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**Safe Patient Handling Forum Focuses on Best Practices**



On October 25, more than 100 nurses, administrators, occupational health professionals, physical therapists, nursing assistants, and others attended CHA's *Safe Patient Handling Forum*. Participants enjoyed presentations from national safe patient handling experts, followed by lively discussions. The Forum focused on data-driven best practices, industry standards, and new strategies for reducing patient handling injuries. Vendors demonstrated safe patient handling equipment currently on the market.

In her keynote presentation, *Best Practices for Effective Safe Patient Handling and Mobility Programs—ANA Interdisciplinary Standards and Credentialing*, Patricia Wawzyniecki, President, Association of Safe Patient Handling Professionals, reviewed current injury trends, as well as legislative and professional initiatives to reduce risks.

Implementation of Safe Patient Handling Programs (SPHP) has proven to reduce injury to both healthcare staff and patients, Ms. Wawzyniecki stated.



Plenary sessions included a presentation from Teresa Boynton, Safe Patient Handling and Mobility Programs and Services Director, Hill-Rom Liko, who provided an overview on the development of the Bedside Mobility Assessment Tool and the benefits and outcomes achieved by incorporating the tool into best practices. Sara Tackson, Clinical Consultant in Wound Care and Bariatrics, Arjo, reviewed the definition of pressure injuries and staging, as well as external factors of pressure, friction, and shear, and its impact on the skin. Susan Lennon Salsbury, Occupational Therapist, OhioHealth, covered risk factors that are part of patient handling, as well as evidence-based interventions and strategies that can be implemented to reduce these risks.

The Forum concluded with an interactive session focused on best practices and hurdles faced when implementing SPHP strategies and interventions.

The Forum is part of CHA's statewide *Safer Hospitals Initiative*, which is focused on providing healthcare staff with strategies and practices to improve worker safety, minimize workplace violence, and facilitate the adoption of peer-to-peer support programs.



**Program Focuses on Healthcare and Community Partnerships**



As part of its initiative to address the social determinants of health, CHA held a program on October 24 to focus on designing future collaborations between healthcare and community-based organizations. Technology will be key, and the group discussed developing a platform to connect hospital patients with community services and resources.

The first phase of the initiative focuses on screening patients to identify and address their food, housing, and transportation needs. In phase two, a technology platform will be created that connects hospitals with community-based organizations. Phase three of the initiative, in 2020, will see the statewide adoption of the program, data analysis, and advocacy to address the needs identified through screening patients.

The initiative builds on the foundational work CHA has already accomplished through the *Connecticut Social Health Initiative*, a successful pilot project undertaken by four hospitals and funded by the Connecticut Health Foundation. That project, which concluded this spring, included staff education, screening patients for social determinants of health needs, referrals to community organizations, and tracking to ensure patient needs were met.

At last week's program, participants emphasized that technology should be simple and easy for people to use, that it should work with tools already in existence, and that it would be ideal for patients to be able to access the information.

**Geriatric Surgical Protocol Focuses on Improving Outcomes**



The Connecticut Surgical Quality Collaborative (CTSQC), along with the American College of Surgeons, has developed a geriatric surgical protocol aimed at significantly improving surgical outcomes for older surgical patients.

Through its Connecticut Geriatric Program in Surgery, the CTSQC has created a checklist to provide surgeons with a rapid, simple, pre-op screening program to identify vulnerabilities in geriatric patients and initiate pre- and post-operative interventions to reduce complications and improve outcomes. A [video](#) version of the checklist is also available for surgeons and patients.

The CTSQC is a statewide initiative for hospitals; CHA and the Connecticut Chapter of the American College of Surgeons joined the collaborative in 2013.

**Save The Date - Nurse Leadership Forum: Tuesday, November 13, 2018**



The *2018 Nurse Leadership Forum*, which will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, will focus on issues impacting the transformation under way in healthcare, including strategies and practical tools to help nurse leaders not only survive but thrive in the constantly changing healthcare environment.

*New York Times* bestselling author, and star of MTV's *The Buried Life*, Ben Nemtin will present the keynote address at this year's Forum. Seeking to change the monotony of day-to-day life in college, Mr. Nemtin and his friends set out on a two-week road trip with a camera and a borrowed RV to complete a list of "100 things to do before you die." For each item they accomplished on their list, they helped complete strangers cross something off their own list. Since then, Mr. Nemtin and his friends have crossed off nearly all 100 list items and they have encouraged millions to believe that anyone can achieve their dreams. His bucket list quest has taken him from the White House playing basketball with President Barack Obama (#95), to Oprah Winfrey's couch (#61), to having a beer with Prince Harry in London (#82). Currently, Mr. Nemtin is crossing off '#91: Make a Movie', with *The Buried Life* feature documentary film set to release this year.

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

## Open Enrollment Begins for State Health Insurance Exchange

Open enrollment for Access Health CT, the state's health insurance exchange, begins today (November 1) and will run through Thursday, December 15, 2018. Failure to act by December 15 will result in no coverage in 2019 unless the applicant qualifies for a Special Enrollment Period. Policies purchased during Open Enrollment start January 1, 2019.



