New Program to Provide Hospital-Level Care at Home

The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has awarded $9.6 million to Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai to establish a Mobile Acute Care Team (MACT) program that provides patients with eligible medical conditions the same level of acute care they would receive in the hospital, but in their home environment.

Over the next three years, hundreds of patients in multiple Mount Sinai Health System emergency departments will be given a choice of whether they want to be treated as an inpatient or join the MACT program and be treated at home.

Under the three-year CMS Health Care Innovation Award, Mount Sinai, through its Visiting Doctors Program, will partner with community organizations such as Visiting Nurse Service of New York to provide Medicare and Medicaid patients with in-home care for acute medical conditions that include cellulitis, chronic obstructive

continued on page 2

Joshua Brody, MD, Director of the Lymphoma Immunotherapy Program, has developed a vaccine that teaches a patient’s immune system to kill lymphoma.

continued on page 3

Novel Vaccine Fights Lymphoma

A novel vaccine that stimulates the body’s immune response has been effective in shrinking tumors in patients with low-grade, B-cell lymphoma. Two patients enrolled in a clinical trial at The Tisch Cancer Institute at the Mount Sinai Health System experienced partial remissions of their disease within six months after completing treatment.

Unlike a standard vaccine that is produced in a manufacturing facility, this new vaccine is actually produced in each patient. Two immune-modifying medicines are administered directly into a tumor, combined with two days of localized, low-dose radiotherapy to the same tumor. The first medicine mobilizes special immune cells, or dendritic cells, to the tumor, where they sample pieces of dying tumor cells after radiotherapy. The second medication activates the tumor-loaded dendritic cells, which then teach the rest of the immune system to recognize and eliminate tumor cells throughout the body.

Joshua Brody, MD, Director of the Lymphoma Immunotherapy Program, has developed a vaccine that teaches a patient’s immune system to kill lymphoma.

continued on page 3

Albert L. Siu, MD, Ellen and Howard C. Katz Chairman’s Chair of the Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine, is leading the effort to transform the clinical and financial health care model for some patients with acute illnesses.
pulmonary disease (COPD), community acquired pneumonia, congestive heart failure, deep venous thrombophlebitis, diabetes, and urinary tract infection. The Mount Sinai Visiting Doctors Program conducts more than 6,000 annual primary care and end-of-life visits to elderly and home-bound patients in Manhattan.

“Delivering acute care in the home is an example of medicine advancing in every way,” says Theresa A. Soriano, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Medicine, and Geriatrics and Palliative Care, and Executive Director of Mount Sinai Visiting Doctors and Chelsea-Village House Call programs. “It will allow the Mount Sinai Health System to improve patient satisfaction.”

This is the second time in two years that Icahn School of Medicine has received a CMS Health Care Innovation Award, with the goal of creating new ideas and models of delivery that lead to improved care and lower costs for people enrolled in Medicare and Medicaid.

MACT was modeled after the Hospital at Home program developed several years ago at The Johns Hopkins University. The University conducted a yearlong study comparing 325 acute care patients treated at home with 1,048 hospital inpatients, and found that home-based care reduced the cost of acute care by roughly 20 percent. In addition, Hospital at Home patients had slightly lower hospital readmissions and mortality rates, and higher satisfaction scores.

“We are proud that CMS recognizes the ability of MACT to transform the clinical and financial health care model for individuals with these acute illnesses, and that we, as a health system, are demonstrating the viability of in-home health care as a cost-effective means of improving health outcomes,” says Albert L. Siu, MD, Ellen and Howard C. Katz Chairman’s Chair of the Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

MACT is expected to serve a total of roughly 700 acute-care patients in Manhattan with teams comprised of physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, social workers, and community health workers. The teams will provide daily medical visits and arrange for necessary medical equipment, medications, and laboratory services to be supplied in patients’ homes. A clinical team will be on call at all times and patients will have access to rapid medical services and medications.

Through MACT, Mount Sinai will be able to create a reasonable payment model for high-level home-based acute care that CMS can adopt and implement. Currently, CMS does not have a payment code for hospital-level outpatient care.

