Executive Leadership Structure Updates

Wellness Clinic at Center on Halsted Turns 1
EPIC Code Status Changes
Get to Know
• Nonsurgical Heart Valve Treatments
• ADA Accessible Resources & Services
COVID-19 Updates
Near the end of the 2021 calendar year, the Hospital & Clinics announced several important changes to its executive leadership structure.

As noted at the time, our healthcare delivery system — specifically the University of Illinois Hospital & Clinics — is facing several issues that prompted the need to make changes to our executive leadership.

These key aspects driving this need include:

**Growth**
We are experiencing significant growth fueled by added volumes and acuities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and COVID-related treatment delays.

**Expansion**
We soon will open the 55th & Pulaski Collaborative Health clinic, and the Outpatient Surgery Center & Specialty Clinics building will open this fall, significantly expanding the scope of UI Health.

**Execution**
Achieving the clinical service line management goals and initiatives set out in our strategic plan requires certain executive focus.

**Collaboration**
Integrating more medical professionals into our executive structure will help facilitate collaboration and synergies between the Hospital & Clinics and the College of Medicine (COM).

**Recruitment & Retention**
Attracting and retaining staff has become increasingly difficult as a result of cultural and attitudinal shifts on work environments, and COVID-driven workforce instability.

**Broader Leadership Needs**
As key leaders near retirement and depart our organization, we need broadening the level of executives to cover our increasing demands, so there is as little disruption as possible to our operations.

**Better Represent Our Communities**
To help us better reflect and understand the diversities presented throughout our communities and the workforce of UI Health, we need to align diversity in our executive leadership and organizational structure.

These newly appointed and re-appointed leaders will help us activate our strategic plan and guide UI Health in its goals of continued alignment and growing collaboration throughout our healthcare delivery system.

(Executive Leadership continued next page)
Executive Leadership Updates (continued)

Sheila Cook, MS, RN, ACNS-BC — Chief Experience Officer (CXO)
Sheila has been our Associate Chief Nursing Officer for Patient Experience since early 2019. This organizational commitment to patient experience endeavors is best supported by direct reporting to the CEO, reinforcing the organizational commitment to these vital initiatives. Sheila is uniquely qualified to continue and enhance these activities.

Paul Gorski, MPH — Associate Chief Executive Officer for Strategic Service Line Management
The new Hospital strategic plan emphasizes certain service lines for strategic focus, including the Neurosciences, Orthopaedics, Cardiology, Transplant, and Cancer. Paul has been serving as Senior Director for Neurosciences, Orthopaedics, and Cardiovascular in a narrow capacity. With the advent of the new strategic plan, this scope of activities and influence will need to be expanded.

Nick Haubach, MA — Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
With this expanded role, Nick will take on certain aspects of David Loffing’s former responsibilities, along with adding additional administrative areas, including Human Resources, Marketing & Strategic Communications, Graduate Medical Education, Medical Staff Services, Volunteer Services, Facilities Management, Environmental Services, Parking & Valet Services, Security, Environment of Care, Food Services and Dietary. He also will be responsible for coordinating UIC Campus-provided services, such as UIC Police.

Dr. Tiesa Hughes-Dillard, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC — Chief Nursing Officer (CNO)
Tye was instrumental during our first COVID wave, acting as the Interim CNO and Executive nurse leader resource for the division, in addition to having a leadership role in Incident Command. A nurse leader for more than 20 years, Tye also received her Doctorate in Nursing Practice here at the UIC College of Nursing. Nursing leadership has mentored Tye in recent years with the aspiration for her to take over this role. This is the logical next step in her career, and we are proud that she is our first African American CNO at UI Health.

