

Smilow Update: June 8, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Ambulatory Moves

Thank you to our Ambulatory Transformation team, and the leadership of Maureen Major Campos, RN, and Anne Chiang, MD, for their tremendous work transitioning many of our clinical teams over the weekend to ensure our clinics were in place and ready for our patients this morning, and to all of the members of the Clinical Programs impacted by the moves. Thanks to the stellar organization and packing by each of the teams that moved, everything was in place by 7:30pm on Friday. A special shout out to our Smilow Operations, Facilities, IT, and Epic teams for their support, and to the GynOnc team for their extra organized packing skills! We appreciate everyone's dedication to our patients, dependability, and flexibility.

The following Clinical Programs are impacted by the moves this weekend:

- Breast Cancer, Prostate and Urologic Cancers, Endocrine Cancers, and Pain & Palliative Care are now located on NP 4.
- GI Surgery, Head and Neck Medical Oncology, Melanoma, Neurosurgery, GynOnc, Apheresis, and Ophthalmic Oncology are on NP 8.
- Due to the limited amount of space, please be mindful of social distancing while in our clinic areas.
- Two patients will be scheduled per hour, per clinician between the hours of 7:30am-5pm; patients can also be scheduled through the noon hour. No double booking of appointments.
- Clinicians are encouraged to continue with 50% of their practice through Telehealth.
- It is strongly encouraged that patients have labs scheduled the day before an appointment to encourage timely appointments.
- In clinic, staff will be limited.
- Patients have been called, and will receive mail communication as well.

Asymptomatic Employee Testing

The YNHHS is rapidly escalating the volume of voluntary COVID testing for asymptomatic staff. Of over 1,800 staff have been tested since the pilot began on May 15, only five, .27%, have tested positive. These initial results indicate a very low risk of asymptomatic transmission in our workplace.

- Testing is one more step in safeguarding the health and safety of staff and patients, and supplements use of PPE, adherence to social distancing, and hand-hygiene expectations.
- The pilot reflects YNHHS's support for the governor's commitment to rapidly expand testing for healthcare workers and others in our state.
- Testing is available [by appointment only](#) for employees.

Schwartz Rounds

Please join us on Tuesday, June 16 at Noon for a special [Schwartz Rounds](#) discussion on [embracing diversity and inclusion at Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital](#). We are fortunate to have Darin Latimore, MD, Deputy Dean for Diversity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer for Yale School of Medicine, and Katherine Tucker, DNP, RN, APRN-BC, NE-BC, Clinical Program Director for the Heart and Vascular Center at Yale New Haven Hospital, serving as facilitators for this Schwartz Rounds. We hope you will join for this important event for our Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital community.

Patient and Family Forum

Smilow Cancer Hospital will host our third [Patient and Family Forum](#) on Wednesday, June 10 at 7pm to help reassure our patients and reduce any concerns about access and safety in our Hospital and Care Centers. Please share the information with your patients, and join us on Wednesday evening.

Smilow Star

Cara Henderson, RN, MSN, CMSRN, CNML, Patient Services Manager for Inpatient Surgical Oncology, has led an amazing team of nurses through major transitions over the last several months.

The willingness of her staff to adapt and work together to rise to challenges, while remaining extremely positive and accommodating for our patients has been an integral part of our successful transition of inpatient care to the Saint Raphael Campus (SRC). Cara's diligence in ensuring a surgical pathway was in place for our oncology patients in a COVID-free environment at the SRC, will be duplication at the York Street Campus as the department of surgery increases its capacity during recovery.



Beginning June 8th, she is kicking off a new role called the Surgical Oncology Nurse Liaison. This new role will be responsible for supporting surgical patients on our main campus, as well as surgical nurses, to provide exceptional outcomes and ensure a seamless plan from the department of surgery back to the Smilow Cancer Centers. Cara's dedication and time at work have impacted her life at home, and she's grateful to her husband Jim for his support and care of their children while he works from home.

Best regards,

Charles S. Fuchs, MD, MPH

Director, Yale Cancer Center
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
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Kim Slusser, MSN, RN, CHPN, NEA-BC

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