Because every moment matters
Because every moment matters
Hartford Hospital has a long history and tradition of excellence. We pride ourselves on providing the best possible care in the most compassionate way. Our highly skilled staff has access to state-of-the-art technology and research, including a growing number of clinical trials, making us the regional destination for innovative and complex care. In Fiscal Year 2016, we received more than 6,130 patient transfers from hospitals that could not provide the high level of care we deliver.

As an academic medical center, Hartford Hospital is the primary teaching hospital for the University of Connecticut medical school. Our nationally recognized Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation trained more than 11,000 professionals last year, including members of law enforcement and the U.S. Navy. We also have the only Level One trauma center in our region and are the home of LIFE STAR, an award-winning, air-ambulance service.

For the outstanding care we deliver and our numerous “firsts” in medical treatment, we have achieved local and national recognition. *U.S. News & World Report* recently ranked us Number One in the Hartford metro area and high-performing in diabetes and endocrinology, gastroenterology and GI surgery, nephrology, orthopedics, and pulmonology. *Becker’s Hospital Review* named us among the top 100 hospitals nationwide for cancer care.

With the complex care we provide, Hartford Hospital plays a major role in the Hartford HealthCare system, which includes hospitals, physician offices, rehabilitation and behavioral health services, and skilled-nursing care. As a system of care, we are changing the way healthcare is delivered. We truly are an integrated system, coordinating care for patients so they can move seamlessly from one level of treatment to another. As a hospital and system, we are continuing to increase access to care by bringing care into the communities we serve.

Our success rests on the commitment and dedication of our staff and our community supporters. Through more than 160 years, we have enjoyed tremendous support, which I am confident will continue well into the future as we continue to advance the care we provide.

**Stuart K. Markowitz, MD**  
President, Hartford Hospital & Hartford HealthCare’s Hartford Region  
Senior Vice President, Hartford HealthCare
Executive leadership team

Jack Greene, MD
Regional Vice President
Medical Affairs

Stuart Markowitz, MD
President, Hartford Hospital &
Hartford HealthCare’s Hartford Region
Senior Vice President, Hartford HealthCare

Douglas Elliot
Chair
Board of Directors

Cheryl Ficara, RN, MS
Regional Vice President
Patient Care Services
Hartford Hospital once again has been ranked by U.S. News & World Report as among the nation’s best hospitals. The hospital is No. 1 in the Hartford metro area and rated “high-performing” in diabetes and endocrinology, gastroenterology and GI surgery, nephrology, orthopedics, and pulmonology. To be among the best regional hospitals, a hospital must provide communities with high-quality care across the broad spectrum of consumer health needs.

Hartford Hospital’s LIFE STAR air-ambulance service has been honored as the first air-medical, critical-care transport team in the nation to receive the prestigious American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Beacon Award for Excellence. This award traditionally is given to hospital intensive care units. LIFE STAR received the silver award, which recognizes critical-care units that demonstrate excellence in all facets of patient/family care, including leadership structures and systems; appropriate staffing and staff engagement; effective communication; knowledge management, learning and development; use of best practices; and outcomes measurements.

Hartford Hospital is among a select group of hospitals nationwide recognized with the highest platinum-level award for promoting enrollment in state organ donor registries in a national campaign sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Health Resources and Services Administration. The campaign has added 400,000 donor enrollments to state registries nationwide since 2011. Nearly 1,000 hospitals participated in the campaign. Of those, only 280 achieved the platinum level.

Hartford Hospital also was named a recipient of the National Research Corporation’s Consumer Choice Award, which honors hospitals selected by consumers as having the best quality and image. The award is based on a national study of more than 300,000 households.

Becker’s Hospital Review named Hartford Hospital one of the top 100 hospitals in the country for cancer care. Hospitals selected are leading the way in clinical expertise, patient outcomes and influential cancer research and have received recognition for excellence in cancer care by the National Cancer Institute, the American College of Surgeons and other organizations.
Advances & achievements in cardiology

When you need cardiac care, Hartford Hospital’s nationally recognized experts stand ready.

This past year, Hartford HealthCare brought cardiac services throughout the system together with the establishment of the Hartford HealthCare Heart & Vascular Institute, in which Hartford Hospital plays a major role. Dr. Sabet W. Hashim, a world-renowned expert in mitral valve repair, is chairman of cardiac surgery and co-physician-in-chief of the Institute with internationally recognized Hartford Hospital cardiologist Dr. Paul Thompson. Hashim performed New England’s first mitral valve repair in 1984 and has since performed more than 1,500 mitral valve repairs and 10,000 open heart procedures. Thompson is known worldwide as an expert on the effects of exercise on the heart.

Hartford Hospital’s Chest Pain Center is one of only two in the state with PCI (percutaneous coronary intervention) Accreditation from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care. PCI, commonly known as coronary angioplasty, is used to open narrow or blocked arteries and restore blood flow to the heart. Almost 4,000 procedures were performed in our Cardiac Lab last year. The accreditation means that the Chest Pain Center has met very rigorous standards to ensure that patients receive rapid treatment to minimize damage.

For patients considered too high-risk for standard valve-replacement surgery and considered non-operable, Hartford Hospital has an answer. Recently, the hospital marked the fourth anniversary of our Structural Heart Program with a follow-up of two patients who had the procedure four years ago. TAVR (Trans-catheter Aortic Valve Replacement) is minimally-invasive surgery to repair the heart valve without removing the damaged valve. Patients leave the hospital in approximately two days and recovery time is significantly reduced. Because of our extensive participation in clinical trials and research, we can now offer this approach to intermediate-risk patients (where surgery is still an option).

Hartford HealthCare’s Mobile ECMO (Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation) Program offers a chance at life for the sickest of the sick suffering from respiratory and cardiac failure. It’s the only program in Connecticut that brings expertise and state-of-the-art technology to patients in hospitals throughout the state. Several patients with the flu last winter were saved because of this program.

