

RESIDENT & FELLOW NEWSLETTER

May 2024

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WELCOME ASSOCIATE DEAN OF GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION, DR. GEOFFREY CONNORS!



Geoffrey Connors, MD, has been named Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education (GME) and Designated Institutional Official at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, effective May 15. Dr. Connors is an associate professor of medicine in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. Prior to taking on the role as DIO, he was the program director for the internal medicine residency program, vice chair of education in the Department of Medicine, and chair of the program oversight committee for GME.

Prior to coming to Colorado in 2017, Connors was associate professor of medicine at Yale University, where he served as an associate program director in the residency training program, associate medical director of the medical ICU, and director of clinical reasoning for the Yale School of Medicine. He is a member of the American Thoracic Society, a fellow of the American College of Physicians, and is board-certified in internal medicine, pulmonary medicine, and critical care medicine.

Dr. Connors received his medical degree from Tulane University, did his internal medicine residency and chief medical residency at the CU School of Medicine, and completed a fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine at Johns Hopkins Medicine. He has also received many teaching awards including the Arthur P. Gold Humanism in Medicine and Excellence in Teaching Award (Colorado, 2006), the Francis Gilman Blake Award for Outstanding Teaching/Medical Sciences (Yale, 2016), and the Fred S. Kantor 'Teacher of the Year' Award (Yale, 2017). Please join us in welcoming Dr. Connors and wishing him all the best in his new role!



NEWS & EVENTS



PERSONALIZED & GENOMIC MEDICINE CERT. PROGRAM

Interested in personalized and genomic medicine? Residents and Fellows can apply to the 100% online [Personalized and Genomic Medicine Graduate Certificate program](#) offered by the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. The 2-semester program offers the opportunity to learn from industry-leading experts about this evolving field of personalized medicine. Apply [here](#) by June 1, 2024 to start Fall 2024.

[Learn More & Apply](#)



CU ANSCHUTZ INNOVATION FORUM | JUNE 10-12

CU Innovations, Startup Toolbox and Academia Industry Alliance are hosting a free, 3-Day CU Anschutz Innovation Forum on **June 10-12** in the Anschutz Health Sciences Building Elliman Conference Center. Engaging presentations and panel discussions will demystify the innovation journey. Key sessions will cover company formation, building inclusive teams and career opportunities. Connect with CU researchers, start-ups and industry partners.


[Learn More & Register](#)



NEWS & EVENTS

INTRODUCING THE NEW: *Well-being Elective*

Interested in developing your well-being toolbox?
Curious about how to feel more fulfilled at work,
or thrive in the face of chronic stress?



What: 2-week elective to:

- **Connect with other trainees**
- **Build resilience**
- **Process occupational trauma**
- **Clarify your values**
- **Increase your professional fulfillment**
- **and more!**

Who: Residents and fellows in all specialties

When: Jan 13-26, 2025, M-F, approx 9a-5p, no required assignments outside of work

Where: In person, Anschutz, lunch provided

How to sign up: *Spots are limited. Let your program coordinator know that you would like to sign up, and they will submit your application.* Trainees will be accepted on a first come first serve basis beginning Monday, May 20th at 8am.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Sedler at jennifer.sedler@childrenscolorado.org



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

JUNETEENTH BLOCK PARTY

The Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Community Engagement is hosting its annual **Juneteenth Block Party Celebration**.

When: Thursday, June 13, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Where: Bonfils Court (outside of Fitzsimons Building), 13007 E. 17th Pl.

Who: This event is open to everyone on and off campus

Download a flyer [here](#) and register [here](#).



[Register Here](#)

JOIN THE LGBTQ+ HUB ON A CU DENVER PRIDE SUBCOMMITTEE

We're thrilled to share the news that CU @ Denver Pride subcommittee meetings have kicked off for this year's festivities. Mark your calendars because this year's Denver PrideFest is set to take place on the vibrant weekend of **June 22 and 23**. As usual, there is the opportunity for volunteers to get involved in our subcommittees, with each team focusing on key aspects of the event, including preparing booth materials, parade participation, organizing the 5k, and marketing. All subcommittees are meeting once per month in April and May and will switch to biweekly meetings in June. If you are interested in joining us on one of these subcommittees, please reach out to the LGBTQ+ Hub by clicking the button below!


