

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. She thanked Dr. McFadden, Chair of Surgery, who is retiring at the end of 2023, and has been an incredible asset to the Clinical Affairs subcommittee.

2.2 Approval of Minutes

***The Clinical Affairs Subcommittee approved the motion to accept the minutes of the Subcommittee meeting held on May 11, 2023.***

3. Chief Executive Officer Report – Dr. Bruce Liang

Dr. Bruce Liang provided a report on current hospital operations. The ED continues to grow, with visits ahead of budget and FY23 visits. ED visits have helped drive admissions upwards. The average daily census and discharge reports for John Dempsey Hospital continue to exceed budget forecasts in the first months of FY24. As reported at previous meetings, we are seeing a steep growth of patients seeking care. Discharges for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of FY24 are in line with the budget. With so many vacations taking place in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of FY24, surgery in main OR, GI and UHSC continues to be at budget currently. UConn Medical Group's net patient revenue is ahead of budget by 4% and the prior year by 8.3%. The largest growth areas YTD are MOHS, DermatoPathology and Neurology when compared to budget. UMG is a busy practice reporting encounters to be 5.9% better than budget and 6.3% ahead of the prior year.

Chris Hyers and Kristin Wallace presented a market perception study. In 2016 and 2017, and again a few months ago, Consumer Preference baseline research was conducted to understand high level awareness and attributes of UConn Health. As a result of marketing efforts following the 2016 study, UConn Health set a goal and in fact achieved #2 in high level awareness. The overall perception of UConn Health in a study of 1,000 respondents, is that since 2016 there has been a positive shift in perception of UConn Health, with 94% of respondents rating UConn Health excellent/very good/good, up from 69% in 2016.

4. Quality Reports

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

Dr. Scott Allen shared data on serious safety events. JDH's rate continues to remain below the historically reported state average. The most recent safety event occurred in June, 2023, and there have been no safety events since then, through October, 2023. Dr. Allen reviewed the Hospital Safety Scorecard metrics and highlighted some key metrics such as Hand Hygiene, CLABSI, CAUTI, and C.diff events. He explained

challenges in the way Admission Medication Reconciliation is calculated. There are several ongoing initiatives in an effort to achieve and maintain high rates of Hand Hygiene with a goal of 94%, currently achieving 89%. The Mortality Index (survey of 180 hospitals) has trended favorably since 2020. For the first time ever, the CMS Star rating for JDH is '5 stars' in terms of willingness to recommend JDH. JDH has received a Leapfrog hospital safety grade of "A" - that is our 6<sup>th</sup> in a row, or three years straight.

Dr. Allen presented the John Dempsey Hospital Clinical Quality and Service Improvement Plan to be approved by our governing body. Revisions/updates include:

- Section IV: The Patient and Family Advisory Council is now supported by the Vice President of Patient Experience, and
- Section VIII: Performance Improvement (PI) priorities remain unchanged, but are now more specific and measurable, including recommending changing the Admission Medicine Reconciliation timeframe from 24 to 48 hours

***The Clinical Affairs Subcommittee approved the motion to accept the 2024 JDH Clinical Quality & Service Performance Improvement Plan.***

## 5. Approvals [vote]

### 5.1 Environment of Care Annual Assessments

Kevin Higgins presented the Environment of Care Management Plan for 2024. The annual assessments review the objective, scope, performance and effectiveness of the management plans. EOC assessments for safety, security, fire, medical equipment, utilities and hazardous materials were completed in Q4, 2023.

***The Clinical Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the Environment of Care Management Plan for 2024 as described in Agenda item 5.1 and detailed in the Board materials starting on page 49.***

## 6. School Reports

### 6.1 School of Medicine Update

Dr. Wendy Miller presented a report on GME Annual Quality Improvement by Residents. Following ACGME common program requirements, in 2017 a Patient Safety Educational Program for incoming residents and fellows was implemented. This included: Culture of Safety, Safety Event Reporting, Safety Event Analysis using Apparent Cause Analysis (ACA), and Action Plan Development. In 2020 Patient Safety Faculty Experts received ongoing education designed to provide requisite knowledge and skills to teach and

mentor their trainees in patient safety. Out of 90 ACA analyses there were done, 56 action plans proposed by residents and fellows were implemented in AY2022-2023.

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## 6.2 School of Dental Medicine Update

Dr. Lepowsky reported on the October 24-26 accreditation site visit which assessed the DMD program along with seven of eight advanced dental education residency programs. The eighth program, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery had its site visit review in December 2022. The outcome was extremely positive as there were no recommendations in any of the programs evaluated. The Commission on Dental Accreditation team (15 site visitors and 4 staff) determined the SODM met or exceeded every one of the 645 accreditation standards. A final report is expected in end of January 2024.

Dr. Sophia Saeed reported on initiatives to provide improvement in key areas for improvement, one of which is patient care tracking and follow up. A formerly manual audit of patient charts that took 450 faculty hours has been automated and can now be accomplished, more thoroughly, in approximately 5 minutes.

## 7. Informational Items

A summary of activities undertaken by the JDH Medical Board over the last quarter is included on page 71, and the UConn Medical Group quarterly Operations Report begins on page 72.

## 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.***

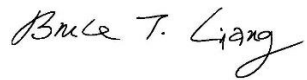
***The Clinical Affairs Subcommittee unanimously approved the motion to enter executive session at 3:00pm.***

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

Return to public session at 3:52 pm.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce T. Liang". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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, J. Baldwin, J. Freedman, K. Alleyne, T. Ressel, R. Fuller, L. Wolansky,

**Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting**  
**February 8, 2024**