National Recognition for Nursing Excellence

The Mount Sinai Hospital has received national recognition for excellence in nursing for the third consecutive time from the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s (ANCC) Magnet Recognition Program®. At the same time, Mount Sinai Queens, the Queens campus of The Mount Sinai Hospital, received a first-time Magnet® designation, widely considered the highest recognition for nursing excellence.

“Only 8 percent of hospitals in the nation receive a Magnet designation, and fewer than 2 percent are redesignated for a third time,” Kenneth L. Davis, MD, Chief Executive Officer and President, Mount Sinai Health System, told a celebratory audience of nurses at Stern Auditorium on Wednesday, September 10. “That is a great tribute to all of you. It signifies a culture of excellence that is central to how we serve our community.”

Carol Porter, DNP, RN, FAAN, the Edgar M. Cullman, Sr. Chair of the Department of Nursing, and Chief Nursing Officer/Senior Vice President of Nursing at The Mount Sinai

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Achieving a Milestone

Amid much jubilation, 140 first-year students at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai symbolically marked the start of their medical education by receiving white coats and stethoscopes at the 17th Annual White Coat Ceremony held Monday, September 8.

“Some members of the Class of 2018 will make scientific discoveries that will improve our ability to diagnose and treat patients, while others will become master clinicians and educators, or focus on improving public health for underserved communities around the world,” Dennis S. Charney, MD, Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and President for Academic Affairs, Mount Sinai Health System, told the students. “The medical path you choose must be powered by idealism. We will nurture your idealism—because at Mount Sinai we translate idealism into action for the betterment of patients everywhere.”

Before several hundred family and friends, and Mount Sinai faculty and staff, the students recited the Class of 2018 oath, in which they pledged “to aspire to be not only healers and

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Hospital, opened the ceremony. “Nurses at Mount Sinai, over and over again, you are recognized among the best nurses in the country. Your spirit is amazing, and I am proud to be your Chief Nursing Officer,” she told a cheering crowd. She also read a congratulatory message from Judith Shamian, PhD, RN, President of the International Council of Nurses.

To achieve Magnet recognition, both hospitals were evaluated on-site by a team of four Magnet appraisers during a five-day period in June. They conducted 71 hour-long unit tours and reviews, and 45 focus-group interview sessions, and met with more than 28 nursing and 25 physician leaders, among other activities. Separately, they also evaluated 4,700 pages of nursing data. Geralyn McDonough, MA, BSN, RN, served as the Mount Sinai Magnet Program Director for both hospitals and worked with the Magnet appraiser team to coordinate the survey activities.

In an Executive Summary following the appraisal, the surveyors pointed to several key areas of excellence: strong collaborative relationships between Nursing, and hospital and medical staff; robust educational and research programs; and an everyday commitment to patient care. Also singled out was Mount Sinai’s focus on patient care during Superstorm Sandy in 2012: “The response of nursing leaders and the entire organization in putting patients first was extraordinary,” they said.

David L. Reich, MD, President of The Mount Sinai Hospital and Mount Sinai Queens, congratulated the nurses at both hospitals, and cited their spirit to succeed, as well as many months of dedicated preparation. “It was truly amazing to watch great teams come together to make this a reality. When the appraisers came, they loved Mount Sinai. Give yourself a huge round of applause,” he told the boisterous audience members, who clapped and lifted up a sign that said: “Got Magnet!”

Also participating in the ceremony were Kathleen Scher, EdD, RN, Vice President of Nursing, Mount Sinai Queens; and Joyce Fitzpatrick, PhD, RN, FAAN, Adjunct Professor, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and Professor of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University. “I am humbled by your knowledge, skills, passion, compassion, teamwork, and respect,” said Dr. Fitzpatrick.

The program also featured speeches by two clinical nurses: Patricia McPhoy, MSN, RN-BC, Emergency Department, Mount Sinai Queens campus; and Kenneth Gyan, BSN, RN, Post-Anesthesia Care Unit, The Mount Sinai Hospital. “This represents our commitment to excellence in nursing care,” Ms. McPhoy said about the first-time designation. Mr. Gyan summed up the experience of a repeat designation. “Our deepest joy is being a Magnet nurse,” he told the audience.
Advancing an Innovative Surgical Technique

Paul Lajos, MD, Associate Chief of Vascular Surgery at Mount Sinai Queens, and a member of the Division of Vascular Surgery at the Mount Sinai Health System, performed the first-ever percutaneous Thoracic Endovascular Aortic Repair (TEVAR) procedure at The Mount Sinai Hospital in August, on a patient who was experiencing an aortic wall hematoma and ulcer.

Boodram Jadunath, 72, was visiting New York City from London to spend time with his daughter when he began experiencing severe chest and back pain. At The Mount Sinai Hospital, a scan revealed that he needed emergency aortic surgery.

Dr. Lajos, who is also an Assistant Professor of Surgery and Radiology at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, determined that Mr. Jadunath would be a good candidate for the percutaneous TEVAR procedure, an innovative technique in which the surgeon, guided by an X-ray, inserts a thin catheter through the patient’s groin to reach the aorta, where a stent-graft is then delivered to the area and then closed through sutures through the skin.

The percutaneous TEVAR procedure enables patients to recover more quickly with less blood loss and fewer wound complications than with the traditional technique of treating damaged aortic blood vessels by opening the chest and operating directly on the aorta. This necessitates large open chest incisions and possible cardiopulmonary bypass.

According to Dr. Lajos, the procedure to help Mr. Jadunath was completed in about one hour. Mr. Jadunath was able to sit up immediately afterward and walk the following morning.

