Montefiore Health System and Yeshiva University Finalize Agreement for Albert Einstein College of Medicine

With the closing of an agreement with Yeshiva University on September 9, Montefiore assumed operational authority and responsibility for Einstein. The medical school will join Montefiore Medicine, the new umbrella organization for Montefiore Health System and Einstein. Einstein will seek to become degree granting on its own, and until then, Yeshiva University will continue to grant the degrees.

The agreement comes more than half a century into Montefiore and Einstein’s partnership, which has resulted in centers of excellence advancing science, clinical care and education, attracting the very best students, scientists, clinicians and teams of the future.

“As the University Hospital for Albert Einstein College of Medicine we have together strengthened the shared missions of our two institutions in a way that few Academic Medical Centers have been able to achieve,” says Steven M. Safyer, MD, President and CEO, Montefiore Medicine. “Montefiore and Einstein have become the example of what transformative care, science and education can be. This new agreement, which brings us even closer, will be the first step toward a more secure and sustainable future.”

Montefiore and Einstein’s relationship is rooted in shared values and a commitment to social justice. The further integration of the institutions’ faculty, students, and staff will align operations to best advance science and medicine and build on their collective commitment to equality and opportunity for all.

Montefiore and Burke Rehabilitation Hospital Announce Strategic Partnership

Within the last few years, the Montefiore Health System has expanded its network of world-class care across the Bronx and Hudson valley through numerous strategic affiliation agreements. On August 25, Montefiore Health System and Burke Rehabilitation Hospital in White Plains, New York, announced plans for a new strategic partnership that will expand the availability of advanced rehabilitation therapies in Westchester County and beyond. This new partnership will enhance the missions of both institutions by aligning their core strengths and fostering collaboration that will enhance patient experiences and results.

“Montefiore and Burke Rehabilitation Hospital represent two of the most exceptional physical medicine and rehabilitation programs in the tri-state area,” says Steven M. Safyer, MD, President and CEO, Montefiore Medicine. “Many of our patients have already experienced restored independence as a result of Burke and Montefiore providers working closely to enhance mobility and overcome even the most difficult obstacles. As we build on each other’s expertise in rehabilitative care, I believe the future is bright for residents of Westchester and the Hudson Valley who look to overcome existing physical limitations and live their lives to the fullest.”

Montefiore and Burke have formerly signed a letter of intent and filed a certificate of need. Pending New York State Regulatory approval, the agreement would establish Burke as a hub in Westchester for acute, comprehensive rehabilitative care.

“This new partnership will allow Burke to offer its established, high quality medical rehabilitation to more patients, to help improve their outcomes, while collaborating with an organization that supports the Burke mission,” said Mary Beth Walsh, MD, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Medical Director at Burke Rehabilitation Hospital. “We look forward to working closely with Montefiore on providing new services for patients today, and to developing new training opportunities for educating the rehabilitative experts of tomorrow.”

ICD-10 Goes into Effect October 1, 2015

As of October 1, 2015, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services will require transition of our medical coding from the ICD-9 classification system to the updated and expanded ICD-10 classification system. Many areas of the organization have already begun using ICD-10, but by October 1, all associates and clinicians involved in the revenue cycle process and/or documentation in the medical record must be familiar with the language and the coding conventions. Please inquire with your department leadership regarding the training plan for your department, and ensure that all assigned training has been completed.

For more information, visit the Montefiore Intranet at Resources > The Transition to ICD-10.

Associates at Ambulatory Sites Prep for Third Wave of Interactive Training on Epic@Montefiore

On September 14, associates specializing in Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Urology, Ophthalmology, Dental and Oral Surgery, as well as those in Radiation Oncology and other ambulatory services are undergoing training for Epic@Montefiore. With Montefiore's new integrated electronic health record system successfully deployed at more than 70 ambulatory sites in July, training for more than 2,300 clinicians, front desk and operational associates is now underway in preparation for the third go-live of Epic@Montefiore, which will soon integrate over 80 additional faculty practice locations.

During Epic training, providers learn how to access comprehensive and select patient information by searching across various patient visits using specific phrases or keywords, conveniently enabling the review of office visit information specific to a diagnosis or specialty. Streamlining workflows, providers in surgical departments will learn to use Epic’s integrated “prep for surgery” feature, which enables surgeons to seamlessly write notes and place medication orders for a patient’s surgery without navigating through various clinical systems.Schedulers learn how to enhance schedule utilization using Epic’s “auto wait list” feature to automatically send Montefiore MyChart notices to patients about possible appointment openings, which can significantly impact patient satisfaction.

To strengthen their Epic@Montefiore knowledge, associates have the opportunity to participate in webinars to fully experience outpatient care and scheduling workflows for a patient's typical office visit. In addition, providers will have a one-on-one opportunity to familiarize themselves with the system with an Epic@Montefiore Credentialed Trainer in one of the numerous Customization Lab sessions. Training sessions run from September 14 to October 23.

Montefiore leadership, along with the Epic@Montefiore project team, is committed to providing the necessary support for associates to utilize Epic@Montefiore to provide patients with a seamless, patient-centered healthcare experience.

