?

September 5, 2012 8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Making the transition from being a staff person one day to a supervisor/manager the next is a significant step for nearly everyone. Taking on a leadership role is far more challenging and complicated than ever before. Once you have met the challenge of simply getting oriented to what it means to be a manager/leader, you will discover that you carry the responsibility for meeting the demands of your organization for high productivity combined with financial prudence and regulatory compliance. You will discover that those tasks must be balanced with an excellent grasp of human relations skills in working closely and collaboratively with others.

This program has been designed to get you started by exploring the basics of management and leadership in theory and applied practice, and to lay the groundwork for continued development of your leadership and management skills.

View the brochure [here](#). Register [here](#).

### Nurse Manager Leadership Academy: Creating the Leader in Yourself

First Session: September 6, 2012 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

In response to member requests, CHA is pleased to again offer its popular Nurse Manager Leadership Academy, a five-part series modeled after the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) Nurse Manager Leadership Collaborative Learning Domain Framework. The series is designed to meet the development needs of new and aspiring nurse managers.

Five comprehensive and successive learning modules build upon each other to focus on the link between clinical background and the leadership, business, and interpersonal skills needed in the role of the nurse manager.

View the brochure [here](#). To register, click on the date(s) below.

The program dates are:

[September 6, 2012](#)

[September 12, 2012](#)

[September 27, 2012](#)

[October 4, 2012](#)

[October 5, 2012](#)

### **Creating a Culture of Employee Health and Wellness**

September 19, 2012 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



CHA is pleased to present a full-day symposium on employee wellness and population health management, which will feature sessions on strategies and practices that hospitals can develop and implement to improve employee health and wellness within their organizations. The symposium will feature David L. Katz, MD, MPH, FACDM, FACP, who will deliver the keynote address.

View the brochure [here](#). Register [here](#).

*David L. Katz, MD, MPH, FACDM,  
FACP*