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Achieving a Milestone

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scientists, but also advocates, educators, and students who will improve our communities, our patients’ lives, and ourselves.”

In his welcoming address, Kenneth L. Davis, MD, Chief Executive Officer and President of the Mount Sinai Health System, exhorted the students to display compassion and caring.

“When worried patients look you in the eye, I want there to be no doubt in those patients’ minds that they are in the hands of not only world-class physicians, but immensely caring people,” he said. “There will be problems you will not solve, and patients you will not cure, but there should never be a time when you have run out of compassion and kindness.”

Peter W. May, Chairman, Mount Sinai Health System Boards of Trustees, told students that while Mount Sinai has grown to become one of the largest hospital systems in the nation, it remains committed to retaining a sense of community and family. “That commitment is particularly appropriate as the practice of health care undergoes a dramatic change that will require you to be responsible for caring for a community, and not merely in times of illness. You will be asked to ensure that your patients maintain good health, and you will be more involved in your patients’ well-being than many doctors before you.”

Rosanne M. Leipzig, MD, PhD, Gerald and May Ellen Ritter Professor, Vice Chair of Education, Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine, was the keynote speaker. Dr. Leipzig told students they would embark on a real-life discovery of wisdom, courage, and heart, much like the fictional characters in The Wizard of Oz. “Wisdom is more than being smart,” she said, “courage will sometimes mean asking for help, and having a heart requires understanding your patient as a person.” She added: “Every time you put on your white coat, remember that it symbolizes the wisdom, courage, and heart you will want to accompany you every time you are with a patient.”
Event

Wellness: Mindfulness Learning and Practice

All Mount Sinai Health System staff, patients, and their families are invited to attend Friday mindfulness sessions where they will learn and practice simple and effective techniques to reduce stress and promote physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. No experience is necessary. For additional information, please contact Mickie.Brown@mssm.edu.

Fridays, Starting October 10
12:30 – 1:30 pm
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus, Hess Center
On Friday, October 10, Room CSM 10-101
All subsequent Friday sessions, Room CSM 8-101

Grand Rounds Surgery
R. Clement Darling III, MD, Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery, Professor, Surgery, Albany Medical Center Hospital, presents “The Art and Science of Teaching Open Aortic Reconstruction in the Endovascular Era.”

Wednesday, October 1
7:45 – 9 am
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus
Hatch Auditorium

Grand Rounds Medicine
Bruce Darrow, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Information Officer, Mount Sinai Health System, presents “Medicine v. 2014: How the Changing Face of Data Will Affect Your Practice.”

Tuesday, October 7
8:30 – 9:30 am
Mount Sinai Beth Israel
Podell Auditorium
Bernstein Pavilion

Friedman Brain Institute Translational Neuroscience Seminar Series
Yan Dong, PhD, Associate Professor, Neuroscience, University of Pittsburgh, presents “Cocaine-Induced Synaptic and Circuitry Remodeling.”

Thursday, October 9
1 pm
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus
Hess Center, Seminar Room A

Grand Rounds Surgery
Brian S. Koll, MD, Executive Director, Infection Prevention, Mount Sinai Health System; and Christopher Basler, PhD, Professor, Microbiology, The Mount Sinai Hospital, present “Ebola.”

Tuesday, September 30
8:30 – 9:30 am
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus
Hess Center, Seminar Room A

Friedman Brain Institute Translational Neuroscience Seminar Series
Bruce Darrow, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Information Officer, Mount Sinai Health System, presents “Medicine v. 2014: How the Changing Face of Data Will Affect Your Practice.”

Tuesday, October 7
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Mount Sinai Beth Israel
Podell Auditorium
Bernstein Pavilion

Thursday, October 9
1 pm
The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus
Hess Center, Seminar Room A

Food Service Open House
To celebrate Food Service Worker’s Week at The Mount Sinai Hospital, Morrison Healthcare will host brief guided tours of the Food Service Department. Participants will see how a meal is prepared for hospital patients and guests of the Plaza Café. To reach the Food Service Department, take the East elevators in the Guggenheim Pavilion to the Kitchen on “SC Level.” Tours will be held every 15 minutes beginning at 11 am. The last tour will be at 12:30 pm. For more information, or to sign up, contact Pat Ortlieb, at patricia.ortlieb@mountsinai.org or 646-276-6033.

Thursday, October 9
11 am – 12:30 pm
Food Service Department
Guggenheim Pavilion

Mount Sinai

The Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center (MSAHC), a pioneer and leader in the treatment of adolescent-specific health services, will celebrate its 11th annual Breakfast of Legends benefit on Thursday, October 23, from 7:30 to 9 am, at The Plaza.

Funds raised at the Breakfast of Legends enable the MSAHC to provide free comprehensive health care—medical, mental, dental, optical, reproductive, and health education—to more than 11,000 adolescents from New York City and surrounding areas.

This year, the MSAHC will recognize the following honorees for their ongoing service to young people:

- David L. Reich, MD, and Mr. Keith Marran; Dr. Reich is President of The Mount Sinai Hospital and Mount Sinai Queens;
- John B. Steever, MD, Assistant Professor, Jack and Lucy Clark Department of Pediatrics, Division of Adolescent Medicine, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai;
- Peggy Papp, LCSW, a senior faculty member of the Ackerman Institute for the Family, a leading training institution for family therapists. Ms. Papp will be presented with the Dr. Joan E. Morgenthau Lifetime Advocate for Youth Award; and
- The New York Women’s Foundation, a cross-cultural alliance of women working to improve the lives of women and families in New York City.

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