

Montefiore Update

May 12, 2014 KEEPING ASSOCIATES IN THE KNOW

Montefiore Signs Comprehensive Agreement with White Plains Hospital

Montefiore and White Plains Hospital (WPH) have signed a formal, comprehensive agreement, which will be finalized upon approval from regulatory authorities. Under this agreement, White Plains Hospital will become a member of Montefiore Health System and serve as the tertiary hub for Montefiore's Westchester network.

This agreement launches an innovative partnership that is important to Montefiore's Westchester regional strategy and consistent with the organization's overall strategic plan. Montefiore is accelerating the growth of its Notable Centers of Excellence, including the Children's Hospital at Montefiore, Transplantation, Cancer, Heart and Vascular, and other Centers of Excellence, including Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation, Neuroscience and Ophthalmology. In addition, Montefiore is actively increasing the number of patients for whom the health system is globally accountable for the quality and cost of their care. New relationships, like this one with WPH, are key to Montefiore achieving its goals.

Montefiore brings to the partnership its academic, clinical and research expertise; its unique capabilities in providing patients' well-coordinated care; and its dedication to working collaboratively with the practicing physician community. WPH is the pre-eminent hospital in Westchester, a regional leader in quality, patient-centered care, and is in strong financial health.



From left, J. Michael Divney, Chairman, Board of Directors, White Plains Hospital; Susan Fox, President, Board of Directors, White Plains Hospital; Phillip O. Ozuah, MD, PhD, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Montefiore; David A. Tanner, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Montefiore. Seated, from left, Jon B. Schandler, CEO, White Plains Hospital; Steven M. Safyer, MD, President and CEO, Montefiore.

Nomination Period Approaches for 2014 President's Award

The Montefiore President's Award is the highest honor bestowed upon Montefiore associates. This esteemed award, created in 1981, recognizes associates who embody Montefiore's values of teamwork, humanity, diversity, innovation and equity. These awards are given annually to associates who demonstrate extraordinary dedication to the highest standards of excellence and who create the best experience possible for patients and colleagues.

Last year, Montefiore had an unprecedented number of nominees for this prestigious accolade. Nominees represented a diverse cross-section of associates, including direct caregivers, support staff and administrators. As innovators, these nominees actively assess their department's procedures and processes, offering suggestions on how to improve practices that maximize value.

Four outstanding associates received the President's Award last year. The winners were Arvin Concepcion, Web Development Manager; Christine Croke, RN, CCRN, Staff Nurse, ICU; Susan Williams, Office Coordinator, Transplant Surgery; and Maydene Wynter-Miller, Unit Secretary, Telemetry. They were honored by Steven M. Safyer, MD, President and CEO, at a special awards ceremony last November.

This year's nomination period opens June 9. Associates will be able to nominate colleagues through a link on the intranet's homepage.

Montefiore's Validation of Epic is Underway

Montefiore recently concluded the first of three rounds of Validation sessions from April 29 to May 1. More than 600 Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), including clinicians, managers and associates, attended nearly 100 validation and strategy meetings at Montefiore's Moses, Einstein and Wakefield Campuses, during which they evaluated hundreds of workflows to better customize Montefiore's Epic build.



During each Validation session, representatives from Epic headquarters presented specific workflows to Montefiore's SMEs that were divided into a range of scenarios—from clinical documentation during outpatient procedures to medication administration in the Emergency Department. Following a discussion period, SMEs evaluated each step of the workflow—selecting "green" if they believed the process supported and enhanced Montefiore workflows or "red" if it did not. SMEs also provided detailed comments to accompany their evaluation.

Epic's Wisconsin team and Montefiore's core Epic team are now reviewing more than 1,000 workflow evaluations received from SMEs. The core Epic team is also reviewing workflow points identified during the Validation sessions that require further review and will later be clarified. For instance, in workflow for the Admissions, Discharge and Transfer (ADT) Department, Epic will help maximize patient safety by configuring electronic system alerts to ensure Montefiore's patient forms are appropriately consented during hospital discharge procedures. The second round of Validation sessions will be held from May 20 to May 22 to further discuss processes.

Radiation Oncology Researchers Earn Prestigious Awards

For more than a decade, the Radiation Oncology Research Laboratories, a partnership between Montefiore and Einstein, under the leadership of **Chandan Guha, MD, PhD**, Vice Chairman, Radiation Oncology, Montefiore, and Professor, Radiation Oncology, Einstein, have developed leading programs studying immunomodulatory effects of radiation therapy and stem-cell based countermeasures against radiation injury. Their efforts have been supported by multiple National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Department of Defense grants.

Rafi Kabarriti, MD, a resident (PGY 4) in Radiation Oncology at Montefiore, received the prestigious 2014 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Young Investigator Award for groundbreaking work on a novel prostate cancer vaccine enhanced by ionizing radiation, titled "Radiation therapy in combination with *Listeria monocytogenes*-based PSA vaccine as a therapeutic approach in a murine model of prostate cancer." **Thomas Quinn, BS**, an Einstein medical student, received the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) Medical Student Award for his work on an autologous vaccination for melanoma induced through a combination of low-energy focused ultrasound and radiation therapy, titled "Combination Low-Energy High Intensity Focused Ultrasonography (LOFU) and Radiation Therapy (RT): Preclinical Evaluation of Autologous in Situ Vaccination in a Mouse Model of Spontaneously Metastatic Melanoma."

