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Recognition

Cara Mathews, MD, wins Young Investigator Award



PROVIDENCE – The Gynecologic Oncology Group (GOG) Foundation recently announced that **CARA MATHEWS, MD**, of the Program in Women's Oncology at Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island, earned its national Young Investigator Award for 2015.

The award was given for Dr. Mathews' research presentation, "Survival in advanced endometrial cancer: Does time to chemotherapy initiation matter?" The research is sponsored by Genentech BioOncology.

"Cara represents the latest generation of oncologist researchers, balancing time with her patients in and the operating room with a desire to get to the root of the enigma of gynecologic cancers," says Cornelius "Skip" Granai III, MD, director of the Program in Women's Oncology. "She is gifted and compassionate, and this is a great tribute to her tenacity as a researcher."

The goal of the Young Investigator program at GOG is to encourage physicians with not more than five years out of fellowship to participate in leading-edge research and become familiar with the inner workings of the organization. GOG is a national non-profit organization dedicated to promoting excellence in the quality and integrity of clinical and basic scientific research in the field of gynecologic oncology. It consists of gynecologic oncologists, medical oncologists, pathologists, radiation oncologists, nurses, statisticians, basic scientists, quality of life experts, data managers, and administrative personnel.

The award provides all data for the project from prior trials done through GOG, financial support for statistical analysis, travel, and any other costs of the project. ❖

Appointments



Gail Carreau, MD, joins Newport Women's Health

NEWPORT – Newport Hospital announced that **GAIL CARREAU, MD**, has joined Newport Women's Health as an obstetrician/gynecologist. She began seeing patients on January 19.

A graduate of George Washington University School of Medicine and board certified in obstetrics and gynecology, Dr. Carreau has extensive experience caring for women with high-risk pregnancies.

She comes to Newport Hospital from Franciscan Women's Health Associates in Tacoma, Washington. She completed her residency at the Yale University-affiliated Bridgeport Hospital in Connecticut. A fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Dr. Carreau is also a member of the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine. ❖

Liza Famador, MD; Camille Montes, MD, join Newport Hospital

NEWPORT – Family Medicine physicians **LIZA FAMADOR, MD**, and **CAMILLE MONTES, MD**, have joined Portsmouth Family Medicine at Newport Hospital.

Before coming to Newport Hospital, Dr. Famador, who is board certified in Family Medicine, worked for Comprehensive Community Action Program in Coventry. She is a graduate of the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center, Quezon City, Philippines, and completed a residency in Family Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Shadyside.

Board certified in Family Medicine, Dr. Montes comes to Newport Hospital from Comprehensive Community Action Program in Cranston. Dr. Montes is a graduate of the University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines, and completed a residency in Family Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Shadyside. ❖



Liza Famador, MD



Camille Montes, MD

Appointments

Bharat Ramratnam, MD, named Medical Director of Lifespan's Clinical Research Center



PROVIDENCE – Lifespan's Clinical Research Center has named **BHARAT RAMRATNAM, MD**, medical director. Dr. Ramratnam, who assumes the new role immediately, will also continue to lead the Laboratory of Retrovirology for the Lifespan/Tufts/Brown Center for AIDS Research and Rhode Island Hospital's NIH-funded COBRE Center for Cancer Research Development.

"Since its launch last summer, the Lifespan Clinical Research Center has played a critical role in helping researchers manage important clinical trials in the departments of medicine, neurology, pediatrics and emergency medicine. I'm pleased to have Dr. Ramratnam join our team and lead this important research resource," said Peter Snyder, PhD, Lifespan senior vice president and chief research officer. "Dr. Ramratnam's extensive research experience, which includes being the principal investigator for numerous NIH-funded projects over the past 15 years, makes him well suited for this new role."

Dr. Ramratnam replaces the center's first medical director, Catherine Gordon, MD, MSc, who is stepping down to devote all of her time to her ongoing role as the director of the division of adolescent medicine at Hasbro Children's Hospital.

