BWH/BWFH's Murthy confirmed as the nation's 19th surgeon general

Nominated for the position by President Barack Obama last year, the U.S. Senate approved the nomination in a recent vote confirming Vivek Murthy, MD, MBA, a hospitalist at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital and instructor at Harvard Medical School, as the nation’s 19th surgeon general. Read more.

How to survive the holiday eating marathon

Are you anxious about gaining weight because of endless holiday events that involve food? Registered dietitian Nancy Oliveira’s simple dos and don'ts will help you savor and not stress about the holidays! Read more.

Need more coaching to meet your wellness goals? Contact the Nutrition Clinic at 617-983-4455 to schedule an appointment with a registered dietitian.

Renovations to Ingersoll Bowditch Medical Library and Saslow Conference Room completed

After a two-month renovation process, the Ingersoll Bowditch Medical Library and Saslow Conference Room at Brigham and Women’s Faulkner Hospital were recently re-opened. In addition to new modern furnishings, both the library and conference room feature blue and green colors and light wood accents for an open and airy feel. Read more.

BWFH and BWH hand therapists collaborate for a day of learning

Hand and arm transplantation surgery, first performed at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in 2011, is a highly complex procedure that requires surgical connection of bones, ligaments, nerves, blood vessels, muscles, tendons and skin. When successful, it has the potential to significantly improve a patient’s life, but it also requires extensive rehabilitation therapy. BWH Senior Occupational Therapist Marie-Jose Benjamin, OTR/L, CHT, led the rehabilitation of BWH’s first hand transplant patient. This fall, she met with her hand therapy colleagues from Brigham and Women’s Faulkner Hospital and BWH to share her protocol for treating these unique patients. Read more.
ED Educator joins Nursing Professional Development Department

Erin Waldron earned her BSN in nursing from Framingham State University. For roughly 20 years, she worked in emergency nursing before deciding a change of career was in order. Waldron enrolled in the nursing education MSN program at Framingham State University, graduating this past May. She now takes on the role of ED Educator with the Nursing Professional Development Department at Brigham and Women’s Faulkner Hospital. Read more.

Integrating primary care with behavioral health

One in three people will experience a psychiatric illness at some point in their lives and primary care physicians often serve as their main point of contact. The typical wait time for a new psychiatry appointment at Partners is between two and four months. For this and other reasons, Partners has developed and is launching a Behavioral Health Integration Program combining the resources and expertise of behavioral health professionals and PCPs to benefit patients with behavioral health needs. Read more.

Webcast Available - Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End

If you missed the December 4 Quality Rounds featuring speaker Atul Gawande, MD, MPH, author of Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End, renowned Brigham and Women’s Hospital surgeon and researcher and executive director of Ariadne Labs, you can watch it here.

Updates from Partners EAP

The holiday season is upon us and for many of us that means lots of activity and festivities. The season can also mean added stress. Partners Employee Assistance Program (EAP) wants to help reduce those stressors so you can relax and enjoy the season’s celebrations! For strategies to make your holidays more enjoyable, visit the Increase Your Holiday Joy and Strategies for the Holidays EAP web pages. Call the EAP at 866-724-4327 for more information.

Share your snapshots of life at BWFH

Capture and share your experiences at Brigham and Women’s Faulkner Hospital by sending us your snapshots from group celebrations, department events, conferences and other happenings. Photos may appear on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or right here in BWFH Pulse. Simply email your photos to Stephanie Wilder in Marketing and Public Affairs. Be sure to include a caption, the date the photo was taken and the names of the people in the photo. Please do not include patients in photos.
Good health, it’s in your hands!

Brigham and Women’s Faulkner Hospital reminds staff to wash or sanitize your hands before and after each patient interaction. Hand hygiene is the single most important means of preventing the spread of infection. There are five moments for hand hygiene defined by the World Health Organization: before direct patient contact, before an aseptic procedure, after exposure to blood or body fluid, after direct patient contact and after contact with the patient’s environment. To read BWFH’s complete Hand Hygiene policy, visit Faulkner411.

Partners In Excellence Award Ceremony - January 13

You are cordially invited to the 2014 Partners In Excellence Award Ceremony at Brigham and Women’s Faulkner Hospital. Join us on Tuesday, January 13, at 2 pm in Huvos Auditorium as we honor this year’s winners. There will be a reception immediately following the ceremony in the Mary Ann Tynan Conference Center.

Happy holidays, from our family to yours!

On behalf of the entire Brigham and Women’s Faulkner Hospital community, Chief Medical Officer Dr. Peggy Duggan would like to wish our patients and staff a joyous holiday season and a happy and healthy new year! View the message on the BWFH YouTube channel.

Please note, the BWFH Pulse will not be published on December 30. Look for the Top 14 of 2014 Year in Review issue on January 6.