

# Montefiore Update

July 21, 2014 KEEPING ASSOCIATES IN THE KNOW

## Community Oncology Program Drives Social Outreach

**M**ontefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care has launched its Community Oncology Program (COP), an outgrowth of Montefiore's longstanding commitment to developing social outreach efforts to assist the medically underserved in accessing high-quality healthcare. "We wanted to provide a resource for both the community and the physicians serving them," says the program's director, Fernando Camacho, MD, Attending Physician, Oncology, Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care; Director, Oncology/Hematology, Bronx River Medical Associates; and Assistant Professor, Oncology, Einstein. The COP is composed of Montefiore medical oncologists with practices throughout the Bronx and Westchester Counties. In addition to Bronx River Medical Associates, physicians at Advanced Oncology Associates at Montefiore are also affiliated with the program.

"These physicians are all highly experienced medical oncologists who have dedicated their careers to treating patients in the Bronx and Westchester," Dr. Camacho says. "They treat a range of cancer types and, through their affiliation with the Center for Cancer Care, provide their patients access to cutting-edge clinical trials."

Additionally, COP physicians collaborate with health advocacy groups and local civic and faith-based organizations to deliver presentations to local residents. Community education programs focusing on cancer prevention and issues including overall wellness, research and treatments are provided in English and Spanish.

The program's goal is to create a strong network of partnerships with national and local community organizations, such as the American Cancer Society, to improve care coordination and treatment access throughout the region, particularly to cancer patients from underprivileged backgrounds.

"By working together to combat the barriers preventing cancer patients in need from accessing quality healthcare, we can drive education and awareness to build a healthier community," Dr. Camacho says.

For more information, contact Laura Ortiz, Physician Liaison, Community Oncology Program, at 718-405-1700.

## The 'Safety Touch:' Innovative Palm Scanner Enhances Patient Safety

**M**ontefiore's Department of Radiation Oncology is among the nation's first to use biometrics to identify patients, with the goal of ensuring that the right care is given to the right patient—every time.

When patients register at the front desk, they are now asked to place their hand on a PatientSecure® palm scanner, which captures their unique vein pattern. At the radiation treatment machines, the patient's palm is scanned again prior to each radiation delivery, giving clinicians access to the correct treatment plan and medical record every time.

The program is the result of a collaborative effort between Montefiore IT and the Department of Radiation Oncology.

"Due to the high specificity of biometric patient identification systems, this further strengthens and streamlines the patient identification process," says Amar Basavatia, MS, Senior Medical Physicist, Center for Radiation Therapy, Montefiore, one of the pilot program's project leaders. "Palm scanners are as individual as retinal scanners. Patients like them because they are quick and easy to use and give them additional privacy."

Additionally, the new technology protects patients against medical identity theft and insurance card sharing.

"Patient safety is our top priority," says Madhur K. Garg, MD, Clinical Director, Radiation Oncology, Montefiore, and Professor, Radiation Oncology, Einstein, who supervised the clinical implementation of the patient identification systems. "This technology provides secure patient identification for every treatment, while enhancing patient privacy and clinical flow."

## A Grand Opening for Montefiore's Epic Headquarters



On July 14, Montefiore's senior leadership, associates and Epic team celebrated the grand opening of Montefiore's Epic facility in Yonkers with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony. The 30,000 square-foot structure features an open

floor plan, an amphitheater-inspired auditorium, gym, recreational amenities and enclaves for small group interactions.

Space planning is an important factor for improving communication and decision-making on Montefiore's Epic project because it facilitates connections to both technology and staff. Michael Prilutsky, Vice President and Executive Project Director, Epic, Montefiore, took a moment to express his gratitude to the Epic team and senior executives during his opening remarks.

"We definitely had a vision of what we wanted the space to be: open, engaging, collaborative," Mr. Prilutsky said. "We wanted to have a space where reality met opportunities, and this was made possible with the support and guidance from our Epic steering group and partners."

Before cutting the ceremonial red ribbon, Steven M. Safyer, MD, President and CEO, Montefiore,

addressed the standing room-only crowd. He recognized both new and existing Montefiore associates who joined the Epic team, while acknowledging that the Epic team represents the best of Montefiore: a team collaboration focused on a common goal—to help Montefiore in its clinical transformation to provide the best patient care possible.

"Thank you to Dr. Safyer for having the vision to bring a progressive system like Epic to Montefiore," Mr. Prilutsky said.



