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**Center for Bariatric Surgery earns national accreditation.** The Hospital of Central Connecticut's (HOCC's) Center for Bariatric Surgery has been accredited as a Level 1 facility by the Bariatric Surgery Center Network Accreditation Program of the American College of Surgeons. This achievement means HOCC's bariatric surgery center has demonstrated its commitment to providing the highest quality care for its patients. Accredited centers provide hospital resources necessary for optimal care of morbidly obese patients, along with support and resources to address bariatric patients' entire spectrum of care and needs. Center for Bariatric Surgery staff includes bariatric surgeons, a bariatric coordinator, registered dietitians, behavioral psychologists, nurses, and clinical exercise physiologists. HOCC offers Roux-en-Y gastric bypass, gastric banding and sleeve gastrectomy. Center for Bariatric Surgery and Weigh Your Options programs are at 11 South Road, Suite 130, Farmington. For information, call 1-866-668-5070 or visit [www.thocc.org](http://www.thocc.org).

• **Note expanded Medicare coverage:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has recognized HOCC's Center for Bariatric Surgery and allows expanded Medicare coverage of bariatric surgery for beneficiaries of all ages who have been diagnosed with other obesity-related health problems. Medicare coverage has been limited to procedures performed in facilities certified by the American College of Surgeons or the American Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery.

**For ED patients: New 64-slice CT scanner brings faster exams, less radiation.** The Hospital of Central Connecticut's Emergency Department (ED) has acquired a new 64-slice CT scanner specifically designed to offer a quick exam that yields superior image quality and significantly less radiation, with radiation exposure reduced by 30 to 50 percent, relative to the study. Common CT exams in the ED are for abdominal, pelvic, chest, head and cervical spine areas. At its New Britain General campus, the hospital also has a 64-slice PET-CT. The Bradley Memorial campus has a 16-slice CT scanner. The offices of Mandell & Blau, 40 Hart St., New Britain will acquire the 32-slice CT scanner previously at the New Britain General campus ED.



Using laser lights as a guide, radiologic technologist Christine Chiu, R.T.(R)(CT), can center patients for CT scans.

**New! Survive & Thrive for Breast Cancer Survivors.** This multi-faceted initiative at The Hospital of Central Connecticut includes a yoga series and a nutrition and exercise series that begins this month and will also be held in January. Survive & Thrive is funded by a \$25,000 grant from the Connecticut Breast Health Initiative, Inc. To register for either program, call Laura at 860-224-5900 X6321. Participants may join after a series has begun if space is available.

- **Move with yoga.** Free yoga classes for breast cancer patients and survivors is being held Mondays, Sept. 26 through Nov. 14 at HOCC's Bradley Memorial campus, Conference Room A from 4 to 5 p.m. These classes will be led by a certified yoga instructor. Exercise regimens should be discussed with a doctor before beginning.
- **Nutrition and exercise sessions.** This 12-week program at HOCC's New Britain General campus will begin Sept. 27 and offer one hour of weekly supervised physical activity in the Elliot and Marsha Cohen Good Life Center followed by one hour of nutrition education. Participants will be able to extend Good Life Center membership through a full year to help achieve sustainable progress and results. This program is free to breast cancer survivors; registration is required.

**DOCC adds neurology practice.** The Doctors of Central Connecticut (DOCC), the medical practice affiliated with The Hospital of Central Connecticut, recently opened DOCC Neurology Southington at 51 North Main St., Suite 3C, Southington (860-621-1896). Staff neurologists are Philip A. Micalizzi Jr., M.D., and Timothy Parson, M.D. Parsons is medical director of HOCC's Stroke Unit and a neurology hospitalist. Micalizzi's primary practice is at 3180 Main St., #302, Bridgeport.

**Good to know: HOCC surgery corrects large abdominal wall hernias.** The Hospital of Central Connecticut offers corrective surgery for patients with very large abdominal wall hernias, often an outcome of abdominal wall sepsis. Traditionally, such patients would have only a skin graft over the abdominal opening. A procedure at HOCC releases fibrous tissue which allows the defect to close. Over the hernia is placed an infection-resistant biological mesh that grows into the abdominal wall, adding strength to the tissue repair; the mesh eventually dissolves. A two- to four-day inpatient stay follows surgery; recovery is two to six weeks. HOCC surgeons who perform the procedure include M.D.s Carlos Barba, Terrence Donahue, Robert Napoletano, Michael Posner and Rekhinder Singh.