Additionally, Hartford Hospital’s clinical research team has been working with the hospital’s Cardiac Electrophysiology group to test a new approach to implanting pacemakers for better patient outcomes. The trial will determine if using an antibacterial mesh around the pacemaker reduces the risk of major infections following surgery. The team has enrolled more than 60 patients, placing Hartford Hospital in the top five highest-enrolling study sites in the world.

Hartford Hospital’s Cardiac Rehabilitation Program once again received national accreditation, given only after an extensive review of patient outcomes, staff competencies and adherence to best practices and evaluation of medical readiness, patient education and patient satisfaction. Patient satisfaction with the Hartford Hospital program ranges from 92 percent to 100 percent.

Sabet Hashim, MD
Co-Physician-in-Chief, Hartford HealthCare Heart & Vascular Institute

Paul Thompson, MD
Co-Physician-in-Chief, Hartford HealthCare Heart & Vascular Institute
Black & Red supports Bone & Joint Institute
Hartford Hospital’s 25th annual Black & Red gala, featuring the band Chicago, raised more than $1 million for the Hartford HealthCare Bone & Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital. More than 1,100 supporters filled the Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts in Hartford Feb. 6, 2016. The gala, broadcast live on NBC Connecticut, also marked the hospital’s “Step It Up” Campaign encouraging staff and community members to pledge to increase their activity levels for 30 days. The Bone & Joint Institute, a “hospital within a hospital,” will offer, under one roof, everything patients need for musculoskeletal health, including surgery, rehabilitation and injury prevention.

Keeping patients safe and secure
The safety of our patients, their families and our staff is Hartford Hospital’s top priority. To continue to improve safety and security, we have taken a number of steps, including the implementation of “plain language” to announce incidents and emergencies. Instead of using the code words “Dr. Rover” to announce a fire, for example, the words “Fire alarm activated” are used to ensure clarity.

Another step Hartford Hospital has taken, as part of Hartford HealthCare, is instituting active-shooter response training, called ALICE, for all hospital and system employees. To date, over 10,500 employees across our system have been trained. ALICE stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate, which are steps an individual or a group of people can take to proactively handle the threat of an armed intruder. ALICE training gives participants options in keeping themselves, their patients and their coworkers as safe as possible.

Hartford Hospital is the leader in the national Stop the Bleed Campaign, focused on teaching members of law enforcement and the public to stop the bleeding and increase survivability in a mass-casualty event. Hartford Hospital was the first hospital in the country to install tourniquet kits in public areas. The hospital’s Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation trains law-enforcement officers to treat victims before medical first responders arrive.

12 transplants in 10 days
When an organ becomes available, there’s no limit to the lengths that Dr. Patricia Sheiner and her team will go to locate a patient waiting for a transplant. They’ve had patients paged in movie theaters and grocery stores and have called local police departments to track them down.

“Getting an organ is like winning the lotto,” said Sheiner, director of transplant for Hartford Hospital. “If you miss one, the next one available may not be yours.”

Over 10 days in April, Sheiner and her team performed five liver and six kidney transplants as well as a heart transplant. The staff typically performs about 60 kidney, 20 liver and 15 heart transplants a year.

Transplantation requires the efforts of the entire hospital, including the operating room, social workers, psychologists, quality specialists, the blood bank, the tissue lab, anesthesiologists ... a host of departments and people. “Transplants can’t be done without an entire hospital supporting them,” Sheiner said. “It really takes a village. We have tremendous support here, and our patients become part of our family.”

Patricia Sheiner, MD
Medical Director, Hartford Hospital Transplant Program
Hartford HealthCare employee signatures at the Bone & Joint Institutes's Topping Off Ceremony.
Hartford HealthCare Bone & Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital to open in December

Whether you need a total joint replacement or help to recover quickly from a minor sports injury, you have one goal: to get back to your normal activities as quickly, safely, and painlessly as possible. The Hartford HealthCare Bone & Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital is designed to help you do just that.

The Institute includes inpatient and ambulatory buildings. The inpatient space is a totally new five-floor 130,000 square-foot facility, with 8 operating rooms (and the capacity to expand to 10), 48 private inpatient beds (with the capability of expanding to 60), diagnostic services, outpatient rehabilitation and wellness areas, and ample space for community education. The ambulatory building is 75,000 square feet with offices for orthopedics, rheumatology, and musculoskeletal specialty care programming. It has three ambulatory surgery rooms, with the capacity to add two additional operating rooms.

The institute will meet a growing demand for musculoskeletal care driven by aging baby boomers with knee, hip, and other bone and joint problems. Hartford Hospital is first in the Greater Hartford area to offer MAKOplasty® for partial knee resurfacing and total hip replacement procedures, using a surgeon-controlled robotic arm system that enables more precise alignment and placement of implants.

A fragility clinic will help seniors prevent bone fractures. More than 2 million patients suffer these fractures each year – more than suffer from heart attacks, strokes and breast cancer combined.

The institute will also provide world-class sports medicine care to weekend warriors and elite athletes alike. A specialized motion lab will help athletes of any age prevent injuries, but for those who need surgical interventions, the institute has recognized experts in arthroscopic and minimally invasive surgical techniques.

The institute expects to see its first patient in December.

Courtland Lewis, MD
Physician-in-Chief, Hartford HealthCare Bone & Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital
The bad news: Four in 10 people will be diagnosed with cancer at some point during their lifetime.

The good news: There have been significant improvements in early detection and improved treatments over the past 25 years, resulting in a 26 percent decrease in overall cancer death rates.

Dr. Andrew Salner, medical director of the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute at Hartford Hospital, said progress has increased exponentially over the past five years, thanks to a better understanding of tumor biology which has led to development of targeted agents that can extend survival in certain patients.

