Perinatal care at Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center (PMC) once again received the Gold Seal of Approval® from The Joint Commission, one of the nation’s best-known and respected healthcare accrediting entities.

Perinatal Care Certification, an advanced designation first received by PMC in 2018, was reaffirmed this spring following an on-site survey.

The certification reflects not only the state-of-the-art facilities and maternity care at PMC but the advanced prenatal diagnostics and treatment available on the hospital campus and a comprehensive sequence of educational programs and support services offered by Princeton Health that mothers and their partners can access from pregnancy through postpartum adjustment.

“This achievement is the result of leadership, innovation, and teamwork on the part of physicians, nurses, and technicians across Princeton Health,” said Jennifer L. Holland, MSN, RN, director of patient care services. “We are committed to doing everything we can to protect the health of mothers and babies and support these new or growing families.”

Each year, about 2,000 babies are born at PMC, and their parents benefit from a complete range of services available through the hospital or Princeton Health.

These include expert care for high-risk pregnancies provided by Penn Maternal Fetal Medicine Plainsboro, a specialty practice located on the hospital campus; a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) managed by board certified neonatologists from Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia; and a comprehensive package of childbirth and family education and support services, as well as lactation consultations, provided by Princeton Health Community Wellness and Engagement.

Princeton Health is one of seven healthcare organizations in New Jersey and 60 nationwide to earn Perinatal Care Certification. Within Penn Medicine, Pennsylvania Hospital also holds the designation.

Welcome to Our New Medical Director of Cancer Programs

Noah A. Goldman, MD, has joined Penn Medicine Princeton Health as the new medical director of cancer programs. Goldman is board certified in gynecologic oncology and obstetrics and gynecology. As medical director, he collaborates with administrative and medical staff leaders at Princeton Health and Penn Medicine’s Abramson Cancer Center to foster development of a comprehensive cancer program for central New Jersey. Goldman will see patients in Princeton Health’s new oncology suite in the Medical Arts Pavilion, adjacent to Princeton Medical Center. Related story next page.

Since 2000, Goldman has served on the faculty of Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York University School of Medicine, Columbia University, and the Mount Sinai Hospital, all in New York. Most recently, he was an associate professor at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Newark, and an attending physician at University Hospital, Newark; Jersey City Medical Center; St. Clare’s Health, Denville; and Clara Maass Medical Center, Belleville. His research interests include the use of minimally invasive surgery to treat gynecologic cancers and facilitating greater access to clinical trials. A graduate of the University of Rochester (N.Y.), Goldman earned his medical degree at the former University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ)–New Jersey Medical School, Newark. He will complete the Executive MBA program at Rutgers University Business School, Newark in May 2022. Goldman completed his internship at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, N.Y., and a fellowship in gynecologic oncology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y.

PMC Launches PRECEPTOR PROGRAM

Princeton Medical Center has kicked off a new program to teach experienced nurses to become preceptors for others on their units. The program was developed and taught by clinical nurse leader Allison Healy, MSN, and nursing professional development specialists Sue Straszynski, DNP, RN, and Kristyn Comppello, RN.

Fifteen nurses attended a four-hour interactive foundations course in June that covered learning styles, role responsibilities, fostering clinical thinking and judgment, and how to create goals and objectives. The program also includes seven virtual seminars throughout the year that will focus on topics such as:

- Emotional intelligence
- Time management
- Generational differences
- Conflict management
- Preceptor burnout

The Joint Commission surveyors evaluated Princeton Health’s ability to:

- Provide integrated, coordinated and patient-centered care for mothers and their newborns—from prenatal through postpartum care and services.
- Identify high-risk pregnancies and births at an early stage.
- Manage risks for mothers and newborns.
- Educate patients about the perinatal care services available to them.
Penn Medicine Princeton Health has donated a reserve of personal protective equipment (PPE) and supplies to police and other first responders, social service agencies, and emergency assistance organizations stretching from New Jersey to Texas. The materials, obtained by or donated to Princeton Health during the COVID-19 pandemic, began shipping out to their destinations in mid-June.

“Individuals and companies throughout central New Jersey were incredibly generous, donating critical supplies at a time when we needed them,” said Princeton Health CEO James Demetrakas. “We are in a strong position now, with an abundance of PPE on hand and a reliable supply chain, and we felt we should show gratitude for the community’s support by sharing our surplus with others who are on the front lines serving people in need.”