**Joslin diabetes education program recognized.** The American Diabetes Association recently awarded continued education recognition of the diabetes self-management program to the Joslin Diabetes Center Affiliate at The Hospital of Central Connecticut. Recognition assures that approved patient education programs meet National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education Programs. Joslin staff members teach patients

with diabetes self-care skills as part of their treatment plans. Educational topics include diabetes disease process; nutritional management; physical activity; medications; blood glucose monitoring and use of results; foot, skin and dental care; and prevention, detection and treatment of acute and long-term complications. The Affiliate's three offices are the hospital's New Britain General and Bradley Memorial campuses, and 11 South Road, Farmington. For more information, visit [www.thocc.org/services/diabetes](http://www.thocc.org/services/diabetes).

**Hospital a participant in breast health care quality initiative.** The Hospital of Central Connecticut has been recognized by the National Consortium of Breast Centers as a certified participant of the National Quality Measures for Breast Centers™ (NQMBC) Program. This recognition is indicative of the hospital's commitment to providing the highest level of quality breast health care to patients in its community and signifies its aim to become a Certified Quality Breast Center of Excellence. As a participant, the hospital is part of a national quality documentation program and will, among other objectives aim to perform above the 25th percentile for more than 30 National Quality Indicators™ as established by the NQMBC. After meeting these certification requirements, the hospital would then be a Certified Quality Breast Center. HOCC would then strive for the highest certification level, Certified Quality Breast Center of Excellence.

**Walk with a Doc Oct. 22, Nov. 5.** The Oct. 22 Walk with a Doc will be held at Mill Pond Park, Newington, where Wanda Kirejczyk, M.D., will discuss varicose veins and treatment before a 30-minute walk. At the Saturday, Nov. 5 walk at Farmington River Trail, Unionville, P. Davis Smith, M.D., internist, will talk about prevention and treatment of colds, flu. More than 80 walkers participated in the hospital's Walk with a Doc program at Rockwell Park in Bristol. Before the walk, Mary Windels, M.D., vascular surgeon (at front, left), discussed circulation problems and your legs. For more information, please visit [www.thocc.org/walk-with-a-doc/](http://www.thocc.org/walk-with-a-doc/) or call 1-877-914-WALK.



The Aug. 13 walk at Rockwell Park in Bristol included tips from vascular surgeon Mary Windels, M.D. (at front, left), who discussed circulation problems and your legs.

**New medical staff appointments announced.**

**Cecil F. Christian, M.D.**, Hospitalist, The Hospital of Central Connecticut. **Helen M. Corbett, M.D., F.A.C.S.**, General surgery/Breast Care, Connecticut Surgical Group, 399 Farmington Ave., Suite 200, Farmington, 860-246-2071. **Eric Crespo, M.D., MPH, FACC**, Cardiology/Electrophysiology, Hartford Hospital Interventional Electrophysiology, 80 Seymour St., Hartford, 860-545-1506. **Maame A. Dankwah-Quansah, M.D.**, Neurology, MidState Medical Group, 455 Lewis Ave., Suite 221, Meriden, 203-694-8550. **Elisa A. Gianferrari, M.D.**, Maternal-Fetal Medicine, The Hospital of Central Connecticut, 860-224-5310; 85 Jefferson St., Suite 625, Hartford, 860-545-2884. **Andrea Joyner, M.D.**, Obstetrics/Gynecology, The Hospital of Central Connecticut Women's Health Outpatient Clinic, 100 Grand St., New Britain, 860-224-5261; Hartford Hospital Women's Ambulatory Health Services, 111 Park St., Hartford, 860-972-2780. **Aleksandr Korniyenko, M.D.**, Hospitalist, HOCC. **Jeffrey Langsam, D.O.**, Hematology/ Oncology, Grove Hill Medical Center, 300 Kensington Ave., New Britain, Conn., 860-224-6254. **Jason D. Mayo, M.D.**, Radiology, HOCC Department of Radiology. **Bernard V. McNulty, III, M.D.**, Anesthesiology, New Britain Anesthesia, PC, 100 Grand St., New Britain, 860-224-5266. **Susan Parker, M.D.**, Pathology, HOCC. **Camielle A. Rizzo, M.D.**, Emergency Medicine/Hospice & Palliative Medicine, HOCC Emergency Department, 860-224-5675; HOCC Wolfson Palliative Care, 860-224-5463.

**Next Practice Managers' Munch & Learn Tuesday, Dec. 6, 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., Lecture Room 2.** Invitations with agenda will be mailed.

PM Link is produced quarterly by The Hospital of Central Connecticut Corporate Communications Department. For more information about the Practice Managers' Munch & Learn lunch series or this newsletter, contact Kimberly Gensicki, senior marketing communications specialist, at (860) 224-5900 x6507 or [kgensicki@thocc.org](mailto:kgensicki@thocc.org).