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The NH Healthy Kids Silver Program

On July 1, 2009, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care (HPHC) became the insurance partner for the NH Healthy Kids Silver Program (SCHIP). This program covers 9000 NH children under the age of 19 who do not qualify for Medicaid (Healthy Kids Gold) because they are above those income guidelines. Most of the children come from families with working parents who do not have access to employer based health plans or who are self employed. Since the original Healthy Kids legislation passed the NH Legislature in 1993 Healthy Kids Silver has covered over 60,000 children who otherwise would not have had access to health insurance and has reduced the percentage of uninsured children in NH from 21% to around 7%.



Blue Cross of NH which became Anthem has been a valued partner with Healthy Kids since the program started but the contract for the next 2 years has now been awarded to Harvard Pilgrim in a competitive bidding process. Several meetings have been held with staff at HPHC to discuss preventive programs for children. Harvard Pilgrim has developed a web page for New Hampshire Healthy Kids pediatricians and family practitioners that provides up-to-date information about their disease and care management programs, behavioral health and wellness programs. The link is www.harvardpilgrim.org/nhhkproviders. Examples from the website include Harvard Pilgrim's extensive array of tools and resources

for asthma available through the website as well as resources for childhood obesity, including the CATCH recreation programs in New Hampshire that promote positive physical activity and healthy eating. In addition, immunization reminders are sent both to patients and to providers about childhood and adolescent immunizations to improve immunization rates. All of Harvard Pilgrim's patient education materials are on the website and can be downloaded for our patients. For behavioral health services, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care (HPHC) has had a contract with United Behavioral Health since 2004. This is not a "carve out" but a "partnership" as care managers from HPHC and United work together on cases. The behavioral network in NH includes 450 clinicians who see kids plus 35 child psychiatrists and 21 nurse practitioners. Some examples of behavioral health diagnoses and HPHC resources include:

Eating disorders – There are about 100 clinicians listed in NH that have expertise in eating disorders on the HPHC list. United Behavioral Health manages the eating disorders patients and matches them with appropriate in or out patient resources either in state or beyond.

ADHD – The parents of newly diagnosed patients are mailed a packet of information about ADHD. Follow up visits are tracked (linked with medication prescriptions) and frequent follow up visits are encouraged for quality of care.

Screening – Code 96110 can be used and

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is reimbursed for depression screening (any legitimate screen) as well as Vanderbilt screening for ADHD and developmental screening. Documentation needs to be made in the medical record about the screening.

Behavioral health referrals and phone consultations – United Behavioral Health encourages primary care physicians to refer patients needing behavioral health services by calling UBH's referral line, 1-888-777-4742. In addition, providers who have questions about medication choice or general management of patients with behavioral diagnoses can call the physician consultation service at 800 292-2922. This is a national service that employs clinicians including many child psychiatrists who are available to speak directly with PCPs and help with management and medication questions.

NH Healthy Kids Silver Program looks forward to partnering with HPHC and NH pediatricians are strongly encouraged to use their web site as a resource for valuable patient and referral information. Patients can also access extensive health and wellness information from the web site as well, www.harvardpilgrim.org. Discussions are also underway to utilize teen friendly communication tools in the future. Please call NH Healthy Kids if you have questions or want to give feedback about the new partnership.

- Suzanne Boulter MD



ATTENTION: BIG CHANGES COMING TO NEW HAMPSHIRE WIC!



The New Hampshire Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program is changing their food package on October 1, 2009 to better support a healthy diet. This will be done through adding more variety and healthy foods to the participants food package such as a cash value voucher to purchase fruits and vegetables at the grocery store, whole grain bread, brown rice, whole wheat tortillas, soymilk, tofu and for some participants the addition of baby food fruits, vegetables and meats at 6 months of age. As a result, the NH WIC Nutrition program will be decreasing the amount of milk, cheese, eggs and juice offered in order to be closer in line with AAP recommendations and the 2005 Dietary Guidelines. The greatest enhancement will be for the exclusively breastfeeding mom and infant dyad. The NH WIC Nutrition Program encourages you to connect with your local WIC agency to assist families during this exciting time. If you would like to request an in-service for your staff please contact the State WIC Office at 1-800-WIC-4321 or email Lissa Sirois at: Lissa.a.Sirois@dhhs.state.nh.us

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1-603-271-0571

AWARD WINNERS HONORED

The New Hampshire Pediatric Society presented its 2009 awards at the group's June meeting.