Remembering D-Day 70 Years Later

“I thought I would never live to see the end of that day,” said Mount Sinai Beth Israel patient Robert Cohen, recollecting his experience as a young U.S. infantryman landing on Utah Beach on June 6, 1944. Mr. Cohen spent the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landing with Alene, his wife of 66 years, his son Michael, two of his eight grandchildren, and Mount Sinai Beth Israel staff, discussing the events of that day, when he was one of 20,000 Allied troops landing at Utah Beach, the westernmost flank of the Normandy invasion.

During World War II, Mr. Cohen fought in six campaigns in eight countries in North Africa, and southern and western Europe, earning a Bronze Star and the French Legion of Honor.

Mr. Cohen said he usually celebrates June 6 as if it were a birthday by taking his family to a French restaurant. After the war, he and Alene raised four children on Long Island, where he worked in the packaging industry.

Mount Sinai Beth Israel patient Robert Cohen was honored for his World War II service by hospital President Susan Somerville, RN.

Susan Somerville, RN, President of Mount Sinai Beth Israel, and Mary Walsh, RN, MSN, Chief Nursing Officer at Mount Sinai Beth Israel presented Mr. Cohen with a special pin and a framed Certificate of Recognition for his service to the United States.
Peter Palese, PhD, a world-renowned microbiologist who has led seminal studies that continue to greatly expand the understanding of influenza viruses, was recently named a member of the 2014 class of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The organization is one of the nation’s most acclaimed honorary societies and a leading center for independent policy research. It includes among its current members more than 250 Nobel Laureates across disciplines and more than 60 Pulitzer Prize winners.

Dr. Palese is the Horace W. Goldsmith Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases) and Professor and Chair of the Department of Microbiology at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Chief among his many achievements is establishing the first genetic maps for the influenza A, B, and C viruses.

“On behalf of the entire Mount Sinai Health System, I would like to congratulate Dr. Palese on his election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences,” says Dennis S. Charney, MD, Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and President for Academic Affairs, the Mount Sinai Health System. “Peter Palese is one of the truly great scientists in the world today. His research on the mechanisms of how viruses cause disease is leading to vaccines that will help millions of people. In addition, Dr. Palese is a phenomenal mentor whose trainees are now leaders in their own right. This recognition by the Academy is well-deserved.”

Dr. Palese, together with Adolfo Garcia-Sastre, PhD, Director of Mount Sinai’s Global Health and Emerging Pathogens Institute, among his many honors, Dr. Palese was elected to the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Medicine, and he was a recipient of the 2012 Sanofi-Institut Pasteur Award and the 2010 European Virology Award from the European Society for Virology. He is the author of multiple book chapters and more than 300 publications, and he has received several patents on viral vaccines and antiviral compounds.

“As scientists in microbiology and infectious disease, we are always looking for answers to questions about existing pathogens and those that may emerge in the future,” says Dr. Palese. “Receiving recognition like this helps to reinforce that the work we do is seen as important to those inside and outside of our laboratories.”

Novel Vaccine Fights Lymphoma (continued from page 1)

Standard treatments such as chemotherapy and radiation enable patients to live with low-grade, B-cell lymphoma, but do not cure the disease, says Joshua Brody, MD, Director of the Lymphoma Immunotherapy Program at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He is the first researcher to use the new dendritic cell mobilizing medicine as a treatment for lymphoma.

“We have helped a lot of people, but this new treatment provides us with the potential for a greater future,” says Dr. Brody. “It teaches the patient’s immune system to kill the lymphoma. Our patients find this especially exciting because—in some sense—they are actively creating their own anticancer therapy, as opposed to just passively receiving a therapy, as with standard treatments.”

The trial is being funded by a $750,000 Clinical Investigator Award Dr. Brody received from the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation. A total of 30 patients will be enrolled in the clinical trial. This summer, Dr. Brody will begin presenting the preliminary trial data at lymphoma conferences in the United States.

Sergei German, a patient who is currently enrolled in the trial, says, “The treatment Dr. Brody has conceived and the trial he is running at Mount Sinai is probably the best option for lymphoma patients nowadays. It offers the opportunity to treat lymphoma using immunotherapy without resorting to harsh chemotherapy.”

