

Smilow Update: July 2, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Updated Screening Guidelines

Smilow Cancer Hospital continues to update our screening guidelines to reflect the changing COVID-19 environment in Connecticut, and in our region.

- Patients are now asked if they have traveled out of state within the last 14 days. Per Connecticut guidelines, the following states are currently included in a travel advisory: Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Nevada, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Utah.
- If recently returning from travel, patients may be asked to change their appointment to a Telehealth visit or have their appointment rescheduled. The care team will review urgent clinical issues and determine the best plan of care.

Trainees

Starting the week of July 6, with the beginning of the new academic year, we look forward to welcoming trainees for whom participating in your Smilow clinics is critical (i.e. ACGME required) for their specialty training (for example, neuro-oncology fellows in neuro-oncology clinic), and non elective (e.g. internal medicine resident in breast medical oncology clinic).

There are several areas where workspace is at a premium, and maintaining social distancing is paramount. We will continue to monitor the situation, and we will contact you if the recommendations for our trainees change over the forthcoming weeks. Please note that visitors and medical students should not be returning to clinic at this time given social distancing constraints. If you have any questions, please reach out to [Sarah Mougalian, MD](#), or [Anne Chiang, MD, PhD](#).

Town Hall

Please join us for the next Smilow Town Hall next [Thursday, July 9 at 5pm](#). Dr. Nita Ahuja and Dr. Rob Goodman will join us to provide updates on surgical planning and imaging and screening during our post-COVID transformation. In addition, Dr. Kevin Billingsley and Tracy Carafeno, RN, will share information on our planning and transition of inpatient care back to Smilow. Questions for our panelists are welcome in advance by email to canceranswers@yale.edu or during the program via chat.

Smilow Star

Lisa Stevens is the Medical Assistant for the Melanoma Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital on NP 8. Lisa's caring demeanor and kindness, knowledge of the patient population, and overall commitment to the team make her an incredible asset. Most of all, she uses judgement with keeping the providers on time and prioritizing patients based on illness and social distress; Lisa truly takes ownership of the practice! When she is away or on break, the difference is palpable according to Dr. Harriet Kluger, "Our clinical operation would not be the same without her!" Thank you for being a Smilow Star, Lisa!



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
Vice President for Patient Services
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