Dr. Janet Lin, MD, MPH, MBA — Associate Chief Executive Officer for Strategic Integration & Partnerships
In this new role, Dr. Lin will be a key leader in addressing many aspects of the partnerships the Hospital’s strategic plan will drive mutually with the COM. Dr. Lin’s roles in both the College and Hospital makes her uniquely qualified for this role, and with her role co-leading Incident Command, she has shown administrative acumen during these past 18 months. She already has been instrumental in assisting the Department of Pediatrics as it more closely affiliates with Cook County Health, moving a critical strategic partnership forward.

(Executive Leadership continued next page)
Executive Leadership Updates (continued)

**Dr. Shelly Major, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE — Chief Clinical Officer (CCO)**

Shelly has served as Chief Nursing Officer the past four years and has made strong headway in improving our processes and operations in ways that make the accomplishment of being designated a Magnet Hospital a real potential. Her new areas of responsibility in this role include Main Hospital Perioperative Services, Case Management, Radiology, Pathology, Cardiology, Interventional Radiology, Respiratory Therapy, Pharmacy, Rehabilitation Services, and others. She also will remain involved in assisting our organization through the Magnet designation process and the nursing acuity selection process.

**Dr. Chuck Ray, Jr., MD, PhD — Associate Chief Executive Officer for Strategic Alignment**

The College and Hospital’s new strategic plans require significant attention to the many alignment commitments held mutually within each plan. Dr. Ray will be a key leader in addressing many aspects of the Hospital’s strategic plan, in addition to being the key liaison regarding the incentives needed to support the growing aligned goals for the care delivery enterprise.

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**ENGAGEMENT**

**Celebrating Heritage Months at UI Health**

**February — Black History Month**

Look for posters, screensavers, and webpages to learn how UI Health celebrates diversity.

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**UI Health Recognizes Black History Month**

*Celebrate.UIHealth.Care*
This month, let me start by congratulating the leaders pictured on the Roundup cover. Please join me in working with them as they take up the challenges of their new roles. There are many opportunities ahead for us, with an associated myriad of challenges to navigate. It is with confidence that I look forward to the leadership these colleagues will provide in our successful achievement of these opportunities.

Continuing, please take note of the insightful information available to all of us regarding Black History Month. As we celebrate this aspect of our diversity, please consider that collectively recognizing and understanding our various backgrounds provides a unique strength to harness. Our ability to collaborate by transcending racial differences has every potential to help UI Health be a place where all colleagues derive personal comfort and well-being as a place to work, and our patients feel the true benefit of the universal human value of acceptance and understanding.

Next, it is important to note that Feb. 3 was National Women Physicians Day. This event celebrates the birthday of Elizabeth Blackwell, the first female medical doctor in the U.S. It’s a time to honor women doctors across the country and the progress made since Dr. Blackwell’s time. In 2017, for the first time in history, women made up more than half of all those in medical school. And congratulations to Dr. Susan Bleasdale for the well-deserved recognition noted on the next page.

It would be easy for me to start my next note by saying we now have our first African American Chief Nursing Officer, but that would risk understating this individual’s path to achieving this well-deserved promotion. Dr. Tiesa Hughes-Dillard grew up on the South Side of Chicago, the youngest of five sisters. In high school, she was selected to participate if the Chicago Area Health and Medical Careers Program (CHAMPS) for gifted minorities interested in careers in healthcare. Tye started her career as a nurse’s aide at Children’s Memorial Hospital, attended Malcolm X College here in Chicago, where she obtained an associate’s degree in Nursing. From there, her career has progressed through various positions at great Chicago hospitals, seeking out positions where her career would advance professionally and her continued education would be supported, allowing her to receive her BSN, MSN, MBA, and, in 2019 here at UIC, her DNP.

Dr. Hughes-Dillard has sought opportunity, taken advantage of these opportunities, has proven to all her exceptional capabilities, and now she is the CNO of the University of Illinois Hospital & Clinics. Her tenacity and drive are to be admired. We are fortunate to have her capabilities in her new role. And, by the way, Tye is our first African American Chief Nursing Officer.