Eight pallets of assorted items — hand sanitizer, gloves, face masks, face shields, lab coats, and isolation gowns — were delivered to the Plainsboro Police Department, which will share the supplies with the township Fire Department, First Aid Squad, and other entities, said Greg Evans, director of Sustainability at Princeton Health.

Princeton Health sent a pallet stocked with raincoats to Arm In Arm, a Trenton-based nonprofit that provides housing, employment, and food support to area residents, and two pallets of raincoats to New Jersey locations of the American Red Cross, Evans said. Each pallet holds 12 boxes of 200 raincoats each, or a total of 2,400.

The Secaucus, N.J. collection center of MedShare, an international humanitarian aid organization, received 10 pallets containing items including face shields, lab coats, and gowns. Finally, Princeton Health shipped 10 pallets of raincoats to United Way Disaster Services locations in Delaware, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas.

Charles Thompson and Kishen Douragh from the Automotive Services Department handled the local deliveries. Thank you also to Evans, Dann Dingle, Vanessa Coenraad, Elan Esaakoff, Declan Lawson, Larry Garcia, Debbie Millar, and John Thomas for their efforts.

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Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center (PMC) and members of the student nurse fellowship receive comprehensive education and orientation under an unlicensed assistive personnel (UAP) program launched this spring.

The four-day program follows the UAP core curriculum provided by the New Jersey Board of Nursing and covers a full review of body systems, as well as general orientation topics such as communication, safety, and emergencies. The program, which features guest presenters from various disciplines, is run by nursing assistants, social workers, and oncology nutritionists.

The program wraps up with a hands-on, clinical skills competency assessment in PMC’s simulation lab. The UAP course is designed to give nursing assistants a strong educational foundation before their unit-specific orientations.

Congratulations to Joyce Hertzog, DNP, APN, recipient of the Penn Palliative Care Clinical Excellence Award, which is presented annually to a palliative care clinician from across Penn Medicine who has consistently provided exceptional care to patients and families, serving as a role model for other clinicians.

The award was announced at a Penn Medicine virtual palliative care graduation and year-end celebration held in late June.

Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center (PMC) was rated high performing in five types of care in the 2021-2022 Best Hospitals rankings published July 27 by U.S. News & World Report.

PMC was rated high performing in one adult specialty — orthopaedics — and four additional areas: treating chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), heart failure, and kidney failure, and performing knee replacement procedures.

This marks the seventh year in a row that PMC has earned high performing ratings in three or more types of care in the hospital rankings, which are published annually by U.S. News & World Report.

The ratings are based largely on data related to clinical outcomes and patient safety, as well as patient satisfaction surveys and indicators such as whether a hospital holds Magnet® status, the highest institutional recognition available for nursing excellence. PMC is one of approximately 560 hospitals worldwide to hold Magnet status.

Patients with cancer have greater access to coordinated, expert care through a new oncology suite opened July 5 in Suite 540 of the Medical Arts Pavilion, adjacent to Princeton Medical Center (PMC).

Suite 540, which houses medical and surgical specialists in a variety of disciplines, represents the latest expansion of Princeton Health locations that provide care and support to individuals with cancer.

Additional locations include the Matthews Cancer Care Suite at PMC and the Breast Health Center in East Windsor. All three locations are part of Penn Medicine Princeton Cancer Center.

Comprehensive cancer care available at Princeton Health includes state-of-the-art imaging and pathology services; radiation, infusion, surgical care, physical therapy, nutrition support, and palliative care.

As part of Penn Medicine, Princeton Health also provides seamless access to clinical trials and advanced treatments — such as proton therapy and immunotherapy — offered by the Abramson Cancer Center, a world leader in research and patient care.

The new suite in the Medical Arts Pavilion expands access to specialized care for various cancers, including lung, colorectal, prostate, ovarian, endometrial/uterine, cervical, vulvar and vaginal. For women with gynecologic cancers, the care available at Princeton Health provides greater opportunities for early detection and treatment while utilizing approaches that help to preserve fertility, a crucial concern for women who wish to have children.

Patients also receive support from a number of professionals, including oncology nurse navigators, financial navigators, and oncology nutritionists.

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