For more information, visit Epic@Montefiore on the Intranet.
NEWS

Awards and Honors

Mark P. Schoenberg, MD, Chair and Professor, Urology, Montefiore and Einstein, was honored for his leadership at the 10th Annual Bladder Cancer Think Tank on August 6 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Dr. Schoenberg founded the Annual Bladder Cancer Think Tank meeting a decade ago. The event is sponsored by the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN), the national advocacy organization for bladder cancer in the United States and Canada.

Three of Montefiore’s senior Pediatric Nephrology fellows received awards for their research initiatives in pediatric nephrology during the New York Society of Nephrology Fellow’s Night.

• Janice Desir, MD, MPH, received the 2015 Allison Norris Research Award for her lecture “Long Term Follow Up on Inner City Pediatric Lupus Nephritis Patients.”
• Natalie Uy, MD, was awarded Best Translational Research Award for her lecture, “Urinary Biomarkers and Epigenetic Dysregulation Associated with Increased Risk of Chronic Kidney Diseases in Maternal Caloric Restricted Rats.”
• Lauren Becton, MD, was awarded Best Basic Science Research Award for her lecture “microRNA profiling by Next-Generation Sequencing in a Nephrotoxic Serum Nephritis Mouse Model.” She also received the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology’s Best Trainees Translational Research Award at the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting last April.

Frederick Kaskel, MD, Director, Pediatric Nephrology, CHAM, Professor and Vice Chair, Pediatrics, Einstein, received the Primary Hyperoxaluria/Oxalosis Foundation’s “Stone Man of the Year Award” and the Frost Valley YMCA “Volunteer of the Year Award,” along with Maya Doyle, MSW, PhD, for their efforts in sustaining the summer kidney camp program of the Frost Valley YMCA, Eva Gottscho Foundation, and the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore.

Serife Eti, MD, Family Medicine, Montefiore, has been appointed the new Medical Director of the Palliative Care Program. Dr. Eti completed her residency in Family Medicine and a fellowship in Palliative Medicine at Montefiore. While serving as an attending physician for several years, she was instrumental in developing Montefiore’s inpatient Palliative Care Unit on the Moses Campus.

Michael L. Rinke, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, Einstein, has been appointed Medical Director for Quality at the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore.

Lynn F. Davidson, MD, FAAP, Attending Physician, General Pediatrics, CHAM, and Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, Einstein, has been elected to the executive committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics Council on Children with Disabilities.

Paperless Pay: Coming Soon to a Paycheck Near You

Montefiore Medical Center is preparing to implement a Paperless Pay Program during the fourth quarter of 2015. Associates who currently receive direct deposit statements will be able to access their pay statements and pay history via an easy-to-use online portal. This environmentally-friendly initiative will eliminate excess paper and waste, while ensuring more security than paper statements. Associates who currently receive paychecks (not enrolled in direct deposit) are encouraged to enroll in direct deposit so that they may benefit from this program. Additional details will be shared in the coming weeks.

Montefiore’s Child Life and Perfusion Team Celebrate Life

On August 27, the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore’s (CHAM) Phoebe H. Stein Child Life Program and the Montefiore Cardiovascular Perfusion team worked hard to provide an opportunity for a pediatric patient who has been dependent on an Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation Circuit (ECMO) for more than 100 days—a CHAM record—to get some time outside before summer’s end. The perfusion team hooked the patient up to a mobile ECMO unit—a patent-pending Montefiore innovation—so she could leave the ICU. The patient used her outdoor visit to unite her family and nursing care teams to celebrate life. “We as a team were extremely pleased to make the patient’s goal of going outside on ECMO a reality,” says Katie Simon, Child Life Specialist, Cardiology, CHAM.

The Montefiore Cardiovascular Perfusion team assists on more than 1,000 cardiac surgeries a year and more than 50 liver transplants. The team is also currently applying for a patent for their mobile perfusion unit, which they believe can be vitally utilized for patient transport. The Phoebe H. Stein Child Life Program at CHAM complements traditional care teams by focusing on the emotional well-being of pediatric patients. The Child Life caregivers use therapeutic diversions for young patients, playfully explain complex procedures, and provide outlets for creative expression in order to reduce patient anxiety.

Clinical Trial Spotlight

Research Study for Latina Breast Cancer Survivors

Researchers at Montefiore need your help to investigate whether new educational material will help promote follow-up care in Latina breast cancer survivors.

To take part you must be:
• 21–74 years of age
• Identify yourself as a Latina or Hispanic
• Completed primary treatment 3-48 months ago
• Participants will be compensated for their time.

To learn more, contact Rita Rivera at 646-627-6972 or rita.rivera@einstein.yu.edu.
To search for other clinical studies being conducted at Montefiore, visit www.montefiore.org/clinicaltrials.

EVENTS

Clinical Documentation Improvement Week

Associates are encouraged to meet with their CDI specialist and answer clinical documentation trivia for a chance to win an iPad Mini.

Tuesday, September 15 | Noon–2:00 pm
Across from Cafeteria Entrance, Wakefield Campus

For more information, contact Simon Small at 929-234-4752.

Making Strides For Breast Cancer Walk

Join the “Walking Montes” team and help raise money for breast cancer research.

Sunday, October 18
Orchard Beach, Bronx

For more information, visit the Intranet.