Finally, as we reach the end of the Omicron chapter of the COVID-19 pandemic, we need to be mindful that recovery and wellness are actions that we all need to be attentive to — here as a vital healthcare organization, and outside of work in our personal lives. Please be attentive to both. It is a critical part of our collective recovery from this life-altering event.
**RECOGNITION**

**Dr. Susan Bleasdale: ACP ILN Woman Physician of the Year**

Congratulations to Dr. Susan Bleasdale, Chief Quality Officer, on being named Woman Physician of the Year by the Illinois Northern Chapter of the American College of Physicians. The ACP Award recognizes leadership and excellence in the field of internal medicine. Dr. Bleasdale will be honored during a virtual award ceremony Feb. 17. Congratulations!

**Introducing the Joseph V. Abraham Leadership Award**

Established in 2021, in recognition of Joe Abraham’s retirement, this leadership award honors Joe’s work and 31 years of service at UI Health in Imaging & Diagnostic Services. This award is meant to motivate hospital staff to pursue leadership opportunities in Imaging & Diagnostic Services, including pursuing higher education, and accepting promotions when the opportunity arises.

A memento and a monetary award will be given to one recipient each year. Nominations will open next month.

To learn more, or to nominate your colleague, click here.

**SERVICE LINE UPDATES**

**Heart Valve Treatments without Surgery**

Many patients are told there is no way to treat their heart valve issues without open-heart surgery. UI Health’s Structural Heart Disease Program offers many ways to treat heart valve disease without the need for surgery.

UI Health is a pioneer in developing non-invasive procedures and understanding how heart disease differs from patient to patient. For more information about the program, visit Heart.UIHealth.Care.

Patients can call 866.600.CARE to schedule an appointment, and physicians can visit UIHealth.Care to make a referral.
**OPERATIONS**

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Accessible Resources & Services**

UI Health is committed to ensuring care and services at our facilities are accessible and understandable to all. To familiarize yourself with the equipment, resources, and services available for patients, please visit ADA.UIHealth.Care and see additional information on the intranet: *Hospital Resources > General > Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. For questions, contact Dr. Cheryl Pinotti, at cpinotti@uic.edu or 312.996.0761.

**Employee Health Portal (Immuware)**

The Employee Health Portal is a secure software for submitting employee health information, retrieving personal health records, and compliance tracking. This is the preferred way to communicate with University Health Service (UHS). The Employee Health Portal can easily be found on the intranet.

**Don’t Forget to Enroll Your Patients in MyChart!**

With the MyChart app, patients can manage their healthcare right from their phone. When they download the app, they can schedule appointments, message their care team, and more.

Talk to your patients about the benefits of MyChart!

Need help getting patients registered? Visit the intranet to view our “Tips for Enrolling Patients” flyer. For more information, visit MyChart.UIHealth.Care.
Code Status Changes in EPIC

UI Health is changing the code status orders to address cardiopulmonary resuscitative (CPR) interventions done during cardiopulmonary arrest and during the peri-arrest period (before a cardiac arrest where the patient is unstable and requires interventions to prevent further deterioration).

UI Health orders will include:
- Full Code/Attempt CPR
- Do Not Resuscitate
- Assume Full Code

The Do Not Resuscitate order will include interventions that can be done when the patient is not in cardiopulmonary arrest. The Assume Full Code order will be used when the primary resident, intern, fellow, attending and/or credentialed practitioner is unable to discuss code status with the patient and/or substitute decision maker.

Continue to place code status orders within EPIC, and document your conversation in a note.

When a Do Not Resuscitate order is placed or discontinued, the provider should complete documentation using the SmartPhrase .DNRDiscussion, and it will populate a template for your discussion.

UI Health supports coordination and communication with the patient and/or substitute decision maker regarding code status — the patient and/or substitute decision maker’s decision to perform, or not to perform, CPR in the event of cardiopulmonary arrest.

Communication about code status should occur at the start of the admission, throughout the admission at times of clinical change, and with elective surgeries and procedures.