He is an associate professor of medicine at the Alpert Medical School with appointments in the divisions of Infectious Diseases and Hematology/Oncology. ❖

Dr. Herbert Brennan Named to International Medical Panel

WARWICK—**HERBERT J. "HUB" BRENNAN, DO**, and Kent Hospital Medical Staff president, was appointed to the International Medical Panel of the Federation Internationale de Motocyclisme (FIM) at its Annual Congress on November 24, 2014 in Jerez de la Frontera, Spain.

The FIM, founded in 1904 is based in Geneva, Switzerland and is the world governing body for motorcycle sport and represents the interests of motorcyclists from 107 national motorcycle federations. Dr. Brennan is one of four U.S. representatives to the organization and the sole U.S. physician on the medical panel.

The Rhode Island native is a lifelong and avid off-road motorcyclist and

advocate for the sport. He is a member of the Rhode Island Trials Club, New England Trials Association and the American Motorcyclist Association. He holds an international medical license as a chief medical officer of the FIM.

"I am at once humbled and extremely honored to have been selected to the panel," said Dr. Brennan. "While motorcycling here in the United States and in much of Europe is largely an endeavor of leisure and sport, many developing countries employ the motorcycle as a mainstay of

Carrie Bridges Feliz, MPH, to Lead Community Health Services at Lifespan

PROVIDENCE – Lifespan has named **CARRIE BRIDGES FELIZ, MPH**, to lead its Community Health Services team.

Bridges Feliz joins Lifespan with an extensive background in public health having served as the team lead for Health Disparities and Access to Care in the R.I. Department of Health. In that role, she supervised the offices of Minority Health, Women's Health, and Primary and Rural Health. She also served as a public health prevention specialist for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), where she concentrated on Rhode Island refugee health; HIV, sexually transmitted diseases, and tuberculosis prevention efforts; and infectious diseases.

Bridges Feliz has earned numerous awards, including the Woman of Achievement Award from the YWCA of Rhode Island, the Women of Excellence Community Award from the Women's Center of Rhode Island, the President's Award of Excellence from the Urban League of Rhode Island and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Service Award.

She has also served on several boards – Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Rhode Island board of directors, the Young Voices board of directors, the CES, Inc. advisory board, and the board of directors for the Central Rhode Island Area Health Education Center.

Bridges Feliz earned her bachelor's degree from Duke University and her master's degree in public health from the Boston University School of Public Health. ❖



KENT HOSPITAL

basic family transportation and local economic infrastructure. I look forward to working with our chairman, Dr. David McManus and my colleagues on the panel to help make motorcycling worldwide, as safe as it is enjoyable for all of us who ride on two wheels."

Dr. Brennan is a partner in Brennan, Cronin and Peters Internal Medicine in East Greenwich, Rhode Island and serves on a number of boards and committees focusing on health care governance and transformation. ❖

Research

Dr. Olszewski Publishes Hodgkin's Study in Journal of Clinical Oncology

PAWTUCKET – **ADAM OLSZEWSKI, MD**, of The Cancer Center at Memorial Hospital is the lead author of a study showing that half of Americans with early-stage Hodgkin lymphoma do not receive therapy recommended by guidelines which may affect their survival rate. The study, conducted through Brown University, was recently published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

Until now, there was no data about how patients with early-stage Hodgkin lymphoma are treated in the U.S. and how treatment choices affect survival. Dr. Olszewski, an assistant professor of medicine at Alpert Medical School of Brown University, led a team that studied these issues using information from the National Cancer Data Base, which contains data on approximately 70 percent of newly diagnosed cancer cases in the U.S. and is a joint project of the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons and the American Cancer Society.

