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## Appointment

### Victor A. Pinkes, MD appointed Chief of Emergency Medicine at Memorial



PAWTUCKET – Memorial Hospital recently appointed **VICTOR A. PINKES, MD, FACEP**, its new chief of emergency medicine. Dr. Pinkes is a member of Affinity Physicians working at Memorial.

Dr. Pinkes earned his medical degree from University of Health Sciences/The Chicago Medical School. He completed his emergency medicine residency at Cook County Hospital and Loyola University,

Resurrection Medical Center, both in Chicago.

Dr. Pinkes is a member of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine, the American College of Emergency Physicians and American Medical Association. He is certified in advanced cardiac life support, pediatric life support and advanced trauma life support. His clinical interests include addiction medicine and emergency department informatics. ❖

## Obituary

**DR. WILLIAM MICHAEL CONNELL**, 54, of Newport, RI, died unexpectedly from an apparent heart attack at his home, Monday February 1, 2016.

Born in Newport on June 15, 1961, he was the son of Phillip Michael Connell and Rosalie Ann Connell of Newport.

He received a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Rhode Island with Phi Beta Kappa honors. Additionally, he received his medical degree from Georgetown University. Doctor Connell first opened his internal medicine practice on Bellevue Avenue in 1992 and subsequently moved his practice to Middletown. He was well known as a modern doctor with an old country doctor's style, personally visiting patients at their homes and allocating an abundance of time to each patient's office visit. He cared for his patients with kindness, dignity, and respect going out of his way to provide each patient with true individual care.

He was a member of the Ancient Order Hibernians, Division #1. He is survived by his parents; his sister Jacqueline and her husband Thomas Patton of Portsmouth.

Donations in his memory may be made to St. Augustin Church, 2 Eastnor Road, Newport, RI 02840.



## Recognition

### RISA honors Afreen Siddiqui, MD, at annual meeting

PROVIDENCE – **AFREEN SIDDIQUI, MD**, of East Greenwich, was honored for her two years of dedicated service as president of the Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists (RISA) at the annual RISA membership meeting on Thursday, January 28, 2016. The society is a nonprofit organization that promotes professional education and support of its members to provide the best possible care of their patients.

The 2016–2018 slate of officers was approved by the membership and announced at this meeting. **RAFAEL E. PADILLA, MD**, of Tiverton, was named president. **STEPHEN PANARO, MD**, of Barrington, was nominated as vice president. **HERBERT CHEN, MD**, of East Greenwich, accepted the treasurer position. **EVAN BURKE, MD**, of Providence, was named secretary.

For more information about RISA, contact Megan Turcotte at [mturcotte@rimed.org](mailto:mturcotte@rimed.org) or 401-331-3207. ❖



Afreen Siddiqui, MD, shown with Rafael Padilla, MD, was honored for her two years of service as president of the Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists at its annual meeting.





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## Recognition

### Roger Williams Cancer Center receives Outstanding Achievement Award from American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer

PROVIDENCE – Roger Williams Cancer Center is one of just 24 accredited cancer programs in the country to receive the June-December 2015 Outstanding Achievement Award from the Commission on Cancer (CoC) of the American College of Surgeons.

The award acknowledges programs that achieve excellence in providing quality care to cancer patients. Roger Williams is the only cancer center in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine to receive this recognition during this period of time.

"This national recognition recognizes our team's efforts to deliver cancer care that not only meets national standards, but exceeds them," said **KIMBERLY O'CONNELL**, president of Roger Williams Medical Center. "Our center provides Rhode Island's most comprehensive continuum of cancer care and it is care that is recognized nationally for excellence."

The Commission on Cancer Outstanding Achievement Award recognizes cancer programs that strive for excellence in demonstrating compliance with the CoC standards and are committed to ensuring high quality cancer care. The purpose of the award is to raise the bar on quality cancer care, with the ultimate goal of increasing awareness about quality care choices among cancer patients and their loved ones.

"All our clinical, academic, and research efforts are focused on advancing treatment and care for those with cancer," said **DR. N. JOSEPH ESPAT**, director of the Cancer Center at Roger Williams. "We believe patients are best cared for in a collaborative environment that includes surgical, medical and radiation oncologists, along with oncology nurses, laboratory professionals, and support staff. This award is a reflection of our dedication to this philosophy of collaborative cancer care."

To achieve the Outstanding Achievement Award, programs are evaluated on 34 cancer program standards categorized within one of four cancer program activity areas: cancer committee leadership, cancer data management, clinical services, and quality improvement. Seven of the 34 standards are evaluated as to whether they will receive commendation. Award recipients must have received commendation ratings in all seven commendation standards, in addition to receiving a compliance rating for each of the 34 cancer program standards.

In addition, the award is intended to:

- Recognize cancer programs that achieve excellence in providing quality care to cancer patients.
- Motivate other cancer programs to work toward improving their level of care.
- Facilitate dialogue between award recipients and health care professionals at other cancer facilities for the purpose of sharing best practices.
- Encourage honorees to serve as quality-care resources to other cancer programs.

In 2015, the Cancer Center at Roger Williams was classified by the Commission on Cancer as an Academic Comprehensive Cancer Center Program, placing it among a select group of cancer centers in New England to hold such a designation. Nationally, only 13% of Commission on Cancer programs hold the Academic Comprehensive Center Program designation.

The Cancer Center also holds numerous other national accreditations and certifications including:

- accreditation of its Hematology/Oncology Division by the Quality Oncology Practice initiative Certification Program, an affiliate of the American Society of Clinical Oncology;
- accreditation of the state's only Bone Marrow Transplant unit, located at Roger Williams, from the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy;
- accreditation in mammography from the American College of Radiology;
- accreditation in Breast Health from the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers;
- accreditation for a Complex General Surgical Oncology Fellowship through the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education;
- certification from the STAR Program® of Oncology Rehab Partners for offering premium cancer rehabilitation and survivorship services for cancer survivors.

The Commission on Cancer is a consortium of professional organizations dedicated to improving survival and quality of life for cancer patients through standard-setting, prevention, research, education and the monitoring of comprehensive quality care. Its membership includes fellows of the American College of Surgeons and representatives of 47 national organizations that reflect the full spectrum of cancer care. ❖





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