Mr. German reports that the treatment’s side effects have been very mild, similar to the results of a flu vaccine for which he would take a pain reliever such as acetaminophen.

Says Steven J. Burakoff, MD, Director of The Tisch Cancer Institute, and the Lillian and Henry M. Stratton Professor of Cancer Medicine: “The Tisch Cancer Institute has a robust clinical trials portfolio, and we fully support the development of clinical trials that involve the use of novel vaccines such as the one Dr. Brody is developing to treat B-cell lymphoma.”
**Events**

### Department of Medicine Grand Rounds

Paul B. Batalden, MD, Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics, Community, and Family Medicine, Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, Geisel School of Medicine, presents “ QUARC.”

**Tuesday, June 24**
8:30 – 9:30 am
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus
Hatch Auditorium

### Brain Imaging Center Seminars

Won Hee Lee, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Duke University Medical Center, presents “Electric Psychiatry: Engineering Better Brain Stimulation Therapies for Depression.”

**Tuesday, June 24**
3 – 4 pm
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus
Hess Center
Seminar Room B

### Pharmacology and Systems Therapeutics Seminar Series

Matthew Carter, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Williams College, presents "Neuronal Mechanisms of Appetite Suppression and Conditioned Taste Aversion.”

**Tuesday, June 24**
4 pm
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus
Annenberg 19-79

### Grand Rounds Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine

Cardinale B. Smith, MD, MSCR, Assistant Professor, Medicine (Hematology and Medical Oncology), presents “Palliative Care Health Care Disparities.”

**Thursday, June 26**
5 – 6 pm
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus
Annenberg 10-30

### Grand Rounds Anesthesiology

Andrew B. Leibowitz, MD, Professor and Horace W. Goldsmith Chair, Anesthesiology, and Professor, Surgery, presents “Preoperative Anesthesiology Evaluation.”

**Wednesday, July 2**
6:30 – 8:10 am
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus
Hess Center
Seminar Room B

### 45th Annual New York City Pride Parade and PrideFest

The Office for Diversity and Inclusion invites all Mount Sinai Health System employees, family members, and friends to march with Mount Sinai in the New York City Pride Parade. RSVP at http://tiny.cc/SinaiPrideParade2014. Mount Sinai marchers must register to receive specific event details, including meeting time and locations.

Also, plan to visit Mount Sinai’s PrideFest booths, sponsored by the Institute for Advanced Medicine and LGBT Health Services. The annual street fair features hundreds of booths, entertainment, and activities in celebration of LGBT pride and equality. For more information, email Barbara Warren, Director for LGBT Programs, Policies, and Education, in the Office for Diversity and Inclusion, at bwarren@chpnet.org.

**Sunday, June 29**
Parade
Noon
Fifth Avenue to Christopher and Greenwich streets

**PrideFest**
11 am – 6 pm
Hudson Street between Abingdon Square and West 14th Street

**Announcement**

### Be Well Wednesday: National HIV Testing Day

In recognition of National HIV Testing Day, the Institute for Advanced Medicine will host a Be Well Wednesday table outside the Plaza Café on The Mount Sinai Hospital campus. The Institute is a newly formed entity that brings together physicians and staff from multiple disciplines throughout the Mount Sinai Health System into one integrated program to provide accessible, affordable, and expert primary and specialty care to HIV patients, and their friends and families in the New York metropolitan area.

Handouts will include material on the specialty services being offered by the Institute, as well as educational brochures about HIV testing, nPEP/PREP, and HIV primary care services. For general information about Be Well Wednesday, contact Alisa Melendez at alisa.melendez@mountsinai.org.

**Wednesday, June 25**
Noon – 2 pm
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus
Outside the Plaza Café

---

**Mount Sinai**

**INSIDE MOUNT SINAI**
2014 Marketing & Communications
Carrie Gottlieb, Editor
Marilyn Balamaci, Editor
Ha Ly, Graphics Manager

**SUBMISSIONS**
Box 1475
inside@mssm.edu

**VISIT INSIDE ON THE WEB**
www.mountsinai.org/inside

To find out what’s happening right now, follow Mount Sinai on Twitter @MountSinaiNYC

Visit us on Facebook
facebook.com/mountsinainyc