

Chair, Cheryl Chase, called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

1.1 No public comment

2. Chair's remarks

2.1 Welcome

Ms. Chase welcomed everyone to the regularly scheduled quarterly meeting which was being recorded.

2.2 Approval of Minutes

The Clinical Affairs Subcommittee approved the motion to accept the minutes of the Subcommittee meeting held on February 9, 2023.

3. Chief Executive Officer Report – Dr. Bruce Liang

Dr. Bruce Liang provided a report on current hospital operations. He provided the COVID-19 update to this committee for the last time, due to the continued downward trend of cases at UConn Health and throughout our state. UConn Health has been steadily loosening up COVID restrictions for employees, patients, and visitors over the past several months due to this downward trend. The official end of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) is today, May 11. A workgroup facilitated by our Healthcare Compliance team has reviewed all applicable PHE waivers and taken necessary actions to return to pre-pandemic processes. The average daily census and discharge reports for John Dempsey Hospital continue to exceed budget forecasts. As reported at previous meetings, we are seeing a steep growth of patients seeking care and anticipate needing an additional 1.4 beds every month to keep up with demand. Surgery in main OR, GI and UHSC continues to be at or exceeding budget currently. UConn Medical Group's net patient revenue is ahead of budget by 4.4% and the prior year by 6.7%. The largest growth areas YTD are Dermatology, OB/MFM, and Primary Care when compared to budget. UMG is a busy practice reporting encounters to be 5.5% better than budget and 6.6% ahead of the prior year. The UMG Simsbury practice was relocated to 836 Hopmeadow Road and opened for business on May 5th.

4. Quality Reports

4.0 John Dempsey Hospital/UConn Medical Group – Dr. Scott Allen

Dr. Scott Allen announced that John Dempsey Hospital was recognized with an international designation, as one of the 2023 World's Best Hospitals, recognizing the best medical institutions across 28 countries. In addition, HealthGrades awarded the hospital the 2023 Outstanding Patient Experience Award, the only hospital in Connecticut to achieve this level. For the 5th time in a row, John Dempsey Hospital was awarded an A Safety grade by Leapfrog. Dr. Allen reviewed the Hospital Safety Scorecard metrics and highlighted some key metrics such as Hand Hygiene, CLABSI, CAUTI events – and noted the last serious safety event was January of this year.

5. Approvals

JDH Medical Staff Bylaws require that each Clinical Service of the Medical Staff have a Chief of Service that is responsible for all professional and clinically related activity.

5.1 Anesthesiology Chief of Service – Dr. Leonard Kulicki

5.2 Medicine Chief of Service – Dr. Mark Metersky

The Clinical Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the appointments described in Agenda items 5.1 and 5.2 as detailed on the Resolutions in the Board materials on pages 23-27.

5.3 Utilization Review Report

The UCH BOD has delegated authority to this Subcommittee to act on behalf of the Board to approve the JDH Utilization Management Plan, which is designed to ensure effective and efficient utilization of the hospital's resources.

The Clinical Affairs Subcommittee approves the 2022 Utilization Review Report as described in the Resolution in the Board materials on page 28 (Director Rawlins abstained).

6. School Reports

6.1 School of Medicine Update

Dr. Steven Angus provided an overview of the Graduate Medical Education activity reporting four new programs will start in July 2023. Epilepsy, Foot and Ankle Orthopedic Surgery, MSK Radiology and Sleep Medicine join our 70 existing residency and fellowship programs. All residency programs are filled in their respective match. There are 214 incoming trainees starting in June, selected from 3,119 interviewed applicants. 13% of our trainees identify as URiM, and over 55% are female.

6.2 School of Dental Medicine Update

Dr. Sophia Saeed provided an update on the goals set and actions taken after the 2021 inaugural administration of the Patient Safety and Culture Survey. A significant amount of effort was made in the last year to make meaningful changes in areas of weakness.

In April 2023 the survey was administered again, and most areas saw improvements, specifically office processes and organizational learning where we met our goals. In operations, the total number of visits remained below budget, but revenue remains favorable. . If we look at gross charges per visit year to date, we are 11% positive to budget with is an improvement from last quarter.

Dean Lepowsky shared the sad news that Dr. Christy Lottinger will be leaving UConn Health later this summer, relocating to New Hampshire. Her remarkable contributions to both our educational and patient care programs have been extraordinary. She is an outstanding educator, receiving the 2023 Excellence Award, and we wish her only the best in the next phase of her professional career.

7. Informational Items

A summary of activities undertaken by the JDH Medical Board over the last quarter is included on page 44, and the UConn Medical Group quarterly Operations Report begins on page 45.

8. Executive Session

A motion was made and seconded to enter executive session to discuss attorney-client privileged communications and other items exempt from public disclosures under the state Freedom of Information Act.

The Clinical Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the motion to enter executive session at 3:00pm.

The following guests were invited to attend executive session: A. Keilty, A. Horbatuck, B. Liang, C. Ryan, J. Blumenthal, J. Geoghegan, S. Simpson S. Simpson, R.

Return to public session at 3:35 pm.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce T. Liang, MD
Interim Chief Executive Officer, John Dempsey Hospital
Interim Executive Vice President for Health Affairs
Dean, UConn School of Medicine

Voting Members Present: C. Chase, R. Barry, J. Freedman, K. Alleyne, W. Rawlins, T. Ressel, D. McFadden, R. Fuller, L. Wolansky, D. Shafer, C. Lottinger

Absent: n/a

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

August 10, 2023