As Hartford Hospital’s Helen & Harry Gray Cancer Center celebrated its 25th anniversary, the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute marked 2015 as a year of significant and unprecedented growth, and the start of participation in clinical trials that are a focal point of charter membership in the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Alliance. Moreover, Dr. Peter Paul Yu, an internationally respected cancer expert with more than 30 years of experience and leadership in the field, was appointed the physician-in-chief of the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute.

Yu will work with staff to ensure a single, elevated standard of world-class care for our patients with cancer, right here at Hartford Hospital.

More access to clinical trials for cancer patients

Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) in New York City is known for innovative cancer treatment and research. Now, patients undergoing treatment at the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute, including Hartford Hospital, have access to those promising and potentially groundbreaking advances in research and treatment without traveling to New York City.

Access to leading-edge clinical trials is part of the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute’s membership in the MSK Cancer Alliance, which brings state-of-the-art standards of care into communities.

MSK clinical trials and research protocols are available to patients treated at any of the five cancer centers that make up the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute – Hartford Hospital, Backus Hospital, Windham Hospital, The Hospital of Central Connecticut and MidState Medical Center.

The trials are open to patients for the treatment of a variety of cancer types, including breast cancer, bladder cancer, pancreatic cancer and ovarian cancer, as well as multiple myeloma. Upcoming studies are expected to be opened for patients with colorectal and lung cancer, as well as Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

“Our goal is to add to our existing portfolio of studies and to offer a comprehensive array of clinical trials for patients with common and uncommon cancers treated at the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute,” said Ellen Dornelas, PhD, director of the Cancer Clinical Research Office.
Avon Cancer Center offers calming environment, innovative care

Cancer treatment can be frightening, as well as difficult, for both patients and their families. The staff at the Avon center of the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute at Hartford Hospital tries to make receiving treatment a little easier by providing what they call “a soft touch.”

The center is located in a quiet, picturesque setting just off Route 10. Patients receive treatment from the same physicians who provide care at Hartford Hospital but in a community environment. The décor is soothing and the staff are welcoming.

“It’s a beautiful center that provides innovative technology and expertise close to home. Patients who live in the Farmington Valley and Litchfield County especially appreciate the ability to receive highly sophisticated care in Avon without needing to travel into Hartford,” said Abbi Bruce, RN, Hartford Region director, Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute.

An added bonus to the Avon center is that patients can walk right down the hall from radiation or chemotherapy to Hartford Hospital’s Integrative Medicine Department, which focuses on reducing pain and stress through massage, acupuncture, yoga and other therapies. The department’s calming treatment rooms quickly make patients feel relaxed, according to Eric R. Secor, ND, PhD, MPH, LAc, integrative medicine physician and associate medical director of the department. “People say when they walk in and sit down, they feel better,” he said.

The center is located in Avon Park North, 80 Fisher Dr., just off Route 10 and less than a mile north of Route 44. Parking is easy and free.

*For more information, call 860.696.1000.*

An outdoor relaxation area with a soothing waterfall and lily pond at the Avon Cancer Center.
Nurse Helen Perez sits in the Hartford Hospital Chapel observing a moment of silence in respect for those who have passed.
Hartford Hospital treats some of the sickest patients in the state. In fact, in FY 2016, more than 6,130 patients transferred to the hospital for the high level of complex care we provide. Unfortunately, not all patients survive their illness or injury, despite the extensive efforts made by the staff.

“The passing of a patient is a difficult moment for loved ones and for the dedicated staff who have cared for and worked to sustain the life of the patient,” said Cheryl Ficara, vice president, Patient Services, Hartford Region. “Yet the pace of the work pulls staff into the next case and allows no time for the emotions that are naturally part of the staff’s reaction to a patient death.”

Helen Perez, RN, BSN, CCRN, Cardiothoracic Surgical ICU, decided that some closure or coping mechanism concerning a patient’s death was needed and helped to implement “The Pause” on one of the units. When a patient passes, all the staff involved in the patient’s care are invited to meet in the patient’s room for a moment of silence to honor the patient and recognize each other for their efforts.

Carol Strycharz, RN, clinical leader, Palliative Medicine, said response to “The Pause” has been overwhelmingly positive and will be implemented throughout the hospital. “It’s a chance to recognize that a life was lost and to acknowledge all the feelings that go along with that,” Perez said. “It is a chance for closure, and, hopefully, it brings a feeling of peace.”

“It is a chance for closure, and, hopefully, it brings a feeling of peace.”

“The Pause” was an idea that originated from Jonathan Bartels, an Emergency Department nurse at The University of Virginia Medical Center. It was published in the February 2014 edition of Critical Care Nurse. At Hartford Hospital, Mary Kate Eanniello, RN, DNP, OCN, oncology nurse educator, was instrumental in spreading awareness about its importance.
Helping new mothers deal with a dark secret

After giving birth to her second child, Heather (a Hartford Hospital employee) had a deep, dark secret. She had thoughts about hurting herself and her new baby boy. She knew she needed help but didn’t know where to go. For a year, she and her husband struggled. Today, there’s help for post-partum depression at Hartford Hospital’s Institute of Living (IOL). Heather helped establish the IOL’s Peripartum Mood Disorder Program, which was implemented with a grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and through collaboration among the IOL, Women’s Health at Hartford Hospital and OB/GYNs in the community.

For more information or help, call 860.545.7104.

Studying hoarding

Hartford Hospital’s Institute of Living (IOL) is world-renowned for treating mental health issues and for research to develop new treatments. Dr. David Tolin, founder and director of the IOL’s Anxiety Disorders Center, is conducting research into hoarding, a type of obsessive compulsive disorder. The primary symptom is the inability to part with possessions and the primary treatment so far has been counseling.