[Get Involved](#)



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Asian American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Health Equity in Action Lab
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



Office of Adaptable Resolution
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

Anschutz Community Building Circles

Celebrate Asian American & Pacific Islander Month with


HEAL & APAMSA


Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association

All campus and community members are welcome!


In the month of May we take time to acknowledge and celebrate the important role that Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AANHPIs) have played in our shared history, join us as we reflect with a community circle!

When:
Date Changed!


Monday, May 20th Education 2 North Room 3108 12pm-1pm	 	Monday, June 3rd Nighorse Campbell Room 204 12pm-1pm
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 School of Medicine
PAMSA
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Check out our events:
calendar.cuanschutz.edu

 Learn More

Join Us!







  @CUDEICEAnschutz

#AtCUWeSeeYou

DIVERISTY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Health Equity in Action Lab
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



Office of Adaptable Resolution
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

Anschutz Community Building Circles

Mission:

We offer this time and space for us to foster connection—to be heard, to listen for understanding, and to cultivate a greater sense of belonging for our campus community.



Learn More

All campus and community members are welcome!

When:

**2nd Tuesday
of every month**

In Person

9am - 10:30am

Refreshments Provided

**3rd Thursday
of every month**

Virtual

12pm-1:30pm

Register for link

**Additional varied date
every month**

In Person

12pm-1:30pm

Refreshments Provided

Check out our events:



calendar.cuanschutz.edu



Join Us!



@CUDEICEAnschutz

#AtCUWeSeeYou

QUALITY & SAFETY

Ever Wanted to Tell the Hospital CEO What's on Your Mind?

Attend UCH C-Suite & Resident Safety Rounds for an opportunity to make your voice heard and contribute to real improvements.

Residents and fellows are invited to participate in UCH C-Suite & Resident Safety Rounds at University Hospital. This is a recurring opportunity for you to enact true change at University Hospital and affiliated clinics. Come prepared to discuss patient safety, and to have an open and collegial discussion with hospital leadership.

NEXT MEETING: May 21, 2024, 12:00-12:45PM | Attend in person or virtually

SIGN UP TODAY

C-SUITE & RESIDENT SAFETY ROUNDS



Highlighted Improvements from C-Suite Rounds

- ✓ RL safety reporting process streamlined and simplified.
- ✓ Consult optimization and standardization initiative.
- ✓ Transition bed number standardization.
- ✓ Clinic inbox management role reassignment.

QUALITY & SAFETY

QUALITY & SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM - THANK YOU!

The incentive program ended on **April 30th**. Thank you for your diligent efforts and participation to help make this a successful program. Final program and individual data is posted **here**. As a reminder, payouts will be received in June paychecks.

Be on the lookout for information about next year's (2024-2025) Incentive Program coming soon!



QUALITY & SAFETY ACADEMY REGISTER FOR FALL SESSION

Fall 2024 Virtual sessions offered from 1 - 4 p.m. MT

- 8/8 - Quality Improvement and Change Management*
- 8/15 - Applied Patient Safety
- 8/21 - Quality Improvement and Change Management*
- 9/5 – Acquiring Data to Drive Change
- 9/11 - Designing for Change
- 9/19 - Spreading Change Locally and Nationally
- 10/2 - Coaching and Teaching Quality Improvement

[Learn More & Register](#)

Wellness Matters



Take Control of your Finances with these Financial Tools

Check out the GME Financial Wellness page where you can access free personal financial consultations, loan forgiveness resources, budgeting tools, and more!