PEDIATRICIAN OF THE YEAR



Dr. Greg Prazar is the 2009 Pediatrician of the Year. A primary care pediatrician in Exeter since 1976, he has been a consulting pediatrician to the Exeter public schools and to Exeter's Ritchie Mc Farland Children's Center. He is the author or co-author of nine scientific articles and four book chapters.

An active participant with the Task Force on Mental Health of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), he currently serves as the Vice President of the New Hampshire Pediatric Society, which is the New Hampshire Chapter of the AAP.

Dr. Prazar is a pioneer in New Hampshire of the medical home model, a practice model to deliver continuous, coordinated, and family-centered primary care. It is particularly valuable in preventing chronically ill or developmentally delayed children from falling through the cracks of the health care system. The pediatric group in Exeter has provided a laboratory for the development of many of the tools used nationally by other pediatricians to implement the medical home model in their own practices.

He and his Exeter pediatric colleagues are also long-time participants in the Pediatric Research in Office Settings program of the AAP, which pools information from pediatric practices nationwide to develop meaningful research data.

Dr. Prazar graduated from the College of Wooster in 1968

and Case Western Reserve School of Medicine in 1972. He is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Dartmouth Medical School.

RETIRED PEDIATRICIAN OF THE YEAR



The Franklin Norwood Rogers Award for the Retired Pediatrician of the Year goes to Dr. Eugene Lariviere.

Born in Farmington and raised in Manchester, Dr. Lariviere was a primary care pediatrician in Manchester for over 30 years. He was a member of a pediatric group practice that eventually became part of the Manchester-Bedford Dartmouth Hitchcock Clinic, for which he was medical director. He was active in the development of the present Manchester Hitchcock Clinic. His words, "Ceci est mon beau reve" (This is my beautiful dream) adorn a

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Please Take Notice!

The New Hampshire Pediatric Society wants to improve immediate communication with and among our members. If your email address is not on our master list (or if you're not sure) please add your preferred address to the list by contacting Gil Fuld.

Our plan is to periodically send out the updated address list to everybody on it. If you haven't recently received a copy, we don't have your address.

**-Gil Fuld
Communications and
Public Relations Chair
fuldandfuld@ne.rr.com**

steel beam in the clinic building.

He was an original incorporator of Manchester's Child Health Services, which provides care for children from low income families, and was Board chair for the clinic's first three years.

He has previously been honored as the 2002 Manchester Citizen of the Year for his professional and civic activities and was the New Hampshire Pediatric Society's 2005 Pediatrician of the Year.

Currently retired and living in Grantham, he continues as an instructor and mentor to Dartmouth Medical School students and Dartmouth Hitchcock pediatric residents.

He is a 1961 graduate of the College of the Holy Cross and a 1963 graduate of Dartmouth Medical School. He received his medical degree from the University of Rochester in 1965.

He is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Dartmouth Medical School.

PUBLIC CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



The 2009 Public Citizen of the Year is Don Shumway, President and CEO, Crotched Mountain Foundation.

Mr. Shumway continues a long and distinguished career in New Hampshire focusing his energies on caring for some of the most disadvantaged people in the state. He has long been the conscience of New Hampshire for this population.

His service to the State of New Hampshire began in 1976 as planning director for the New Hampshire Developmental Disabilities Council. In 1979 he joined the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services, becoming Director from 1984 – 1996. As Director he was instrumental in developing a plan to close Laconia State School and move children and adults with mental retardation to community-based care.

For the next three years, he served as co-director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's \$5 million national initiative: "Self-Determination for Persons with Developmental Disabilities" in conjunction with the Institute on Disability, University of New Hampshire.