Tolin, an expert on hoarding, and colleagues at the IOL are leading a clinical study to determine what therapy works best for hoarders and how counseling can re-direct pathways in the brain to enable patients to make healthier decisions. Study participants engage in a 16-week course of cognitive behavioral therapy that encourages them to set goals and teaches them ways to manage the emotional upset associated with clearing up the clutter. Brain scans taken throughout the treatment will help researchers identify areas of the brain that might be affected by the disorder and, potentially the treatment. Tolin hopes the study will help create more targeted and effective approaches to treating hoarding disorder.

For more information, visit www.Hoardingresearch.com or call 860.545.7039.

Behavioral health book called “masterwork” by experts

Dr. David Tolin, founder and director of the Institute of Living’s Anxiety Disorders Center, has published a new book on cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) that is being received by experts in the field as a “masterwork.” The book, “Doing CBT: A Comprehensive Guide to Working with Behaviors, Thoughts and Emotions,” is a resource for fellow practitioners. In the book, Tolin explains in plain language the core concepts and effective techniques for addressing the behavioral, cognitive and emotional elements of psychological problems. The book also features a number of case studies. “Publication of this book is a very major achievement,” said Dr. Harold I. (Hank) Schwartz, psychiatrist-in-chief at the IOL. Tolin is the author of more than 150 scientific journal articles, as well as two other books on psychiatric disorders.
Eye Surgery Center offers state-of-the-art advanced surgical eye care

The Hartford Hospital Eye Surgery Center in Newington, conveniently located in a suburban medical office park at 505 Willard Avenue, is well known for advanced technology, innovation and its compassionate staff. Over 98% of all patients are extremely satisfied with their care. Its state-of-the-art design was built, equipped and staffed to provide the most advanced and highest quality eye care available. Over 40 board-certified ophthalmologists perform eye surgery in the center’s four operating rooms. Many of the surgeons are fellowship trained and continuing education for the highly trained staff is a priority. The center, which is Medicare-certified and accredited by the Joint Commission, was the first in New England to use innovative laser technology to perform bladeless laser-assisted cataract surgery with unprecedented precision – without a scalpel. Access to advanced lens replacement technology allows many patients to reduce their need for glasses. In addition to performing over 8,000 cataract surgeries per year, the center performs advanced surgical procedures for glaucoma and corneal diseases.

For more information about the center and its innovative treatments call 1.855.HHC.EYES.
Hartford HealthCare is building a premier, nationally recognized Neuroscience Institute whose vision is to rival and partner with the top names in the country, while being acknowledged as the regional leader in patient-centered, innovative care. Each year, more than 50 million Americans experience a disorder of the brain or nervous system, including strokes, brain tumors, chronic headaches, spinal cord injuries, severe back and neck pain, seizures, Parkinson’s disease, and memory, sleep and movement disorders.

Hartford Hospital’s Neuroscience Institute offers these patients specialty care to treat and manage their symptoms and allow them to live a healthier life. In specialized comprehensive treatment centers, the Institute's physicians utilize state-of-the-art technology and techniques, and some of the most advanced treatments available in the nation, all aimed at giving every patient the best possible outcome.

**Hartford Hospital’s neurosurgery program**

The neurosurgical program provides care to patients with injury to and diseases of the brain, spine, and peripheral nerves, including head and spinal trauma, cerebrovascular disorders, brain and spinal tumors, movement disorders, skull-based diseases, epilepsy, stroke, aneurysm, and neck and back pain. The program has one of the highest surgical volumes in New England, with over 1,700 surgical cases per year. The hospital provides a 24/7 neurosurgery call team and 24/7 in-house neurosurgical physician assistants. A state-of-the-art neurosurgical intensive care unit combines a multidisciplinary team approach, allowing streamlined and high-quality care.

**Comprehensive Stroke Center**

A stroke is a medical emergency usually caused by a blood clot blocking a blood vessel in the brain. Every minute that passes from the onset of stroke symptoms to the start of treatment can make a difference in how well a patient’s brain, arms, legs, speech or thinking ability recover. The Comprehensive Stroke Center at Hartford Hospital offers patients fast access to the best available treatments, from delivering clot-busting medications; to pulling clots mechanically from a catheter; or surgically treating brain bleeds. The Comprehensive Stroke Center is the largest stroke center in New England, with approximately 1,000 cases per year. The center includes a multidisciplinary team of care providers, two dedicated angiography suites, 24/7 advanced imaging capabilities, a neurovascular clinic, and a unique telehealth network. Hartford Hospital conducts a stroke research program, with numerous clinical trials, publications, and investigator-initiated projects.

**Sleep Disorders Program**

Hartford Hospital’s Sleep Disorders Program provides a comprehensive and personalized approach to the care of patients being tested and treated for obstructive sleep apnea and other sleep disorders. Hartford Hospital sleep labs are accredited by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine and house state-of-the-art equipment. The sleep labs perform over 2,000 studies annually, offering in-lab as well as home sleep testing.

Putting our heads together: the Neuroscience Institute at Hartford Hospital
Comprehensive Epilepsy Center

Hartford Hospital’s Comprehensive Epilepsy Center offers individualized, coordinated care through a team of epilepsy experts, a dedicated six-bed inpatient epilepsy monitoring unit, an outpatient seizure clinic, and outpatient neurodiagnostic capabilities. It is at the forefront in delivering cutting-edge diagnosis and treatment for the most complex cases of epilepsy, a disorder in which nerve cell activity in the brain is disturbed, causing seizures. The Epilepsy Center has aspirations of becoming a level IV Comprehensive Epilepsy Center, offering a full complement of care to patients in the state and beyond.

Headache Center

About 36 million people in the United States, the vast majority of them women, suffer from debilitating migraine headaches. The specialists at the Hartford HealthCare Headache Center examine triggers and symptoms to find the most effective treatment options for each individual. We offer many of the most current techniques available such as Botox injections, bio-behavioral stress reduction, occipital and other peripheral nerve blocks, and trigger point injections. For those with headaches that are particularly debilitating, relentless or nausea-producing, the center is one of very few places in the country offering intravenous drug infusion therapy.

