

Smilow Update: July 25, 2022

### **Billing Area Updates**

Effective July 1, Smilow Cancer Hospital/Yale Cancer Center consolidated billing areas to improve efficiency within our billing practices. Most medical oncology and hematology clinicians will now see Medical Oncology 10789 or Hematology 10790 when they go to bill for their services. Please note, there are a few exceptions. Please reach out to [Cynthia James](#), Clinical Department Liaison, with any questions.

### **Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Old Saybrook**

Effective August 11, Dr. Wajih Kidwai and Dr. Su Lim and Physician Assistants Melissa Gargano and Sarah Curtis, will no longer offer hematology/oncology services at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Old Saybrook. The Smilow Cancer Network will consolidate our resources at our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center location in Guilford to provide comprehensive cancer services to our patients and their families.

### **Eye Protection**

The PPE Advisory Group, which includes leaders from Infection Prevention, Yale Medicine, and clinical leadership of all hospitals and medical groups, has determined that eye protection is no longer universally required for all episodes of care.

- Eye protection must continue to be used in both ambulatory and inpatient settings if patients are in COVID-19 isolation, as part of Standard Precautions in situations where splash/spray with blood/body fluid may occur, or if handling a chemical or in a situation that requires the use of eye protection.
- Healthcare workers may voluntarily choose to wear eye protection at other times.
- An SBAR is available [here](#) and the full PPE Policy is available [here](#).

### **Personal Safety Tips**

An important reminder to all our faculty, staff, and volunteers to:

- Always adopt a prevention mindset!
- Be aware of a situation and how you interact with it.
- If you see something or someone suspicious, take evasive action and call for help!
- Please review the [full safety guidelines](#) from YNHHS.

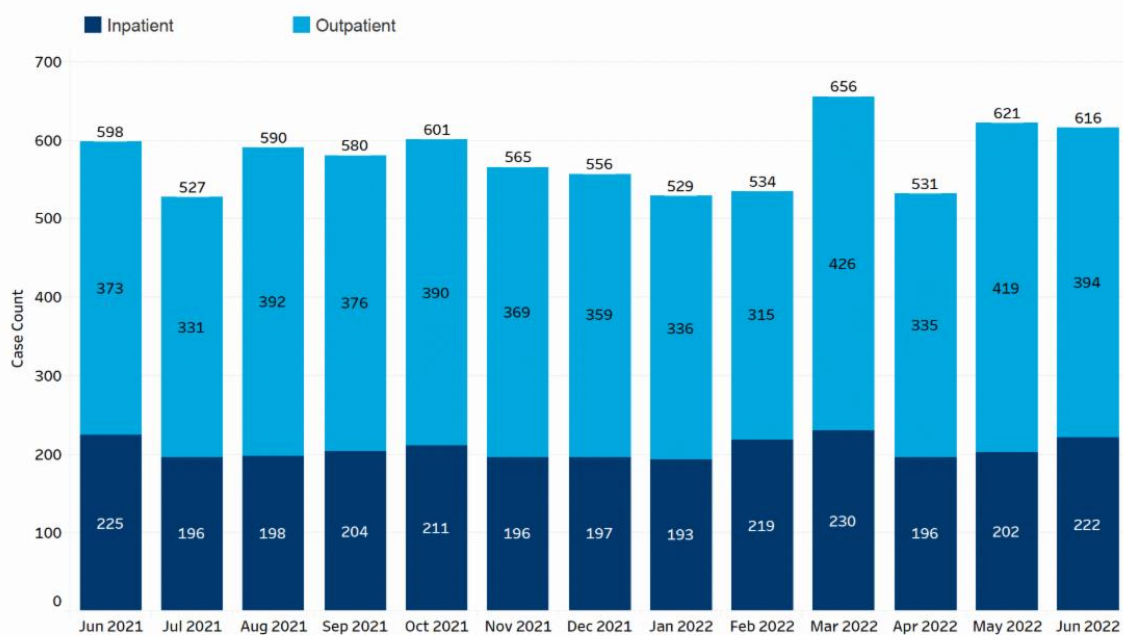
### **Flynn Fellows**

Smilow Cancer Hospital and Greenwich Hospital are proud hosts of our 2022 Susan D. Flynn Oncology Nursing Fellows. This year, the nursing teams mentored Madeline Perrino, Catholic

