

# UROLOGY

AT YALE | 2020

## Inside Urology at Yale

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### A MESSAGE FROM PETER G. SCHULAM, MD, PHD

Dear Colleagues,

The impact of COVID-19 across the Yale New Haven Health System has presented numerous challenges, pushing our resources and staffing into unprecedented territory. While we have all had to step out of our normal roles during this crisis, I am incredibly proud of the incredible efforts and flexibility made by so many across the Yale New Haven Health System and Yale Medicine and especially within Yale Urology. Every day brings new challenges, and your ability to pivot and adjust at a moment's notice to ensure the safety of our patients and caregivers cannot be understated.

Daily communications and COVID websites from Yale University, Yale School of Medicine, Yale New Haven Health, and Yale Medicine, are providing the timely updates you need on patient care, personal protective equipment (PPE), supply chain, Telehealth, and other relevant topics. I would like to take this time to recognize the outstanding efforts from within our Department.

As medical director for the YNHHS Supply Chain, **Patrick Kenney, MD**, has worked tirelessly to secure PPE and necessary equipment since January, when COVID was first making its way into the United States. It was also Dr. Kenney's procedure of using vaporized hydrogen peroxide to reprocess N95 masks, with triple-replicated results, that has provided our Health System with additional leeway with PPE. You can gain more insight into Dr. Kenney's strategy, with a focus on operational details, in his presentation [here](#), released last week by YNHHS and YM. Dr. Kenney's work has not gone unrecognized with significant media pickup: [Talk of Connecticut](#), [Connecticut Mirror](#), [Health](#), [WNPR](#), [WSHU](#), [Republican American](#), and more. We could not be more proud of Pat and his contributions.

Our rapid shift of patient care in-person appointments to **Telehealth** has required speedy and significant efforts from our schedulers, management teams, and clinicians. Thank you to **Diana Glassman, Meghan Curran, Rosy Cruz**, and their entire team, for their dedicated work to transition many of our appointments to Telehealth and for arranging multidisciplinary telemedicine visits for pediatrics. We have been a strong supporter of Yale Medicine's

implementation of Telehealth, and I appreciate all of our physicians, APPs, and staff who made this process possible and amenable for our patients. Telehealth has been a prominent topic in the media, and we are pleased to share that **Dan Kellner, MD** was featured in two stories: [PCMag](#) and [News12](#) (with video), as well as Diana Glassman in [Medical Xpress](#).

It has been tremendous to see the number of people step forward and offer to volunteer their time and services. We have had many members of our Department offer to help the medical team in the ICU and on the floors, as well as several individuals who have volunteered for the procedure team. I would also like to recognize **Adam Hittelman, MD, PhD** for his critical work to organize and arrange for education in central line placing.

While we do not know what the future brings, I would like to applaud all Urology physicians, nurses, and staff for their flexibility, their dedication to our patients and each other, and for maintaining personal and patient safety during this unprecedented time. We will all be stronger together when this subsides. We will learn lessons along the way, and we will continue to be there for each other.

I thank you for your continued dedication.



**Peter G. Schulam, MD, PhD**

Do you have any news, publications,  
or photos to share for an upcoming  
issue?

Please share with Eliza Folsom,  
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