

Smilow Update: June 7, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Inpatient Care Returns

After 426 days of COVID ICU Status, we are proud to announce that NP15 has transitioned back to Smilow Cancer Hospital inpatient cancer care and our surgical oncology team moved back from NP14. In addition, Gynecologic Oncology will move from SLA5 on the Saint Raphael Campus today, June 7th to NP14.

Mobile Heartbeat

Mobile Heartbeat is the only HIPAA-approved clinical texting device for unified clinical communications at Smilow Cancer Hospital and throughout Yale New Haven Health, including at many of our Care Center locations. We ask that all providers add Mobile Heartbeat to their phones for streamlined, easy communication regarding patient care both on campus and off. Mobile Heartbeat includes:

- A System-wide directory of hospital employees and contact information by role, location, and status.
- Ability to create custom status messages and notify colleagues of shift covering and availability.
- Ability to view a patient's care team, along with their availability in real-time.
- Secure, HIPAA-compliant texting, 1-1 and group texting.
- Patient photography to upload to a patient's EMR.

To add Mobile Heartbeat, please stop by the Tech Deck on the 2nd floor of the West Pavilion or call 203-200-3020 to make an appointment.

Blood Drives

The Blood Bank is experiencing a critical shortage of group O red blood cell units 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 14, June 30, July 19, July 20, July 27, August 10, August 12, & August 18

Upcoming Blood Drives at 55 Park Street: July 7 and August 4

Inpatient Visitation Update

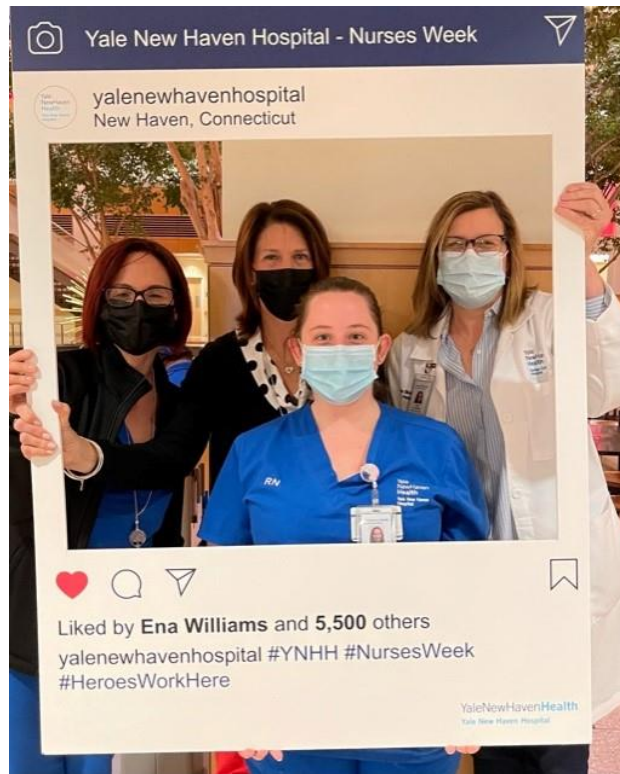
Beginning last Tuesday, June 1, YNHH made one change to the inpatient visitation policy to expand the hours of visitation. 1 visitor is allowed for adult COVID negative inpatients on their 1st day of hospitalization from 10am-8pm daily. One visitor per day, no switching during the day, although patients can have a different visitor each day. Patients on COVID

units, regardless of COVID status are not eligible for visitation. Cafeteria access is no longer restricted.

SARS-CoV-2 Vaccination in Immunocompromised Patients

Recently, Dr. Stuart Seropian hosted a Town Hall to discuss the SARS-CoV-2 vaccination for immunocompromised patients, with presentations by Dr. Jeffrey Topal, Dr. Maricar Malinis, Dr. Marwan Azar, Dr. Inci Yildirim, and Lisa Barbarotta, RN. If you missed their presentation, you can view the program [online](#).

Kim's Corner



I was pleased to have the opportunity to visit with so many of you during your shifts during the month of May, and look forward to continuing to make rounds throughout the summer. I spent one evening during nurses week rounding on the night shift to all four inpatient units with Tracy Carafeno, RN, Kinga Hyatt-Ordazzo, RN, and Danielle Giglione, RN, and bumped into our YNHH CNO, Ena Williams, who joined us on SLA5. I loved meeting up with Sharon Mack, PCA, on SLA 5. Sharon shared her fitness journey and how much she loves her Peloton bike. On NP12, the staff were complimenting Elizabeth Casanova, RN, who often starts her shifts as charge nurse by sending motivational quotes to the team via Mobile Heartbeat. I'd love to hear other ways our staff are caring for themselves and each other! I was also able to chat with Megan Wetzelberger, RN, on NP11, who shared how nursing is a family affair—her mother and sister are also nurses! Great to see a passion for nursing passed on from generation to generation.



Smilow Stars!

Today we recognize 6 people who continue to go the extra mile for our patients as telehealth volunteers. A huge thank you to **Judy Plotkin, Christine Marien, Laurene Goode-Gade, Katie McFarland, Kim Joyce, Katie McFarland, and Bridget Anderson** (clockwise from top left)—you are all Smilow Stars!

In addition to their regular work each day in their roles at Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital, they have been making phone calls to patients scheduled for their first telehealth visits to help them get set up in advance of their appointment. Their diligence and assistance has helped to streamline telehealth visits and reduces patients' anxiety using the new technology to meet with their physicians. For over a year now, this team of 6 has consistently handled the additional work, and they step in to help one another when needed. They are extremely concerned about our patients' well-being and notify their care teams in advance if any issues or worries are brought to their attention. Thank you all for your outstanding work and care!



Best regards,

Nita Ahuja, MD, MBA, FACS

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

Lori C. Pickens, MHA

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