University; Natalie Kennedy, Sacred Heart University; Lydia Grist Manrique, Sacred Heart University; Edna Yilma, Quinnipiac University; and Charlotte Hamilton, University of Connecticut. They completed rotations of clinical areas throughout Smilow and worked on evidenced-based research projects, including nursing implications for CAR T-Cell Therapy, potential complications following allogeneic transplant, breast flap reconstruction patient education, diversity in cancer care, and self-care and resiliency in the oncology nurse. Of the more than 200 Flynn Fellows who have graduated into the workforce to date, more than two-thirds have taken positions as oncology nurses and 46 are working in Connecticut hospitals.

## Surgery Case Volume 3% Increase From June 2021 To June 2022

June 01, 2021 - July 10, 2022



Cases included for the following disease centers: Brain Tumor, Breast, Endocrine, GI, GU, GYN, H&N, Melanoma, Thoracic. Cases for remaining disease centers will be added once the definitions are finalized.

Yale  
NewHaven  
Health  
Smilow Cancer  
Hospital

### NCCN Hematology Congress

The **NCCN 2022 Annual Congress: Hematologic Malignancies™** will take place October 14 – 15, 2022, at the New York Marriott Marquis, New York, NY. Virtual attendance is offered for those unable to attend in person. To register, click [here](#). You may be prompted to log in with your institution email address. To receive a 50% discount on the registration fee, enter MIHM22 into the discount code box.

The **NCCN 2022 Nursing Forum: Advancing Oncology Nursing in Hematologic Malignancies™** will take place October 15, 2022, at the New York Marriott Marquis, New York, NY. Virtual attendance is also available. This half-day program provides hematology/oncology nurses with comprehensive and clinically-relevant information to

optimize patient education and care. To register, click [here](#). You may be prompted to log in with your institution email address. To receive a 50% discount on the registration fee, enter MINF22 into the discount code box.

### **Smilow Star!**

After 17 years in the division of Thoracic Surgery, Betsy Finan, PA, is retiring. Betsy has been with the division of Thoracic Surgery from the very beginning and has made major impact on the growth and maturation of the division, as well as the style, structure, and ultimately the outcomes of the cancer care model. She has been a constant during some highly variable periods in the division's history, supporting those who worked around her with kindness, invaluable wisdom, and sage advice. Her steady hand has helped six thoracic surgeons, ten APPs, countless residents, students, and nurses navigate their paths as new clinicians.



Betsy is first and foremost an extraordinary clinician. She has been the warning beacon, safety-net, sounding board, and champion for our patients from her first day on service. There have been so many times Betsy has picked up on a very subtle status change in a patient and started the wheels in motion to get that patient back on track, no doubt preventing far more serious consequences from taking place. Her retirement is a truly immeasurable loss to our clinical practice.

Betsy also stands out in her commitment to patients, blurring the lines of roles and responsibilities, doing whatever her patients needed done, whenever they needed it, even if it

infringed upon her own life. "I suspect the only time she worked an eight-hour day was during her vacation. She is constantly reading up on new medical advances and has never stopped investing in her clinical growth, even outside her scope of practice. In reality, she was far more interested in practicing at 'the top of her game' than at the 'top of her license,'" Vanna Dest, Senior Program Manager for Oncology Advanced Practice Providers said.

Betsy has also had one of the highest levels of engagement in the division. She has never been one to accept the status quo. She is always ready and willing to offer a novel perspective and original potential solutions to some of the toughest challenges. Her open-minded and balanced approach, that is simultaneously humble and proud, has contributed greatly to the culture of the thoracic oncology team.

"Betsy's departure will no doubt leave a hole in the soul of our team. And yet, Betsy spent her career preparing us for this day, building a strong foundation of people and protocols, and setting a standard of excellence and caring that is the template we will use to shape our subsequent chapters," Vanna said.



**Best regards,**

**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