Movement Disorders Center

The Movement Disorders Center gives patients with Parkinson’s disease and other movement disorders a path to improved quality of life with treatment options that range from medication to neurosurgery. The region’s first facility of its type, the center combines the diagnostic and therapeutic skills of prominent specialists with ongoing clinical research to provide effective treatment for movement disorders. The center offers a personal and compassionate approach to a comprehensive treatment, while embedding interprofessional services to provide care along the entire continuum. Treatment plans include collaboration with alternative therapies, palliative care, physiatry/EMG, rehabilitative services, neuropsychology, health psychology, dementia services, social services, dermatology and, primary care physicians.

Hearing & Balance Center

The Hearing & Balance Center provides comprehensive services that include inner-ear balance testing, access to physical therapy, and advanced therapies for patients with hearing loss or deafness not related to balance disorders. The center’s patients have access to bone-anchored hearing aids, cochlear implants, conventional hearing aids, and advanced surgeries. The Hearing & Balance Center also operates a Dizziness Clinic, which provides an interdisciplinary network of care providers and treatments tailored for the specific diagnoses associated with vertigo.

Brian Grosberg, MD
Medical Director, Headache Center

J. Antonelle de Marcaida, MD
Co-Medical Director, Movement Disorders Center

Duarte Machado, MD
Co-Medical Director, Movement Disorders Center
When it comes to saving lives, the sky is no limit.

Hartford Hospital’s LIFE STAR, a critical-care transport helicopter, flies an average of three times a day, bringing critically ill patients within a 150-mile radius to the hospital from wherever a medical emergency takes place.

Because minutes can mean life or death in a serious trauma situation, LIFE STAR is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and has priority over every other plane in its air space, except that of the U.S. president.

LIFE STAR teams have transported more than 32,000 patients in its 30-year history, mostly to Hartford Hospital’s Level 1 Trauma Center. The crew members have saved literally thousands of lives.

Every time LIFE STAR flies, about 60 people spring into action: the five-member crew which consists of a pilot, flight nurse, flight respiratory therapist, mechanic and communication specialist; and the nurses, doctors, and ICU specialists based at the hospital.

LIFE STAR was the first air transport team in the nation to receive the Silver Beacon Award for Excellence from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. Traditionally given to hospital ICUs, the award recognizes caregivers in stellar units whose care optimizes patient outcomes.

At the helm

Hartford Hospital’s first helicopter traveled from Provo, Utah, to Hartford in June 1985. It was piloted by Rocky Mountain Helicopters’ Richard Magner and Tom Barclay, both of whom then became the first LIFE STAR pilots at Hartford Hospital.

Both Magner and Barclay retired in May 2016 after 31 years of service with LIFE STAR. Their careers included hundreds of flights, which included responding to the Connecticut Lottery headquarters shootings in 1998.

In 1969, Magner’s own life had been saved by a medical helicopter crew in Vietnam when the chopper he was flying came under heavy fire and he took a bullet in the jaw.

Henry Churchill, formerly of LifeNet of New York Air Medical Program, became LIFE STAR’s newest pilot after Magner and Barclay’s departure. As a boy, Churchill worked at Hartford’s Brainard Airport, where he frequently interacted with the LIFE STAR crew and became interested in aviation.

<<< Stuart Markowitz addressing the audience at the 30th Anniversary of the LIFE STAR program
Because every moment matters

Henry Churchill, Pilot in Command
Rebecca Robinson, RN, Paramedic
Colleen Scanlon, Flight Respiratory Therapist

left to right
Improving surroundings and services for new moms in Labor & Delivery

Women who are delivering babies at Hartford Hospital and their families can now enjoy newly renovated rooms with beautiful decor, comfortable furniture, and the availability of a new pain control method.

The 16 newly renovated labor and delivery rooms have new flooring and wall coverings; new furniture including a visitor sleeper sofa; and cherry laminate woodwork.

The 38 renovated postpartum rooms also include special sink tops for bathing babies, heat lamps, LED lighting and new interactive TV systems. The renovated rooms were all designed to accommodate new electronic health record computers and fetal-monitoring systems.

When settled in the soothing new rooms, laboring women can choose to receive nitrous oxide, otherwise known as “laughing gas,” to relieve pain and help them relax. Hartford Hospital is one of just a few hospitals in Connecticut to offer this new pain control method.

The gas is odorless, tasteless and provides a mild analgesic effect for labor pain. It’s used throughout the world for this purpose and has proved very effective for many women. During labor, the patient inhales the nitrous oxide through a mask that she holds over her nose and mouth. The gas only flows when she inhales from the mask, so she has control of the dose. Nitrous oxide is commonly used in dental offices, but is used in a different concentration for women in labor.

The Hartford Hospital Auxiliary provided funding for four nitrous oxide pumps, which became available to patients June 20, 2016.

We give back

Working with Malta House of Care to provide free care to the uninsured.

The emergency room at Hartford Hospital is often filled with city residents who are poor, unemployed, and have nowhere else to get medical care. In the ER, they get treatment for their immediate complaint, but not the ongoing long-term care they often need. Hartford Hospital is working with other non-profit organizations to reduce economic health disparities and provide more equitable access to integrated primary care. One of those organizations is the Malta House of Care, whose mission it is to provide free primary health care to the uninsured. Hartford Hospital provides financial support and free services, and some of our staff members volunteer to work in the program.

A medical clinic aboard a 36-foot Winnebago, the Malta House of Care provides free clinic visits, lab work, radiological imaging and ongoing necessary medications to uninsured residents. Four afternoons a week, the van parks outside a Hartford church or shelter and takes patients on a first-come, first-served basis.

Since it opened its doors in 2006, the Malta House of Care clinic has provided more than 38,000 free patient visits through a volunteer staff of more than 40 physicians, nurses and other healthcare personnel.