The team – which included Dr. Rajesh Shrestha and Dr. Jorge

Castillo - looked at 20,600 cases of early-stage Hodgkin lymphoma reported between 2003 and 2011, treated with either CMT or chemotherapy alone. They discovered that although national guidelines uniformly recommended CMT throughout the past decade, only about half of patients received the full treatment, while the other half received chemotherapy without radiation. Moreover, the proportion of cases treated with CMT decreased steadily over the years, especially among younger adults. Certain groups had a particularly low chance of receiving CMT. These included younger women, older and sicker patients, African Americans, and patients without health insurance. Although 90 percent of all patients survived more than five years after their diagnosis, those who received CMT appeared to have a significantly better survival rate compared with those who omitted radiation. This advantage was present regardless of patients' age, gender, race, or specific subtype of Hodgkin lymphoma.

Dr. Olszewski noted, that choosing the best cancer treatment is a complex process which is difficult to capture in large databases. The fact that the choice between CMT and chemotherapy alone is partly affected by patients' race, health insurance or local treatment patterns underscores deficiencies of cancer care delivery in the US. According to the US Census, about 30% of Americans younger than 30 years were uninsured in 2011, and thus at risk of receiving suboptimal treatment for early-stage Hodgkin lymphoma.

Omitting radiation therapy in half of the patients, he added, may indicate that doctors are concerned about its long-term toxicity for their patients, even though radiation techniques in the 21st century are more advanced. The team of scientists said future clinical trials in Hodgkin lymphoma are needed and should focus on minimizing toxicities without compromising survival in order to meet the concerns of patients and physicians. ❖

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Or visit www.rwmc.org/core-research-facilities/

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Obituaries

 **ABRAHAM HORVITZ, MD**, 103, of Providence, passed away peacefully on January 27, 2015 at his home at Laurelmead. The first child of Jacob and Fanny Horvitz of Providence, he was a graduate of Classical High School and Brown University. He decided to become a doctor as a teenager and earned his MD at Columbia Medical School in 1936. When he went to Washington University in St. Louis to do his residency he was joined by his new wife, the former Eleanor Feldman.

He was working at Harlem Hospital in New York when Pearl Harbor was attacked and although exempted from the draft because he was a doctor, he felt that it was obligation to enlist. By the end of 1942, now a lieutenant in the Third Army Surgical Corps, he was on board a transport ship headed for England. (He was subsequently promoted to captain.) On D+1 June 7, 1944 on Utah Beach in Normandy, he was in a surgical tent, operating on wounded American and German soldiers. Months later, he would come under fire in the Battle of the Bulge but nothing could have prepared him for the horror that awaited him when he witnessed the liberation of a concentration camp, a searing experience that almost certainly strengthened his identity as a Jew and made him an ardent supporter of Israel. What he remembered most especially was an ambush of U.S. battleships by U-boats in the English Channel during a practice run for the D-Day invasion. A ship ahead of his and another just behind it were blown out of the water with appalling loss of life. His ship, however, went untouched. God, he believed, had saved him for some purpose, a belief that thousands of his patients and their families would come to share in decades to come.

After three years working at Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, where his son Leslie was born, he and Eleanor returned to Providence where he opened his surgical practice in 1948. He was affiliated with the Miriam Hospital for 41 years. In 1966, he was named Medical Staff President of the Hospital. By the time he retired at the age of 79 (on his own volition), he'd performed countless operations, one of which lasted a marathon 13 hours. But retirement from the hospital didn't mean leaving medicine. He went on to become a Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus of Surgery at Brown University Medical School and for many years regularly attended medical conferences at the Miriam. He was also a longtime member of Temple Beth-El. In his last years he would often say that he'd lived a good life. There are many people, some who would not otherwise be alive because of him, who would agree. He is survived by his only child Leslie.


In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association (where his late wife Eleanor worked for over two decades) or to a charity of the donor's choice.



REYNALDO S. LINSAO, MD, 74, of Johnston, passed away January 6, 2015. He was the beloved husband of Dr. Milagros (Magbojos) Linsao. Born in Manila, Philippines, he was a son of the late Macario and Maria (Santos) Linsao.

Besides his wife he is survived by his loving children Roderick Linsao and his wife Cecilia of North Hills, CA, Reginald Linsao and his wife Coreen of Smithfield and Marion Linsao and her husband Robert Holzmacher of La Crescenta, CA. He was a cherished grandfather of Owen Linsao and Mia Holzmacher.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the HOPE Foundation at 2105 Cranston Street, Cranston, RI 02920.

