CHA Convenes Subcommittee on EMS and Sponsor Hospitals

On Tuesday, September 25, nearly 40 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and medical professionals gathered at CHA for the first meeting of the Subcommittee on Emergency Medical Services and Sponsor Hospitals of the Committee on Patient Care Quality. The Subcommittee, chaired by Steven Hanks, MD, Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, The Hospital of Central Connecticut, was established to help inform and guide CHA’s Board of Trustees on legislative and regulatory matters relating to EMS services.

Joining the Subcommittee as a special guest was Raphael "Ray" Barishansky, the newly named Director of Emergency Medical Services at the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). Only two weeks into his new role, Mr. Barishansky shared with the Subcommittee the work DPH is undertaking and expressed his willingness to work with hospitals on issues of shared interest. The Subcommittee engaged in a series of conversations about issues of importance to sponsor hospitals. The Subcommittee will meet again later this fall.

Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center Surgeon Speaks Nationally with Partnership for Patients

On September 19, Scott Ellner, DO, FACS, a surgeon at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center and a 2010-2011 AHA-National Patient Safety Foundation Leadership Fellow, presented to the Colorado Hospital Association and the British Columbia Surgical Quality Network on operating room culture and team training in patient safety.

The presentations, intended to effect culture and safety changes to reduce surgical site infections, were made as part of Partnership for Patients (PfP), a national project involving all Connecticut hospitals designed to reduce preventable inpatient harm by 40 percent and readmissions by 20 percent. Safe surgery is one of 10 key target areas for improvement through PfP.

Dr. Ellner, a member of the CHA Committee on Patient Care Quality of the CHA Board, is a leading voice for improved surgical safety. He instituted a safe surgery checklist at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center that has demonstrated excellent results. He also began a team training curriculum on patient safety at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, where he is Assistant Professor of Surgery. The curriculum is based on the 2010 National Patient Safety Foundation report, “Unmet Needs: Teaching Physicians to Provide Safe Patient Care.”

During the presentations, Dr. Ellner discussed the team training curriculum, focusing on issues of communication in the operating room and strategies for empowering staff when there is a patient safety concern.

Dr. Ellner has spoken across the country about safe surgery. He also helped initiate the CHA-supported Connecticut Surgical Quality Collaborative. Through the collaborative, participating hospitals will share best practices, provide education and outreach, and participate in statewide performance initiatives.

CHA Offers Diversity Collaborative Anniversary Symposium and Cross Cultural Training

This October, as part of the CHA Diversity Collaborative: From Intent to Impact, CHA will offer programs to increase diversity in hospital governance and senior management, improve cultural competence in the delivery of care, and increase supplier diversity.

High-profile speaker Bernice J. Washington, MBA, will deliver the keynote addresses at the October 23, 2012, Diversity Collaborative Anniversary Symposium. The Symposium will present sessions on strategies and practices...
that hospitals can implement to achieve the goals of the collaborative.

Mrs. Washington, President and CEO of BJW Consulting Group, is a nationally acclaimed speaker, television and radio talk show commentator, and healthcare advocate. She has served as the Board Chair for Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Plano, as Vice Chair of Presbyterian Healthcare Resources, and as a member of the American Hospital Association's Regional Policy Board.

The Connecticut Hospital Association is an Approved Provider of Continuing Nursing Education by the Connecticut Nurses’ Association, an Accredited Approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. The John D. Thompson Hospice Institute for Education, Training and Research, Inc., is pending designation of this educational activity for AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ for physicians. This program is pending approval of Category II credit through the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE).

The Symposium will be held on October 23, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. View the save-the-date flyer here. Register here.

On October 15, 2012, CHA presents the first of a four-part series: Cross Cultural & Diversity Inclusiveness Training. The program, designed and delivered by the Hispanic Health Council (HHC), establishes the foundation of knowledge, attitudes, and skills participants need to interact effectively with patients and clients of diverse backgrounds.

The program comprises four training sessions, each three hours in duration, delivered twice a week over a two-week period. Participants must attend all four sessions, and registration for the October 15 session will automatically register attendees for the entire program. The curriculum is highly interactive and will be limited to 20 participants. Clinical leaders, operational and administrative managers, and professional support staff are all encouraged to register.

The program will be held on October 15, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Additional dates are October 17, October 22, and October 24. View the brochure here. Register for all four sessions here.

**Governor Malloy Releases Report on Progress in Changing State Government**

On Tuesday, Governor Dannel Malloy released a report compiled by the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), in collaboration with state agency commissioners, highlighting some of the changes that have been made in state government since the administration took office last year.


Among the initiatives listed, the report describes the January 2012 Department of Social Services transition of its Medicaid medical services from a mixed model of care administered through three separate managed care organizations and a fee-for-service provider network to a single model of care through a Connecticut-based administrative services organization (ASO), Community Health Network of Connecticut (CHN-CT).

The report also describes how the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CT BHP), a partnership between the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), the Department of Children and Families (DCF), and the Department of Social Services (DSS), contracted in April 2011 with an ASO (ValueOptions® CT) to help redesign an integrated behavioral health service system for all of Connecticut’s Medicaid populations. As a result, ValueOptions CT is providing utilization management, care coordination, and provider and consumer customer service for all Medicaid coverage groups.

The report comes as Gov. Malloy prepares for the biennial budget that he will file in January.

**Education Updates**

*Nurse Manager Leadership Academy: Leading the People (Part 1)*

October 4, 2012 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 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.

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

The remaining program dates are:

October 4, 2012  
October 5, 2012  

**The Healthcare Environment**  
October 19, 2012  9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The Healthcare Environment, presented by George Mills, Director of Engineering at The Joint Commission, will include an update on trends related to hospital survey experiences and lessons learned, as well as general interpretations related to the healthcare environment. This program will also include discussion related to risk assessments associated with behavioral healthcare units, fire safety (including the Life Safety Code), and equipment management.

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View the brochure [here](#) to register.

**Lean Principles: Process Flow and Value Stream Mapping in Healthcare**  
October 24, 2012  9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

As the demands of health reform drive change in all areas of healthcare delivery, hospital leaders are focused on transforming their organizations through strategies that simultaneously 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 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, the second session will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2012.

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View the brochure [here](#) to register.

**2012 Nurse Leadership Forum**  
October 26, 2012  8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

CHA’s annual Nurse Leadership Forum will include a keynote presentation on the future of healthcare by Carl Hammerschlag, MD, psychiatrist, author, and nationally acclaimed speaker. The Forum will also include presentations on the financial aspects of delivering care, improving community health and population health management through collaboration with primary care, and developing culturally competent leadership.

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View the save-the-date flyer [here](#) to register.