Annual renewal notices have been mailed to existing customers. In 2018, more than 114,000 residents signed up for private health insurance coverage. Access Health CT will be conducting a series of education sessions from November 1 through December 15 at enrollment centers and fairs to help people enroll or re-enroll. Locations can be found [here](#). Here are some other helpful links:

- Direct people to Access Health CT to enroll and [learn more](#).
- To find local assistance, click [here](#).
- If they are renewing coverage, click [here](#).

## Education Updates

### HRO Rounding to Influence

Friday, November 2, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

This program teaches leaders how to go out on the units to coach, mentor, and sustain high reliability habits and practices by interacting with front-line staff and medical staff.

### HRO Safety Coach Training

Friday, November 2, 2018

1:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Safety Coaches are peer mentors, designed to recognize and acknowledge good high reliability behavior and to remind people about opportunities to improve behavior that does not stay true to high reliability concepts.

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

Monday, November 5, 2018

Monday, November 12, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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

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 improves team engagement, eliminates road blocks, and allows hospitals to improve the quality of care for patients by reducing errors and waste streams, including wait 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, participants should attend both sessions.**

### Create a Safer Hospital Initiative at Your Hospital

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Utilizing the principles of high reliability, participants will learn strategies and tools to enhance worker safety, minimize workplace violence, and facilitate the adoption of peer-to-peer support programs for healthcare workers and team members.

### Hunger and Health in Connecticut

Thursday, November 8, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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

CHA, in conjunction with the Connecticut Food Bank, will host a program on food insecurity. Connecticut Food Bank CEO Bernard Beaudreau will begin the program with an overview of hunger and food insecurity in Connecticut, drawing on the work of his organization to provide nutritious food to people in need through an extensive network of community-based food programs.

### **Transitioning From Staff to Management: What's Next?**

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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

Whether recently assigned to the role of manager or a seasoned veteran, it is important to determine how well one's problem solving, critical thinking, and decision making skills are keeping pace with the ever changing healthcare environment. For those who attended *Staff to Management: Starting the Transition* in March or September, this is the second course in the two-part program and provides additional development for all managers—those who are new to the role and those who want to improve their skills.

### **Conflict Management: Engaging the Difficult Employee**

Thursday, November 15, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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

It is clear to almost everyone that conflict is inevitable in life—in personal lives as well as in the workplace. Different personalities, different work styles, cultural/ethnic norms, and differences in generational mix, all lead to an endless possibility of conflict surfacing at work. What is not so clear is the role conflict plays in the process of change and effective team problem solving—both major factors in improving organization performance. How can people recognize and manage the sources and trigger points of conflict? When is conflict healthy—what makes it destructive? How can people reduce or defuse unnecessary conflict? What are the various styles of dealing with conflict, and the risks and benefits of each approach?

### **De-escalation Training**

Friday, November 16, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

CHA is approved by CPI to provide an abridged version of its Nonviolent Crisis Intervention® foundation course using a blend of online and classroom learning to its members. This program will provide attendees with CPI's Blue Card™ confirmation. Included in this program is approximately two hours of online pre-work and a pre-test. Please note: the pre-work and pre-test must be completed prior to attending the classroom portion of the program at CHA.

### **Connecticut Perinatal Quality Collaborative: Disparities in Maternal and Infant Health Outcomes**

Monday, November 19, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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

The annual Connecticut Perinatal Quality Collaborative (CPQC) conference will focus on disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes. Sarah Taylor, MD, Pediatrician, Yale New Haven Hospital, will present on the role of socioeconomic and racial disparities in human milk production. She will also discuss leveraging the power of a perinatal quality collaborative to achieve change. Heather Burris, MD, MPH, Neonatologist, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, will present on the epigenetics in racial disparities. The Conference will also include a session on the CAPTA legislation from the Department of Children and Family's Deputy Commissioner Kristina Stevens, and a session on maternal mortality and morbidity in the U.S. by Andreea Creanga, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of International Health & Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Johns Hopkins University.

### **ICU Infections: How Do We Get to Zero?**

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#) - Morning

[Event Registration](#) - Afternoon

Infection frequency has decreased but, in many parts of the country, there are ICUs with zero infections. Learn from best practices and new science to tackle infections. The morning session will focus on clinical interventions and practical strategies to reduce infections. The morning will feature Kathleen Vollman, MSN, RN, Critical Care Clinical Nurse Specialist, Educator and Consultant, Advancing Nursing, LLC, based in Michigan; and William S. Miles, MD, Director of Surgical Critical Care Outreach and Co-Medical Director of Neurosurgical ICU, University North Carolina School of Medicine.

This program will be of interest to clinical ICU nurses, intensivists and other physicians, advanced practice providers, infection preventionists, respiratory therapists, and physical therapists, all of whom play a role in keeping ICUs infection-free. The morning session is sponsored by HRET through funding from the CDC and AHRQ.

The afternoon session, sponsored by EBP, will focus on environmental services science and best practices to keep the environment microbe-free.

### **Peer Supporter Training**

Friday, November 30, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Gerald Lewis, PhD, will provide training for peer supporters and those who will train peer supporters in their organizations. Dr. Lewis has worked with national and international government agencies, healthcare facilities, educational institutions, and private businesses on a wide range of work, behavioral health, and organizational issues. His focus is facilitating organizational recovery and resiliency, with the emphasis on "people-recovery."