About 4,000 patients are treated by the Malta House clinic each year. Most of them have at least one underlying chronic illness, such as diabetes, high blood pressure or asthma, and return to the clinic repeatedly for continuing care.

These patients are now on a road to better health, and their success has a positive effect on their families and their communities as a whole.
Because every moment matters

Tallwood Urology & Kidney Institute: a system-wide resource

In 2013, an anonymous donor endowed Hartford Hospital with a gift to launch the Tallwood Urology & Kidney Institute, created to improve the coordination of care and consistently excellent clinical outcomes for patients with urologic and kidney diseases. In 2015, the Tallwood Institute became a system-wide resource, coordinating expert care for patients from throughout the Hartford HealthCare system. Many patients for whom other treatments have failed come here for the best solutions to even the most frustrating urology problems.

Tallwood’s urologists and nephrologists (kidney doctors) are recognized local and national leaders in their fields. Patients get the very highest standard of urology and kidney care at every level of treatment – from the hospital to continuing care at home. Through the Tallwood Institute, providers come together in six disease management teams treating urologic and kidney diseases:

- **Urologic Cancer**: Tallwood’s Urology Oncology team is part of the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute. A collaborative team of oncologists, pathologists, radiologists and research nurses offers the most comprehensive treatment programs for adrenal, bladder, kidney, penile, prostate and testicular cancers.

- **Kidney Stones**: Over the last decade, there has been an 85% increase in the number of emergency room visits for kidney stones. The Tallwood interdisciplinary team often tackles larger, more complicated stones with procedures such as percutaneous nephrostomy, whereby a tube is precisely inserted into the kidney to remove the stone; and lithotripsy, which breaks up the stones with shockwaves.

- **Men’s Health and Sexual Function**: As they age, many men are affected by urologic problems and diseases such as erectile dysfunction, Peyronie’s Disease or enlarged prostate. The Tallwood team makes certain that each man’s care plan is comprehensive, using medication and/or surgery to return him to optimum sexual function and urologic health.

- **Chronic Kidney Disease**: Kidneys normally filter blood to remove waste products, but if they have not been working right, patients can experience life-threatening heart, bone and brain problems. The Tallwood team of urologists and nephrologists provide state-of-the-art care for chronic kidney disease patients, focused on early treatment for better outcomes.

- **Pelvic Health and Incontinence**: With fellowship training in pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery, neurourology, urodynamics and female pelvic medicine, the Tallwood team leads the region in minimally invasive procedures for treating pelvic organ prolapse and urinary incontinence.

- **General Urology**: Tallwood’s urologists assess and treat a number of common urology problems, from urinary tract infections to congenital urologic conditions requiring consistent monitoring and sometimes surgical intervention. The team cares for men and women with urinary tract problems, as well as issues of the male reproductive organs.
Simulation center training promotes patient safety and improved medical team performance

Where does the U.S. Navy send its undersea medical officers to practice treating trauma, cardiac and other medical cases? To Hartford Hospital’s Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation (CESI), where the mission is to promote excellence in clinical care, advance patient safety and improve multidisciplinary team performance through high-fidelity medical simulation. Currently, Hartford Hospital’s CESI is one of only 15 such centers recognized nationally.

A 20,000-square-foot training facility, CESI is one of the few facilities in the United States to offer a fully comprehensive range of robotic and high-technology training opportunities. A wide range of medical crisis scenarios can be recreated using simulation mannequins in a safe, flexible, and realistic teaching environment. Working in this environment broadens the simulator’s capabilities to mimic multiple types of acute crises and patient care scenarios.

Navy physicians come to Hartford to train four times a year at CESI, which trained more than 11,000 medical professionals in FY 2015 including visitors from Brazil, Argentina and Israel. The Navy recently renewed its contract for another 3 years.

In addition to training medical professionals, CESI is offering free training to first responders (police, fire and rescue personnel) to improve survivability in mass casualty events. Each training session will be offered to a group of 10 first responders from one area town. Together, the team will learn and practice tasks, gaining new understanding of lifesaving skills, protocols, leadership roles and common language.

Thanks to a $143,800 grant from the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority, CESI staff will provide free training for 10 learners each month over a two-year period. The goal is to train 240 first responders who subsequently can help train their team members to better address victims’ medical needs and help save lives.
Paving the way to better care through research

In 2016, staff at Hartford HealthCare participated in hundreds of medical research studies, designed to test, improve and advance new drugs, devices and methods of treatment that save and better people’s lives. Perhaps the most familiar form of medical research is the cancer clinical trial, in which patients volunteer to participate in studies to test the efficacy and safety of new medical interventions. This kind of research is well-known by the public: 94 percent of people surveyed had heard of clinical trials; 65 percent felt clinical trials are important, and 35 percent said they would be likely to enroll in a clinical trial.

The Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute is assuming an active, advanced role in cancer research through its membership in the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Alliance. The institute is participating in 26 MSK clinical trials in seven cancer types: gynecologic, breast, bladder, head and neck, urinary, pancreatic, and myeloma-related.

Less well known by the public is the broad range of medical research going on here in fields other than cancer – ranging from psychiatry and anesthesia to surgery and cardiology and beyond.

