BITS AND BYTES

Orthopedic Surgeons Bone Up on Orthoview

Surgeons at the New England Musculoskeletal Institute will implement technology this fall to aid in their preparation for joint replacement surgery. Orthoview will assist the surgeons with their pre-operative planning of joint replacement surgery and is fully integrated with the Radiology Philips iSite PACs system.

Radiology technologists will use special scaling markers and templates to obtain digital images for patients identified for joint replacement surgery. Orthoview includes over 500 templates which are specific to the manufacturer parts and type of the replacement joint. The templates utilize wizards which guide the surgeon through each of the different scenarios based on the selected template. The physicians will be able to quickly and accurately perform their joint replacement planning with specific patient's images, store the information on the PACS system for future viewing, and access the information from workstations in the physician's office, clinic locations, and outside the OR. Additionally, comprehensive reports can be generated which include details down to the part numbers for the patient's medical record, patient safety in the operating room, and for inventory control and ordering.

The surgeons and support staff will be trained on October 7th and expect to begin using Orthoview later this month.

For more information, please contact Ingrid Napoletano at x4756.

Coming Soon: Automated Lab Animal Protocol Processes

In an effort to make the process for lab animal protocols more efficient and effective, we are implementing the Granite Lab Animal Protocol module from Topaz Technologies. The project is currently in the planning stages with a tentative go-live date set for early 2010. The system will automate online development and submission of the protocol, reviews and approval by the Animal Care Committee (ACC), protocol tracking & storage, and electronic communication between Research departments and the ACC.
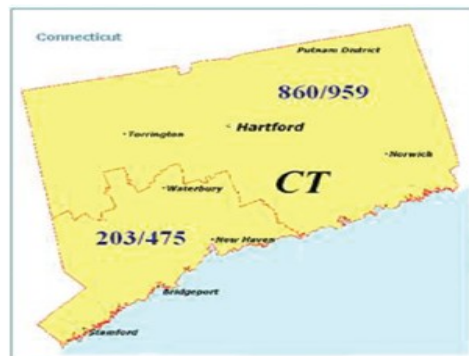
If you have any questions, please contact Bert Romeo at x 8054.

10 Digit Dialing: Everything You Wanted to Know!

Effective November 14, 2009, all local calls in Connecticut will require 10-digit dialing: the area code and the local phone number. The switch to 10-digit local dialing is necessary in advance of the need for new area code(s), which will shortly be necessary in Connecticut. You may follow this link to the complete Announcement. DPUC 10 Digit Dial Announcement
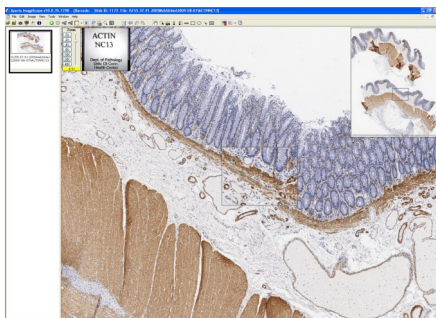
Some quick facts about this change in dialing:

- You still need to dial "9", before you make an outside call
- 10 digit dialing will have no impact on the cost of calls
- There is no change to making calls within the Health Center (extension to extension)
- There is a change to calling our local associates. For example, If you formerly dialed "9, 523-xxxx" to reach the West Hartford Health Partners, you'll need to dial "9, 860-523-xxxx" to complete the call.

If you have any questions please call Steve Mann at X8059 or Janet Brownell at X4505.

UCHC Innovation in Education Through Virtual Microscopy

Virtual Microscopy is now a large component in the 1st and 2nd year shared curriculum of the medical and dental schools. It allows the students to view histology images online, in lieu of using a microscope, and replicates a microscope's capabilities, allowing the image to be adjusted to several different powers. Since October 2008, when the Aperio Virtual Microscope was installed and implemented by the FITS team, usage has grown tremendously. Instructors now use the system with their students during labs, replacing the use of microscopes. Students have continuous access to the slides, allowing them to study and annotate the slides both inside and outside the classroom.

To date, more than 900 slides have been scanned and placed into 64 laboratory lessons across the 1st two years of the curriculum. Students, faculty, and staff truly love all of the capabilities of this sophisticated instrument. Only 350 of these instruments are installed in the U.S., and the UCONN Health Center is proud to be one of only a small number of medical schools using this instrument in education.

For more information, please contact Jason Nicosia at x2573.

Med3/PSY3 Floor Implements Patient Safety Systems

On Monday, September 28th, the JDH 3rd floor was transformed into the new Medicine 3 (MED3) and Psychiatric 3 (PSY3) Units. These units will provide integrated and comprehensive care in an inpatient setting to our Medicine and Geriatric Psych patient population with co-morbid medical and psychiatric illnesses. The departments of Clinical Informatics and Information Technology prepared all summer for this opening, as two more units went live on the JDH Patient Safety Systems, implementing Physician Order Entry (POE), Medication Reconciliation-Discharge Instructions (MRDI), Medication Administration Checking (MAK) and Lab Labeling.

Library Receives Innovation Award

Hongjie Wang, head of the Information and Education Services department in the library, received an "Innovation Award" from NAHSL (the North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries Association). Hongjie has organized a way of providing interesting yet instructive overviews of library resources for all new employees at the Health Center. The four reference librarians in Hongjie's department take turns presenting these resources during the orientation lunch on Fridays. They work hard to "wow" their potential library users with materials of various formats that can be accessed for free, both on and off campus. The article about this award can be read at http://nahsl.wordpress.com/category/continuing-education/nahsl-innovations

Dr. Hongjie Wang

Tidbits and Tips

I am gearing up to analyze my research data and heard that I can get SPSS installed on my computer. Where do I get a copy? *Click the Research IT FAQs to get the scoop.*

Did you know that UCHC receives an average of 5.4 million e-mails per month, of which 83% are flagged as spam?

About Bits and Bytes

We're on the Web!

http://itweb.uchc.edu/