CT AHEC Promotes Team-Based Care

Reflecting the CT AHEC Network’s focus on providing educational support for public health and health-care providers, the CT AHEC Program’s director, Bruce Gould, MD, recently presented at a U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) symposium focused on hypertension screening and treatment, and stroke prevention. The symposium’s goal was to improve the ability of project officers in the CDC’s Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention to support grantee promotion of team-based care. Participants presented on and discussed successful models and examples of team-based health care.
Dr. Gould was invited to participate in the CDC’s panel discussions of team-based approaches to health by the Connecticut Department of Public Health’s chronic disease director, Mehul Dalal, MD. On the panel, Dr. Gould discussed the critical role that community health workers (CHWs) play in delivery of team-based care, highlighting their role in addressing hypertension. Healthcare reform efforts in Connecticut funded by the State Innovation Model and Practice Transformation Network grants from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services formed a crucial background to his discussion of CHWs.

Dr. Gould and Dr. Dalal, with Janet Wright, MD, executive director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Million Hearts® national initiative, also participated in a “Fireside Chat” webinar with a similar focus, hosted by the CDC and the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, for representatives of state health agencies. A recording of the webinar and related discussion is available at www.chronicdisease.org/page/CVHWebinars.

The statewide Connecticut Area Health Education Center (CT AHEC) Network, based at UConn Health, is implemented through four regional centers which enable the CT AHEC Network to provide high-quality, efficient, effective and flexible services that meet local needs. Thank you for your continued support of the CT AHEC Network.

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