The laboratory investigators also received the top four prizes at the 2014 Montefiore Young Investigators Symposium. **Anita Aiyer, MS**, Research Associate, Einstein, took first prize for her work on radiation-based approaches on hepatocellular transplantation using human induced pluripotent stem cell derived hepatocyte-like cells, titled "Preparative Hepatic Irradiation (HIR) for Transplantation of Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell (iPSC)-derived Hepatocyte-like Cells (iHep) in Murine Livers." **Dr. Kabarriti** received second place for his work on amelioration of radiation-induced liver disease through endothelial cell transplant, titled "Liver Sinusoidal Endothelial Cell Transplantation Ameliorated Radiation-Induced Liver Deformation and Sulfur Colloid SPECT Defect in Mouse Livers Following Partial Liver Irradiation."

Mr. Quinn shared the second prize with **Dr. Kabarriti** for his studies on a novel adeno-associated virus phage secreting Tumor Necrosis Factor alpha for the treatment of melanoma, titled "Immunophenotype of B16-F10 Melanoma After Combination Therapy With Radiation and Systemic, RGD-targeted, Adeno-associated Virus Phage-TNF." **Payel Bhanja, PhD**, Instructor, Radiation Oncology, Einstein, won third prize for her studies on mitigation of radiation-induced gastro-intestinal syndrome through sequential administration of intestinal stem-cell growth factor and differentiation agent, titled "Mitigation of radiation-induced gastrointestinal syndrome by sequential administration of an intestinal stem cell growth factor, R-spondin 1 and a small molecular differentiation agent, ICG-001."

Montefiore Enhances Whistleblower Protections

A new federal law (41 U.S.C. § 4712) requires that Montefiore advise associates of their rights under the Pilot Program for Enhancement of Employee Whistleblower Protections. This statute applies to all associates working for contractors, grantees, subcontractors and sub-grantees of federal contracts and grants. It provides protections for associates who disclose information that they reasonably believe is evidence of gross mismanagement of a federal contract or grant; a gross waste of federal funds; an abuse of authority relating to a federal contract or grant; a specific danger to public health or safety; or a violation of law, rule or regulations related to a federal contract or grant.

The statute provides that associates who make such disclosures may not be discharged, demoted or otherwise discriminated against if the disclosure is made to one of the following: a member of Congress or a representative of a committee of Congress; an Inspector General, the Government Accountability Office; a federal employee responsible for contract or grant oversight or management at the relevant agency; an authorized official of the Department of Justice or other law enforcement agency, a court or grand jury; or a management official or other employee of the contractor, subcontractor or grantee who has responsibility to investigate, discover or address misconduct. Any associate who believes he or she has been subjected to retaliation as stated above may submit a complaint to the Inspector General of the governmental agency involved. The associate will have all rights afforded by federal law. For more information, or if you have any questions, contact the Department of Compliance at 718-920-8239.

EVENTS

Teddy Bear Hospital

May 17 | 10:00 am–2:00 pm

Emergency Department, Wakefield Campus

Children are encouraged to bring their favorite teddy bear, stuffed animal or doll for a free checkup. Children can also tour an ambulance and learn important safety tips from the Fire Department of the City of New York and the New York City Police Department.

📞 1-800-MD-MONTE

Inspired Associates Recognition Event

June 4 | 1:00–4:00 pm

Grand Hall, Moses Campus

Associates participating in Montefiore's Moses Campus Inspired Associates contest are showcasing how Montefiore's values of humanity, innovation, teamwork, diversity and equity inspire them. Associates will demonstrate their creativity through skits, songs, poems and sculpture at the Inspired Associates Recognition Event.

📧 Jen Gnecco at JGnecco@montefiore.org

SITES TO SEE

Stern Stroke Center at Montefiore | <http://www.montefiore.org/sternstrokecenter>

The Stern Stroke Center at Montefiore is a recognized leader in stroke services including state-of-the-art acute and long-term management and preventative care. As a primary stroke center designated by the New York State Department of Health, our Center treats more than 1,200 acute stroke patients per year. Learn how the Stern Stroke Center team is improving the quality of care for stroke patients.

Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care | <http://www.montefiore.org/cancer>

The Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care is home to team of internationally recognized experts who provide a number of innovative treatment options for Melanoma—the most serious type of skin cancer. The most common of all cancers, melanoma will account for more than 76,000 cases of skin cancer in 2014, according to the American Cancer Society. Immunotherapies—drugs that work with the immune system to stop or slow the growth of cancer cells—are proven to be effective for the treatment of metastatic melanoma. We're one of the few medical centers in the New York metropolitan area to offer innovative immunotherapies to treat melanomas.