[LEARN MORE](#)

WELLNESS WHILE ON SERVICE

Check out these resources to help make life a little easier while you're on service. Find:

- [Wellness & Sleep Rooms](#)
- [Fatigue Management](#)
- [Lactation Rooms](#)
- [Food on Campus](#)
- [Rideshare Reimbursement](#)



[GET SUPPORT NOW](#)

Going through a tough time? Need some support in your life or work? You can find local support groups and support tolls specifically for medical providers on the GME [Mental Health & Wellness](#) page.



[SELF-SCREENING & ROUTINE CARE](#)

Residents & Fellows have access to a variety of mental health providers and clinics. You can also use one of [these self-screening tools](#) for burnout, depression, and substance use to help detect an issue or prepare for an appointment.



[24/7 CRISIS RESOURCES](#)

In an emergency, call 911 or report to the nearest emergency room. Additionally, the 988 Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress. See other [urgent care and crisis resources](#) here.

Need something else?

Check out the GME Wellness page for additional resources.

[WELLNESS](#)

HOSPITAL UPDATES FOR HOUSESTAFF

UNIVERSITY of COLORADO HOSPITAL

University of Colorado Hospital Updates: Focus on Quality and Safety: High Reliability and Academic Year 24-25 Priorities + Unit Openings & Moves

University of Colorado Hospital is continuing on its high reliability journey. A high-reliability organization (HRO) has been defined as an organization that consistently performs safely, efficiently, and with high quality even in the face of complex challenges with high hazard potential. All team members play a role in achieving quality, safety, experience and culture goals. At the center is always the patient. This figure depicts our vision for how a highly reliable patient care experience should play out.

High Reliability Care Delivery

Start of Episode



Patient knows what to expect during their stay.

- In-clinic pathway initiation
- Patient onboarding
- Nurse leader rounding on new admits



Team has the tools and reliable support to on-board patients.

- Virtual RN workflows to enhance admit process
- Enhanced team member onboarding

During the Episode

Patient feels safe and their needs are met. Care is consistent – every patient, every time.

- Evidence-based clinical pathways to drive care
- Purposeful hourly rounding at bedside
- Patient responsiveness tactics for clinical support service areas (e.g. therapies, RT, EVS, etc)

Team workflow supports the consistent ability to proactively address patient needs. Clinical teams can focus on clinical care.

- Simplify the lives of our clinical teams (e.g. supply chain, HR, pharmacy, service recovery support)
- Scale best practice solutions
- Huddles to monitor quality outcomes and needs (q4)
- Leadership rounding

End of Episode

Patient feels prepared for next level of care.

- Medication teaching day prior to discharge
- Discharge experience
- Follow-up care coordination

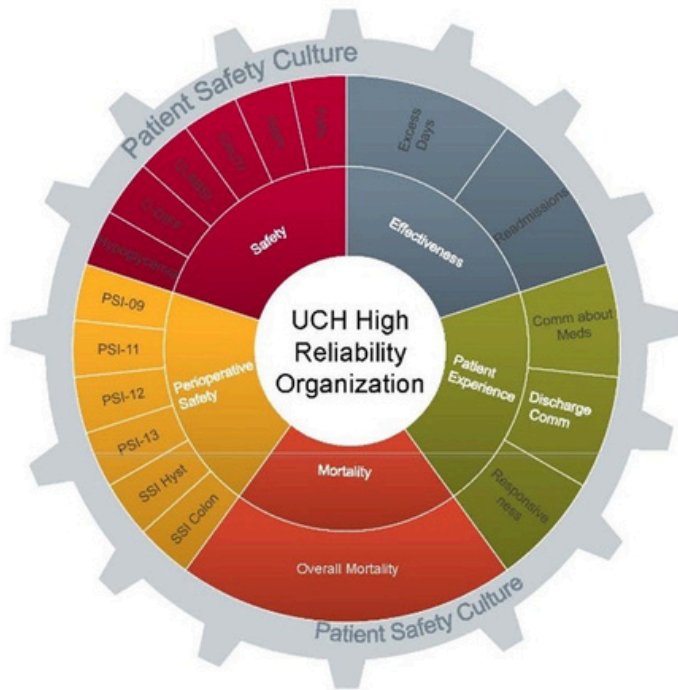
Team has the tools and reliable support to discharge patients.