 **VARTAN PAPAIZIAN, MD**, 87, of Tequesta, FL and Smithfield, RI, passed away on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at home surrounded by his loving family. He was the beloved husband for 55 years of Joan (Yaghjian) Papazian.



Dr. Papazian graduated from Classical High School in 1945 and served with the U.S. Army from 1946–1947. He graduated from Brown University in 1950 where he was a member of the Sigma Xi Honor Society. Dr. Papazian was a graduate of Tufts University School of Medicine and graduated cum laude in 1954. At Tufts, he was a member of the Alpha Omega Medical Honor Society.

He served an internship at Rhode Island Hospital from 1954–1956, a residency at Rhode Island Hospital from 1956–1958 and was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Medicine in 1957.

Dr. Papazian began practice in Providence, RI in 1958. In 1960 he became a member of the American Board of Otolaryngology and in 1961 a Fellow of the American Academy of Otolaryngology. He was a member of the Pawtucket Medical Society, the Providence Medical Society, the Rhode Island Medical Society, the American Medical Association, the Rhode Island Otolaryngological Society and the New England Otolaryngological Society. He was on the staff of the Rhode Island Hospital from 1958–1980 and on the consulting staff from 1980–1998. He was Chief of Otolaryngology at Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island from 1963–1992 and remained on the active staff until his retirement. He joined the active staff of Miriam Hospital in 1995 and was a consulting member at Bradley Hospital. Dr. Papazian retired in May, 1998. Besides his wife, he was the devoted father of Melanie Papazian and her wife Lori Ruizzo of Smithfield, Dr. Martin Papazian and his wife Kara of Lincoln and Jessica Papazian-Ross and her husband Stefan of Smithfield; and loving grandfather of Emily, Michael and Elise Papazian. Dr. Papazian is also survived by his sister Ruth Harpootian of East Providence and his uncle Stephen Berberian of Rockville, MD.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to: Saints Sahag & Mesrob Church, 70 Jefferson Street, Providence RI 02908.

Obituaries



JOSEPH LEOPOLDO PETTERUTI, DO, a retired RI family practitioner, passed away January 3, 2015 in Fort Myers, FL. He graduated from LaSalle Academy, Providence, RI in 1947 and entered the US Army in 1948 serving in Germany during the Korean War and retired in 1993 as Medical Corp, Colonel.

'Dr. Joe,' as he was known, graduated from Providence College of Osteopathy in 1959; was on the staff of Kent Hospital where he served on the Senior Policy Committee, Chairman of the Credentials Committee, Chief of Family Medicine, Executive Committee, Board of Incorporators, President of Kent County Medical Society and Vice President of Southwest Florida Osteopathic Society.

Dr. Joe retired from private practice in Warwick, RI in December, 2000 and moved to Cape Coral, FL, where he was employed as an Associate Medical Director at Hope Hospice of Cape Coral, FL. He was a past member of the Potowomut Golf



Club, Warwick, RI. He was a member of the Military Order of Foreign Wars, American Military Society of Surgeons, American Osteopathic Association, RI Society of Osteopathic Physicians. He was awarded two Meritorious Service Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, Distinguished Service Award, RI Star, Humanitarian Medal and the National Defense Medal.

He was a devoted and loving husband of June M. Petteruti; adored father of daughters Christine Crean,

Lynn Donatelli, RN; Cheryl Hardiman, Vicky Fanelli all in Massachusetts and son Stephen Petteruti, DO, in RI and step-daughter, DeAnne Gentile, RN, in RI, 10 grandchildren and two step-grandsons.

Dr. Joe was a caring, compassionate and dedicated physician who touched the lives of many. He will be remembered by all for his wonderful sense of humor, kindness and love of golf and travel.

A military funeral with full honors will be held at the Veterans Cemetery in Exeter, RI, Friday June 5, 2015.