# Epic

## NEWS

### Physicians Present Research at American Headache Society Meeting

Several Montefiore physicians recently presented at the 56th Annual Meeting of the American Headache Society (AHS). Presenters included **Dawn C. Buse, PhD**, Director, Behavioral Medicine, Montefiore Headache Center, and Associate Professor, Clinical Neurology, Einstein; **Matthew S. Robbins, MD, FAHS**, Chief, Neurology, Weiler Hospital; Director of Inpatient Services, Montefiore Headache Center, and Associate Professor, Clinical Neurology, Einstein; and **Bryan M. Grosberg, MD**, Director, Montefiore Headache Center, and Associate Professor, Clinical Neurology, Einstein.

Dr. Buse discussed the results of the Chronic Migraine Epidemiology & Outcomes (CaMEO) Study. Dr. Robbins discussed the presence of auras in migraines. Dr. Grosberg shared a report on the Multifocal Multiform Nummular Headache. **Richard B. Lipton, MD**, Director, Montefiore Headache Center, Montefiore, and the Edwin S. Lowe Chair in Neurology, Einstein, received the Seymour Solomon Award for his leadership in the field of headache medicine. He also co-presented the development and validation of the ID-Chronic Migraine (ID-CM) Screening Tool with Dr. Buse.

### Montefiore Recognized for Performance Excellence

Montefiore's Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation team (ECMO) was recently awarded the Extracorporeal Life Support Organization's Award for Excellence in adult, pediatric and neonatal ECMO care. In addition to their work helping patients with end-stage heart and lung disease, the ECMO center has contributed to the advancement of novel therapies for limb perfusion, anticoagulation and pneumonia.

### 2014 Mentorship Program In Full Swing

Each year, the Summer Undergraduate Mentorship Program (SUMP) of the Hispanic Center of Excellence at Einstein mentors underrepresented or economically disadvantaged college students interested in pursuing careers in health-related fields. Established in 2002, many of the program's alumni have successfully enrolled in medical school. The seven-week program offers lectures, workshops and the opportunity for students to shadow Montefiore physicians and Einstein researchers in a clinical environment. For more information, please contact Nora Esteban, MD, MS, at [mesteban@montefiore.org](mailto:mesteban@montefiore.org).



### Clinical Trial Spotlight

#### Research Study for Healthy Female Volunteers

Montefiore and Einstein are recruiting healthy women ages 18-45 to test the safety of a vaginal ring that could help prevent the spread of HIV. Women must be on birth control pills. There will be nine visits.

📞 718-430-3061 or email [microbicide@einstein.yu.edu](mailto:microbicide@einstein.yu.edu)

## EVENTS

### Trialist and Investigator Training Program

August 7-8 | 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Tishman Learning Center and Grand Hall, Moses Campus

The Office of Clinical Trials presents the third annual Trialist and Investigator Training Program for Principal Investigators and study personnel, a dynamic, two-day program designed to demonstrate the skill set needed to plan, manage, activate and successfully conduct a clinical trial.

📞 Jennifer Ayala at 718-920-8411 or [jayala@montefiore.org](mailto:jayala@montefiore.org)

### National Minority Organ Donor Awareness Month

August 1-14 | 10:30 am-5:00 pm

Montefiore Medical Group, Bronx

Montefiore is hosting a series of events to raise awareness about the importance of organ donation.

**August 1** | Marble Hill Family Practice, 5525 Broadway

**August 4** | Williamsbridge Family Practice, 3448 Boston Road

**August 5** | Montefiore Medical Group at Via Verde, 730 Brook Avenue

**August 6** | Castle Hill Family Practice, 2175 Westchester Avenue

**August 7** | Family Health Center, 360 East 193rd Street

**August 11** | University Avenue Family Practice, 105 West 188th Street

**August 12** | Grand Concourse Medical Group, 2532 Grand Concourse

**August 13** | Bronx East, 2300 Westchester Avenue

**August 14** | Burke Avenue, 941 Burke Avenue

For more information, or to volunteer, contact Leo Trevino at 718-798-4285 or [ltrevino@montefiore.org](mailto:ltrevino@montefiore.org).

## SITES TO SEE

### Eldercare (Geriatrics) | <http://www.montefiore.org/geriatrics>

The Division of Geriatrics at Montefiore offers outstanding primary and consultative care for older adults. The multidisciplinary team includes board-certified geriatricians, as well as nurse practitioners and social workers, who offer specialized diagnoses and treatments for the many chronic and acute health conditions facing older adults. We provide care in all settings, from the hospital to the home.

### The Center for the Aging Brain | <http://www.montefiore.org/aging-brain>

Even seniors living free of chronic conditions and disease can experience changes in certain mental capacities. It's a natural part of growing older. Most people describe declines in memory for names and recent events as they age. But when such lapses create health and quality-of-life issues that affect their ability to remain active, experts from our Center for the Aging Brain can help.



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