Here’s a small sample of research at Hartford Hospital:

- **Dr. David Tolin** is leading a clinical study to try to determine the best kind of therapy for patients with hoarding disorder.
- **Drs. Courtland Lewis and Rick Sheppard** are investigators for the REGAIN Trial, a multicenter study designed to evaluate post-operative patient outcomes and independence levels following surgery with general or regional anesthesia.
- **Drs. Godfrey Pearlson and Michael Stevens** were awarded a several-million-dollar grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to study the effects of smoked marijuana on the brain and driving risk.
- **The Institute of Living’s Anxiety Disorders Center** is conducting a research study to help children who may be suffering from school-related stress.
- **Breast surgeon Dr. Kristen Zarfos** has launched a five-year study to look at the effectiveness of breast ultrasound screenings in diagnosing African-American women ages 25 to 39 years old, who seem to be at higher risk for developing aggressive breast tumors.
- **Dr. Katie Propst** was awarded a grant from the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists to fund research in minimally invasive gynecology surgery.
- **Several Hartford HealthCare partners are collaborating** on research to determine if “virtual” physical therapy sessions improve recovery following joint replacement surgery.
- **The first two patients in Connecticut with severe aortic stenosis** who were considered low risk for conventional surgical aortic valve replacement were successfully treated with TAVR using the Edwards valve as part of the recently approved Partner 3 trial. In both patients, the procedure was successful with complete abolishment of their aortic valve gradient and with no evidence of paravalvular aortic insufficiency. The procedures were performed by Dr. David Underhill, Dr. Immad Sadiq, Dr. Francis Kiernan and Dr. Raymond McKay. All patients with aortic stenosis, regardless of their risk for conventional surgery, can now be considered as potential TAVR candidates.
Good Works for Hartford Hospital

When the Hartford Hospital Auxiliary was founded in 1921, its members made bandages needed by the hospital. Today, the Auxiliary donates more than $650,000 each year to Hartford Hospital with one goal in mind: to make a difference in the community by supporting the values of Caring, Safety, Excellence and Integrity.

2016 started with yet another record-breaking golf tournament, which donated $150,000 to its beneficiary, Nursing Education and Research. Additionally, the partnership with Faber International at the Auxiliary Store has become a beneficial endeavor. Beyond Golf Tournament proceeds and earnings from the partnership with Au Bon Pain, the increased store revenue allowed the Auxiliary to fund more than $393,791 in spring and fall projects for 2016. A few of the funded projects for 2016 included:

- **$23,000** BreathHold ES device for Radiation Oncology
- **$26,504** virtual reality treatment for the Anxiety Disorder Center
- **$23,439** sensory-based comfort rooms for the Webb School
- **$24,261** 12 safe patient handling transfer devices
- **$122,927** five specialized ultrasound machines, including a GE LOGIQe unit, a Site Rite ultrasound vein illuminator, two handheld machines, and a Sonosite point-of-care ultrasound for use in the Emergency Department
- **$35,000** new patient gowns
- **$5,459** post laryngectomy prothesis for Speech Language

The Auxiliary was honored to be one of the early supporters of the multi-phase master facilities plan, anchored by the Bone & Joint Institute, pledging $2 million to the lead phase of the Hartford Hospital Capital Campaign. Additionally, the Auxiliary has also provided a total of $350,000 toward the renovation of the Brownstone over the last two years.

While the Auxiliary has evolved since its founding 95 years ago, it remains a critical partner for the hospital in improving the health of its community. A simple way to support these efforts is to shop at the Auxiliary Store or eat at the Au Bon Pain cafe; each purchase directly benefits the Auxiliary’s revenue, to be donated back for Good Works for Hartford Hospital.

Employee of the year

Presented April 2016

Joe Pedemonti is an educational coordinator at The Webb Schools, a therapeutic day school at Hartford Hospital’s Institute of Living. He has worked at the Institute of Living for 21 years. Pedemonti was instrumental in creating the The Webb Schools’ first Credit Recovery Classroom, which enables high school students to recover credits they’ve lost and continue their education. Since the program’s inception three years ago, nine students have earned their high school diplomas, and more than 20 have recovered lost credits and transitioned back to school.

In addition to his work at the school, Pedemonti is also involved in the Zero Suicide Champions group, which aspires to prevent suicides.
Teams of the year  The awards were presented at the annual State of the Hospital meeting in November 2015.

ADAPT Team (Actions for Delirium Assessment, Prevention & Treatment)
Hartford Hospital’s Clinical Team of the Year

Hartford Hospital’s ADAPT Team developed a process to recognize and identify delirium more quickly so treatment and management of the illness could begin sooner. Their process also involves taking steps early to prevent patient delirium, a very serious condition associated with high rates of mortality and complications, including falls, dehydration and malnutrition, which lead to further medical issues. Long-term delirium can even lead to permanent cognitive impairment. Research shows that nearly 40 percent of delirium episodes are preventable and that early treatment improves outcomes. The care process developed by this team has resulted in decreased patient hospitalizations and readmissions. The team’s work has been nationally recognized as a best practice and as contributing to the scientific body of knowledge on delirium prevention, treatment and management.

Noise Reduction Team
Hartford Hospital’s Clinical Support Team of the Year

Hartford Hospital’s Noise Reduction Team, made up of staff members from throughout the hospital, developed a campaign to reduce hospital noise so patients can rest and sleep better, which can result in quicker recovery. With its HUSH Campaign (Help Us Support Healing), the team developed flyers, posters and computer screensavers to alert all staff about the need for quiet. They also appointed a physician's assistant on each nursing unit as the HUSH contact person and encouraged the following to reduce noise: Closing patient room doors and dimming hallway lights at night; making earplugs, sleep masks and TV head-phones available; using Yacker Tracker stop lights and HUSH signs to remind staff to keep their voices down; repairing and replacing noisy equipment such as doors and carts; and decreasing overhead paging. Since the campaign began, the environment is quieter, and patient satisfaction has increased.
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Courtland Lewis, MD
Physician-in-Chief
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Jan Ruderman
Director
Hartford HealthCare Tallwood Urology & Kidney Institute

Steven Shichman, MD
Medical Director
Hartford HealthCare Tallwood Urology & Kidney Institute

Paul D. Thompson, MD
Co-Physician-in-Chief
Hartford HealthCare Heart & Vascular Institute

Peter Yu, MD
Physician-in-Chief
Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute
Community benefit  year ended 9.30.2015

- $6,412,860 Cash and in-kind contributions to community
- $5,263,159 Research
- $2,930,483 Subsidized health services
- $43,458,242 Health professions education
- $2,239,461 Community health improvement services and community benefit operations
- $83,910,913 Unreimbursed Medicaid
- $7,559,818 Charity care at cost

Total Community Benefit $151,774,936
Because every moment matters.