In 1999 he was appointed by Governor Shaheen to serve as commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services where he led the State's largest agency with more than 3,400 employees and a budget exceeding \$1 billion. In 2002 he accepted his present position as President of Crotched Mountain Foundation, Greenfield, NH, where he heads one of New England's leading organizations serving children, adults, and senior citizens with disabilities. At Crotched Mountain he has overseen the change from what was essentially a nursing home for handicapped children to a true rehabilitation hospital for children and brain injured adults as well as expanding the role of the Crotched Mountain School to include caring for and educating children with 21st century problems like autism and other significant behavioral challenges.

Mr. Shumway graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 1973 and received a Master in Social Service degree in Program Planning and Administration from Bryn Mawr College in 1976.

- Gilbert Fuld MD

Cost of Care Effectiveness and Home Care for Children with Severe Disabilities (HC-CSD) commonly referred to as “Katie Beckett” Medicaid.

Effective July 1, 2009, as approved by the NH Legislature, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will begin to look at the dollar amount of Medicaid claims paid for home care for each child receiving Medicaid benefits through the HC-CSD eligibility pathway. A child will remain eligible for HC-CSD only if the cost for providing home care does not exceed the cost the Medicaid program would have paid if the child were in an institution. Monitoring of cost of care is Federal law. Although cost data will be reviewed monthly, this information will only be used to estimate costs on a yearly basis in order to take into account normal monthly claims fluctuations.

A family will only be contacted if it is estimated that their child’s yearly home care costs may exceed the cost of institutional care. At that time, the Department will provide resources to assist the family continue to keep their home care costs below the cost of institutional care. Families will be encouraged to contact a Care Coordinator at DHHS to assist them in completing a cost of care reduction plan.

DHHS anticipates very few children will be affected by this cost of care methodology. More detailed information on HC-CSD and cost of care can be found in administrative rule He-W 508 at <http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/ADMINRULEMAKING/adopted.htm>

If you or your patients have questions regarding the cost of care effectiveness methodology please contact NH Family Voices at 1-800-852-3345x4525 or 603-271-4525 or email nhfv@yahoo.com. The Department is also available to answer any questions you have about this methodology. Please contact Jane Turgeon, RN at 1-800-852-3345x4823 or email HCCSDCostofCare@dhhs.state.nh.us.

NEWS FROM CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL AT DARTMOUTH (CHaD)

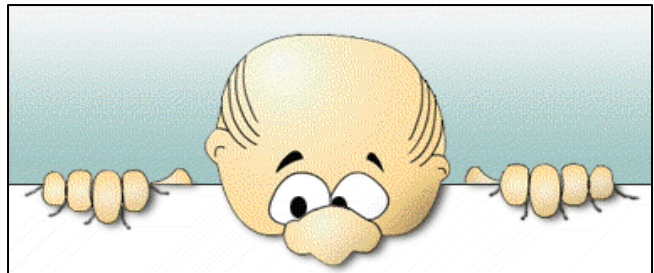
Dr. Paul Merguerian named as CHaD Director

CHaD is very proud to announce that Dr. Paul Merguerian has been officially named the Director of the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth. He has been serving as the Interim Director since March 2007.

Dr. Merguerian attended medical school in Israel and completed his general surgery and urology residencies at the University of Rochester Medical Center. He completed his fellowship in Pediatric Urology at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Ontario and joined Dartmouth-Hitchcock in 1990 to begin his career as a Pediatric Urologist. He later worked in Montreal and then served as Chairman of the Department of Surgery for Children’s Hospital of Central California before returning to CHaD in 2004. On June 13, 2009, he received a Master of Science Degree from The Dartmouth Institute.

We are very excited to have Paul in this vital leadership role for CHaD.

*Submitted by Margaret Rose Minnock, MBA
Director, Planning and Regional Services
Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth*



TAKE A LOOK
At our new site
www.nhps.org

- Stay involved
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- Get meeting information