Consenting to CPR is consenting to all these interventions. Everyone involved in the patient’s healthcare team should be aware of the patient’s code status. Below is a screenshot of how code status is shown in the patient’s storyboard.

For additional training and resources, visit the “EPIC Code Status Updates” intranet tile.

Authors
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Wellness Clinic at Center on Halsted Turns 1

The UIC College of Nursing Clinic is improving sexual health, HIV Prevention in the LGBTQ+ community

It has been one year since UI Health Wellness Clinic at Center on Halsted opened its doors at Center of Halsted. Center on Halsted, based in Chicago’s Lakeview neighborhood, is a comprehensive LGBTQ+ community center that offers cooking classes, yoga, group therapy, and other services.

This clinic has brought HIV prevention and sexually transmitted infection treatment services to more than 100 members of the centers’ LGBTQ+ community. Community members visiting the clinic can conveniently request universal STI screening and HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) services, which is a medication-based strategy to prevent HIV infection. The clinic is aligned with the state of Illinois’ Getting to Zero initiative, that aims to end the HIV epidemic in the state by 2030.

UIC Nursing clinical assistant professor Karen Cotler is lead provider at the site and has seen the clinic be a success first-hand. “We’re getting a lot of people on PrEP who might not have been on it otherwise, and we’re treating a lot of STIs. I’m proud of a service that really does make an impact on infectious disease in the community,” Cotler said.
ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITIES

COVID-19 Updates

Breaks/Meal Spaces

Current, alternate sites for eating, breaks, or respite throughout the hospital with visible signage indicating capacity and dedicated eating times are noted below.

**2nd Floor: 2480**
Eating & Drinking (11 am – 2 pm),
Respite/Breaks (2:15 pm – 10:45 am)

**5th Floor: 580E, 510W**
Eating & Drinking (Open 24/7)

**6th Floor: 606W**
Eating & Drinking (Open 24/7)

**7th Floor: 703E**
Eating & Drinking (11 am – 2 pm),
Respite/Breaks (2:15 pm – 10:45 am)

**8th Floor: 803E**
Eating & Drinking (11 am – 2 pm),
Respite/Breaks (2:15 pm – 10:45 am)

COVID-19 Testing (continued)

**College of Pharmacy, Room B8**
Monday–Friday: 6:30am – 5:00pm
Saturday: 7 am – 11 am

**Employee Testing Center (ETC)**
Medical Sciences Building, Suite 116
835 S. Wolcott St.
Monday–Friday: 7 am – 4pm

Please visit the intranet for the most up-to-date hours for these locations.

Return To Work

Staff are responsible for knowing their potential return-to-work date. It is calculated from either criteria below, whichever occurs first:
1. Date of their first positive test, if asymptomatic
2. Symptom onset date

For full return to work guidance, please view the Return-to-Work grid on the intranet: COVID-19 Resources > COVID FAQ > Low/Medium/High-Risk Exposure.
St. Baldrick’s 2022 Fundraiser
Pediatrics Department Raises over $9,000 for Cancer Research

Nine people shaved their heads to raise awareness, and money, for cancer research at the St. Baldrick’s fundraising event hosted by the Department of Pediatrics on Feb. 18. Participants included a few of our very own pediatric and oncology nurses, UI Health staff members, UIC students, and community members.

Our Pediatric Oncology team recently received the “Do It For Dominic St. Baldrick’s Infrastructure Grant.” This grant will allow our patients to enroll in clinical trials and receive the most up to date therapies and knowledge. We honored Dominic at our event and his mother was able to come and meet our team and enjoy the day with us!

Thank you to everyone who participated, donated, and contributed!

Mark your calendars:

- Doctors’ Day: March 30
- Engagement Survey: April 11 – May 9
- Hospital Week: May 9–13

Information will be available in the coming months. Check the intranet and your email!

Mandatory LMS training is due Feb. 28. Access your training on the intranet: Quick Links > Learning Management System.