- Virtual RN workflows to enhance discharge process
- Ease of ambulatory access for follow-up visit coordination

Culture and Cohesion

Consistent with this aspiration, we have identified the following as our 24-25 quality and safety priorities:

UCH FY25 Quality and Safety Priorities



Safety

- ★ Mobility
- Falls with Injury
- Pressure Injuries (PSI-03)
- CAUTI
- CLABSI
- C-Diff
- Hypoglycemia with Insulin Use

Peroperative Safety

- ★ Surgical Safety Bundle
- PSI-09 Post-op Hemorrhage and Hematoma
- ★ PSI-11 Post-op Respiratory Failure
- ★ PSI-12 Perioperative DVT or PE
- ★ PSI-13 Post-op Sepsis
- SSI – Hysterectomy
- SSI – Colon

Mortality

- ★ Overall Mortality
- Focus Workgroups:
 - Cardiovascular Services
 - Neurosciences
 - Ortho/Spine

Patient Experience

- ★ Responsiveness
- ★ Discharge Information
- ★ Communication About Medications

Effectiveness




- ★ Access
- ★ Readmissions and Excess Days (revisit within 30 days of DC)

★ UCH HRO Roadmap and/or Operational Priorities SSI= Surgical Site Infections PSI= Patient Safety Indicator SIR= Standard Infection Ratio

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And, the following as our operational focus areas to support achievement of these goals.

FY25 Operational Focus Areas

 <p>Quality, Safety, and Patient Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce patient mortality Hardwire surgical and procedural safety bundles Design and implement evidence-based pathways for mobility, post-op sepsis, respiratory failure, DVT/PE Implement patient experience roadmap initiatives
 <p>Access to Care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve access across the care continuum Improve efficiency measures across the continuum Manage LOS Reduce excess days and readmissions
 <p>Team Culture and Cohesion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement local action plans from employee voice survey Improve safety culture results – collaboration Hardwire leadership rounding into practice
 <p>Financial Resilience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve operational budget targets Reduce waste to improve value in care delivery process Implement denials prevention practices UCH/CU funds flow project collaboration

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We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with you in achieving these goals and welcome your ideas, observations and feedback as we work together to provide the highest quality and safest care possible.

University of Colorado Hospital Unit Moves and Openings

CTICU: As of 4/23/2024 the CTICU is now beds 256-279 on the 2nd floor of AIP2.

Oncology: The 11th floor is being renovated in sections so there will be temporary closures of rooms in AIP1 and AIP2 and patients will be located on the 11th floor of AIP3. Renovations are expected to be completed in early June.

MSPCU: Will move back to AIP1 10th floor on 5/21/2024 and will become a medicine-focused progressive care (step-down) unit at that time.

Surgical PCU: This NEW unit will open on AIP3 10th floor on 5/21/2024. As a result the 10 bed side of the CCA unit will close.

BMT: Will temporarily move to AIP3 11th floor on 6/4/2024 for a unit refresh.





FELLOW SPOTLIGHT

MEET LYNELLE SMITH

PGY 6 | GYNECOLOGIC AND BREAST PATHOLOGY

Lynelle Smith, MD, is currently in her second year of pathology fellowship. Last year, she completed a one-year Cytopathology fellowship, and she is currently completing a one year Gynecologic and Breast Pathology fellowship. She is a Colorado Native, growing up in the suburbs of Denver, and considers herself fortunate to have attended college and medical school at the University of Colorado. In the summer she will be joining the Department of Pathology at CU as faculty, solidifying her status as a CU lifer. During her time in training, she developed a research interest in the molecular classification of endometrial carcinomas, and helped to implement universal endometrial carcinoma molecular testing at CU.

She also has an academic interest in early medical pipeline mentorship. Lynelle is a mother to a 6-year-old daughter and 18-year-old stepson. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, reading, playing (and winning!) pub trivia, gardening, listening to new music and knitting.



Have questions? Contact the GME Office

[CONTACT US](#)