

Smilow Update: June 30, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Blood Drives

The Blood Bank is experiencing a severe shortage of group O red blood cell due to persistent local demand and very limited national supplies/collections. Please contact the Blood Bank at 203-688-2443 with any questions or if large volume red blood cell needs are anticipated within your service.

If you are able to donate, please visit the [Red Cross website](#) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Upcoming Blood Drives at Harkness: June 30, July 19, July 20, July 27, August 10, August 12, & August 18

Upcoming Blood Drives at 55 Park Street: July 7, July 20, July 27, August 4, August 10, & August 12

New Radiation Oncology CT Simulators

The Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Guilford will soon boast a Philips Big Bore RT CT Scanner for radiation treatment planning. The Big Bore RT was first available in 2018 and allows for full visualization and positioning devices to accommodate all patients and increased accuracy in imaging and planning, and accelerated time to treatment. Increasingly precise treatment planning is available through enhanced accuracy in lesion identification, tissue density calculation, and segmentation. A second Big Bore RT is scheduled for installation in New Haven later this summer.

Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Town Hall

Please join us for our monthly Town Hall meeting for the Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital community **Thursday, July 1 at 5pm** for discussion and updates on the Clinical Trials Office, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, the Yale Center for Immuno-Oncology, and Ambulatory Care Delivery.

Screening at Entrances

At end of business day, Friday July 2, Yale New Haven Health will be ending COVID screening across the Health System in both inpatient and ambulatory settings. Starting July 3, we will no longer be taking temperatures at point of entry at any inpatient or ambulatory site. All patients and visitors must continue to stop, check in, and review symptom screening questions to receive a sticker/pass before entering the hospital.

Visitor Policy

As of Friday, June 25, all COVID negative adult inpatients are allowed to have two visitors per day. These visitors may come together or separately, with a maximum of two people visiting per day. Additional visitors are allowed for patients at immediate end of life or in other special circumstances. In addition, visitors in who are under 18 are now allowed accompanied by an adult.

Purple Team Update

Our purple team and their admitted patients returned back to main campus as of Monday, June 7th. The purple team continues to cover the busy hematology and oncology consult service at Saint Raphael Campus (average of 3 to 7 new consults a day and an active list of 12 to 20 patients). They will also continue to cover elective hematology and oncology admissions on the York Street Campus with APP support. The general rules of triaging day and night admissions to purple will stay the same with a cap of patients set at 5 for now. We will closely monitor the situation in the next weeks and months as the hospitalist program rolls out with a focus on improving the workload for all teams.

NCCN COVID-19 Vaccination Guidelines

The National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) has released new guidance on COVID-19 vaccines for patients with cancer. Visit [NCCN.org/patientguidelines](https://www.nccn.org/patientguidelines) to share the COVID-19 patient guide. In addition, new updates to the [**NCCN: Cancer and COVID-19 Vaccination**](#) recommendations for healthcare providers have been posted.