**Statistical highlights**

- Transitions from Inpatient Care:
  - 2016: 43,336
  - 2015: 43,350

- Patient Days:
  - 2016: 233,354
  - 2015: 230,835

- Emergency Department Visits:
  - 2016: 108,219
  - 2015: 107,532

- Total Surgeries:
  - 2016: 42,878
  - 2015: 42,293

- Outpatient Visits:
  - 2016: 106,007
  - 2015: 111,019

- Births:
  - 2016: 3,864
  - 2015: 3,754

As of press time, financials were in the process of being audited.
Medical officers

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President of Staff

Matthew L. Saidel, MD
Vice President of Staff

William V. Sardella, MD
Treasurer of Staff

Beth Brady, MD
Secretary of Staff

Medical staff

Our medical staff includes some of the nation’s most-respected physicians and advanced practitioners. They are talented, compassionate and committed to providing patients with the best possible care.

A complete list of our medical staff can be viewed on our Hartford Hospital web site: www.hartfordhospital.org/findaphysician
Clinical chiefs

Agnes Andrea Jani-Ascadi, MD
Neurology (Interim)

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Otorhinolaryngology

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Obstetrics & Gynecology

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Radiology

Jonathan Gates, MD
Surgery

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Cardiac Surgery

Victor C. Herson, MD
Pediatrics/Neonatal

Ajay Kumar, MD
Medicine

Inam U. Kureshi, MD
Neurosurgery

Courtland G. Lewis, MD
Orthopedics

Jerry Neuwirth, MD
Ophthalmology

Peter Pasquullo, DDS
Dentistry/General Dentistry

William T. Pastuszak, MD
Pathology/Lab Medicine

Kenneth Robinson, MD
Emergency Medicine

Andrew L. Salner, MD
Radiation Oncology

Harold I. Schwartz, MD
Psychiatry

Patricia A. Sheiner, MD
Surgery/Transplantation

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Urology

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Medicine/Cardiology

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Anesthesiology
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Ellen Blair, APRN, NEA-BC
Psychiatry

Amy Schroder, RN, MSN, CNML
Women's Health & Ambulatory Care Services

Michael Davis, RN, BSN, MBA, NEA-BC
Medicine/IV Therapy/Oncology/Respiratory Care Services

Karen Habig, RN, MS
Cardiology/Cardiac Surgery

Kim Hayes, RN, BSN, CNOR
Orthopedics

Michele Kolios, RN, BSN, MS
Critical Care

Beth Lawlor, RN, BSN, MS, CCM, CPHM, NEA-BC
Care Continuum

Gail Nelson, RN, MS, NEA-BC
Regulatory Readiness & Nursing Operations

Gwen Richardson, RN, MSN, CNOR
Periop Professional Practice

Maria Tackett, RN, EdD, CCRN, CEN
Professional Practice

Susanne Yeakel, RN, MSN, NEA-BC, CNML
Surgery Services/Wound Care/Ostomy Program
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Heather Carroll, RN, and Anna-Rae LeClaire, RN, in front of Hartford Hospital.

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Oliver Grant Terry and Amelia Smith Terry Fund
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Thrift Shop Nursing Education Fund
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Jane Tuttle Free Bed Fund for Nurses, etc.*
Miles A. Tuttle Free Bed Fund
Sarah Tuttle Free Bed Fund
u/w/o Jane Tuttle
William F. Tuttle Free Bed Fund
u/codicil to Will of Jane Tuttle*

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continued on next page
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William R. Morgan Trust
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Elsie M. S. Hills Fund
Stephen Hills Fund
Mrs. Henry P. Hitchcock
Charles L. Hubbard Fund
Keney Fund
George Rice Lester Fund

Trust Funds held by the Treasurer of the Hartford Hospital: Jefferson House:

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Louise S. Bunce Fund
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Caroline L. Cooley
Josephine H. Davis Fund
Charles E. Fox Fund
u/w/o Frederick K. Fox
Bernadine D. Gale Fund
Charles S. Goodwin Fund
u/w/o Charles L. Goodwin
Jessie I. Herriman Fund
Elsie M. S. Hills Fund
Stephen Hills Fund
Mrs. Henry P. Hitchcock
Charles L. Hubbard Fund
Keney Fund
George Rice Lester Fund

Those starred are “Free Bed” funds which have been given to enable the hospital to provide care to any and all, based on financial need on application.
Affiliations

**Primary affiliate of:**
The University of Connecticut School of Medicine, for both undergraduate and graduate medical education. Hartford Hospital has four residencies and 14 integrated residencies in conjunction with the Capital Area Health Consortium. The hospital also sponsors one affiliated Rushford Center fellowship, 13 Hartford Hospital fellowships and 12 fellowships in conjunction with the Capital Area Health Consortium.

**Affiliate and partner of:**
Dartmouth Medical School for undergraduate medical education.

**Nursing affiliations:**

**Associate degree**
Capital Community College

**Baccalaureate degree**
Central Connecticut State University
Northeastern University
Quinnipiac University
Saint Joseph College
Saint Joseph College of Maine
Southern Connecticut State University
University of Connecticut
University of Hartford

**Master’s degree**
Boston College
Fairfield University
Quinnipiac University
Sacred Heart University
Saint Joseph University
State University of New York
University of Connecticut
University of Hartford
University of Massachusetts – Boston
University of Massachusetts – Worcester
Yale University
Edmond Beqiri, PA-C (left), Mary Bycholski, APRN (center), and Wendi Carroll, APRN (right) enjoy the mild Autumn weather.
Because every moment matters