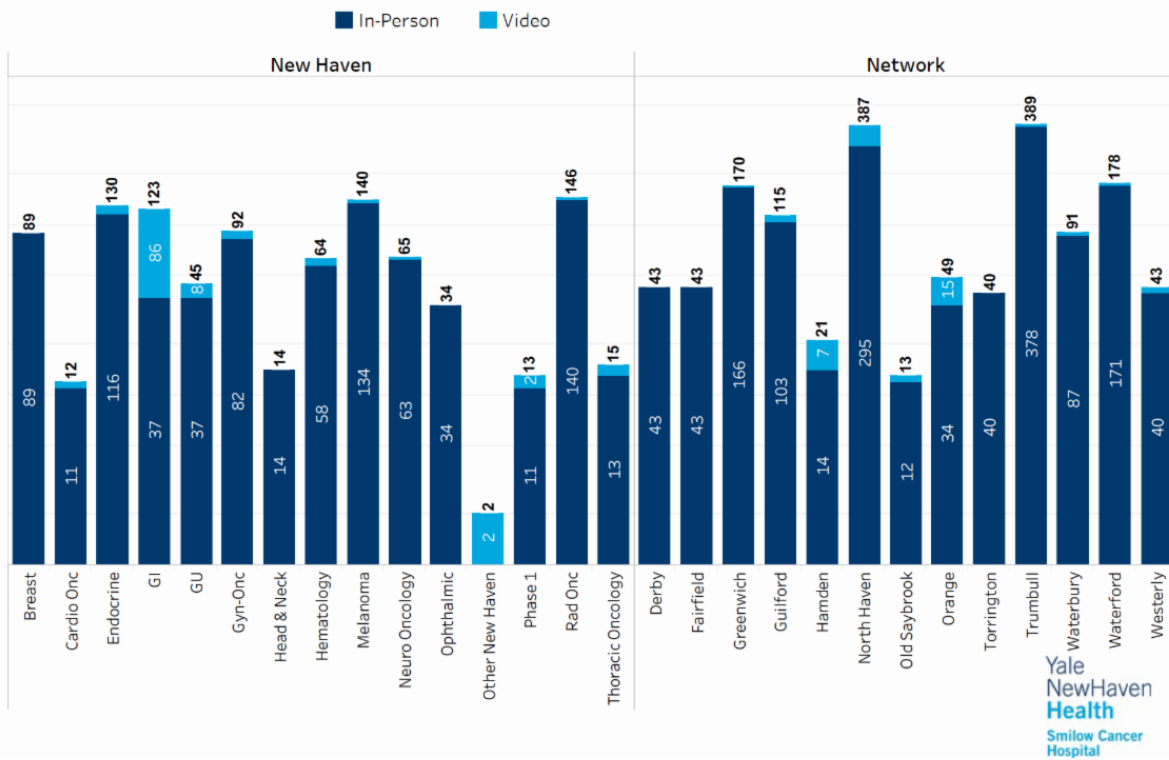
Emotional Wellness Webinars

Please join Tara Sanft, MD, Chief Experience Officer, and Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, Chief of Medical Oncology, along with co-presenters Robin Stern, PhD, and Marc Brackett, PhD, of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, for the remaining two sessions in the webinar series focused on Emotions. Please note, the Zoom information below is updated.

- Wednesday, July 6 at 12 noon: Expressing Emotions: Power, Race, Gender, and Culture. What are the factors that impact our comfort level and the rules around expressing emotions. Why do we mask our emotions? What are the implications?
- Wednesday July 21 at 12 noon: Regulating: From Breathing to Reframing. What are the most helpful ways for us to manage our emotions and to coregulate with others while taking into account individual differences and context, both in the short term and the long term.
- Join online: <https://yale.zoom.us/j/411184458>. Join by phone: 203-432-9666 Meeting ID: 411 184 458

New Patient Visits by Disease/Location:

(Disease team for New Haven departments and location for network departments)
May 2021



Smilow Star!

Barbara Pecor is a Patient Care Manager for the Center for Thoracic Cancers and has been a dedicated member of the team for the last several years. She is a tremendous asset to both the providers and patients and a natural extension of the team. Barbara has always gone above and beyond to ensure that the needs of our patients and families are met and they are connected with the appropriate resources for their health and safety in the community. She is compassionate, responsive, thorough, and collaborative with the interdisciplinary team members and works hard to think outside of the box when encountering limitations or barriers to care. Barbara has truly made magic happen for both the team and patients in challenging situations while demonstrating



sensitivity and compassion in her interactions. Kathryn Medow, APRN, noted, “Barbara seems to be able to work miracles, including getting a patient admitted to inpatient hospice at 4:45pm on the Friday before a holiday weekend.” Thank you for your commitment, Barbara!

Best regards,

Nita Ahuja, MD, MBA, FACS

Interim Director, Yale Cancer Center
Interim Physician-in-Chief, Smilow Cancer Hospital

Lori C. Pickens, MHA

Senior Vice President and Executive Director
Smilow Cancer Hospital

Kevin G. Billingsley, MD, MBA

Chief Medical Officer
Smilow Cancer Hospital

Kim Slusser, MSN, RN, CHPN, NEA-BC

Vice President for Patient Services
Smilow Cancer Hospital

Yale Cancer Center | www.yalecancercenter.org

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