A Message From Our Leader

Sullivan County experiences a prescription opioid overdose rate nearly 3X the rate for New York State. Catskill Regional is committed to being a leader in efforts to reduce substance abuse and improve the mental health of our community. Our healthcare providers actively work to decrease the supply of prescription opioids by changing prescribing and dispensing practices, as well as preventing diversion of medications.

Patient education is provided both for proper disposal of unused medications and for alternative pain management therapies that can provide relief without harm or risk of addiction. We continue to look into possible interventions, including working with youth and educating our next generation of physicians on opioid addiction.

Catskill Regional providers support patients with services such as Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral for Treatment (SBIRT), as well as Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). Additionally, we are collaborating with community partners to bring Peer Recovery Engagement Specialists into our emergency rooms, encouraging provider and staff training through participation in HANYS Webinars and Schwartz Rounds on the topic and grant writing for support of Telehealth expansion.

Through our active collaboration with non-profit partners, such as the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, we hosted film screenings of “Reversing the Stigma” - real stories about combatting addiction in New York State and a community conversation.

We have heard many stories from patients being afraid to tell their doctors that they were using drugs. One young woman said she admitted to her doctor that she was using heroin during her pregnancy. She said she was terrified his response would be judgmental, but instead he looked her in the eye and said, “I will help you, let’s do this together.”

We are all in this battle against opioid and substance abuse together. If you or someone you love is struggling with addiction, know there are resources throughout Sullivan County that are free of judgment and ready to help. We remain committed to being integral part of the solution during this opioid crisis. We will do this together.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Schiller, CEO

Catskill Regional Receives New Quality-Based Accreditation From DNV GL

Catskill Regional was issued full accreditation by DNV GL Healthcare Inc. / NIAHO® under deeming authority from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. By earning accreditation, Catskill Regional has demonstrated it meets or exceeds patient safety standards (conditions of participation) set forth by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. DNV GL’s accreditation program is the only one to integrate the ISO 9001 Quality Management System with the Medicare Conditions of Participation.

ISO 9001 is the world’s most trusted quality management system used by performance-driven organizations around the world to advance their quality and sustainability objectives.

DNV GL’s accreditation program, called NIAHO® (National Integrated Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations), involves annual hospital surveys and encourages hospitals to openly share information across departments and to discover improvements in clinical workflows and safety protocols.
Update

Welcome New Providers

Nicholas Acierno, FNP-C
ORMG & CRMG
Urgent Care

Ayfer Ekiz, MD
ORMG
Hospitalist

Raghuram Gorti, MD
ORMG
Vascular Surgery

Laura Guerra, FNP-C
ORMG
Pediatric Hospitalist

Osmaan Minhas, DO
ORMG & CRMG
Urgent Care

Olanrewaju Olukitibi, MD
ORMG
Behavioral Health

Mitu Patel, MD
CRMG
Cardiology

Reena Patel, MD
ORMG & CRMG
Urgent Care

Chujun Yuan, MD, PhD
ORMG
Behavioral Health

Congratulations

Lauren Roman, MD presented Golden Certificates to Mackenzie Esselman, LPN and Benita Hamilton, PA-C at Catskill Regional Medical Group’s Monticello office. They were recognized for going above and beyond to reach the medical needs of a husband/wife patient team.

Castle Connolly Top Doctors

Eight of our physicians were nominated as Castle Connolly Top Doctors and will be featured in the Healthcare Profiles section of Hudson Valley Magazine in November! Here’s a sneak peek of our great eight from a recent photo shoot.
Leading The Way

Ashley Miller, DNP, BSN, RN is the new Clinical Director of Medical Surgical at Catskill Regional. She oversees the 2 West and 5 East clinical areas.

Ashley earned her Baccalaureate Degree from Wilkes University and her Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) Degree in Nursing Administration from the Pennsylvania State University. Prior to working at Catskill Regional Medical Center, she worked for Geisinger Health System, a non-profit healthcare system in Scranton, Pennsylvania. She can be reached at amiller@ghvhs.org.

Dean Nace was appointed Director of Safety for the Greater Hudson Valley Health System. He has extensive experience in environmental health and safety and has vast experience with agencies such as OSHA, DEC, EPA and the DOH.

Dean is responsible for GHVHS’s safety programs, which include Environment of Care and Life Safety standards. He can be reached at 333-0303 or dnace@ghvhs.org.

Congratulations to Latricia Martin who just celebrated 40 years of service to Catskill Regional. Latricia (middle) is pictured with Wendy Vogler, Human Resources, and Jonathan Schiller, CEO.

Patient Testimonial

Santo Domingo
To the Amazing Staff of Catskill Regional Medical Center,

We would like to offer our sincere thanks and gratitude to the amazing staff of Catskill Regional Medical Center. The emergency room staff, the operating room doctors and nurses and especially the nursing staff on the second floor gave such amazing care to my wife, Nilka Perez. My wife Nilka Perez was admitted via emergency for an acute abdomen issues. For all of you that gave my wife Nilka such wonderful care and support our thanks seem so small. Our lives have forever been touched by everyone who cared for her.

All who knows her knows what a fighter she is. You all gave such wonderful care and support that helped her fight even harder. Words can never describe how do we all feels about your family of doctors and nurses who gave such care to Nilka. You all have been with us when we were scared and didn’t understand what was going to happen next, but you were by our sides with so much compassion.

My brother, Dr. Shahzad, you operated on her “you gave us hope”, your nephews and I sincerely thank you, my lovely sister-in-law Tammy and our dearest friend Michelle for being there for Nilka. She loves you and your staff. Nilka is back in her home in a perfect state of health with her grandson Javier Tomas Yunas who arrived into this world on June 30th. We just wanted to thank you for all you did for Nilka that she could enjoy more time of her life. You fought for Nilka, fought to give her more time with the ones she loves.

Nilka loves her family very much, so thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your care, compassion and your excellent care. We will forever be grateful to all of you. You became our lifeline during the most tough times in our lives. You should be very proud of your staff of doctors, nurses who make such tough time a little easier for all through your kindness and compassion. You went beyond what anyone could ever ask. We all thank you and will keep you and your wonderful staff in our hearts and always in our prayers.

With love,

Nilka Perez		Shahzad Tomas Yunas Perez
Jamal Yunas		Jamal Tomas Yunas Perez
The Catskill Regional Medical Center Foundation held its 40th Annual Golf Classic in July. Golfers and sponsors were invited to tee up in support of the Hospital’s mission of providing exceptional healthcare to our community. The tournament was held at the Villa Roma Resort’s award-winning golf course in Callicoon, with a lunch, cocktail hour, dinner and awards. Catskill Regional Medical Center’s Golf Classic serves as the Hospital’s top fundraiser. To view more golf tournament photos, please visit www.crmcny.org/crmc-photo-gallery.
Center’s 40th Annual Golf Classic
When Michael Sherwood, CRNA at Catskill Regional is not at work, he’s volunteering. Michael is a part of Operation International which travels around the world to provide free surgeries to those in need.

Operation International aspires to offer medical aid to adults and children suffering from the lack of quality health care in impoverished countries. In its quest to change and save as many lives as possible, Operation International provides free medical care to people in need, regardless of gender, cultural, ethnic, political or religious affiliations, in countries worldwide. To ensure that its efforts impact underserved communities for years to come, it also offers education and training to local health care workers during each of these medical missions.

In its many medical missions to date, Operation International has impacted the lives of thousands of people, performing surgeries and other innovative medical procedures including sight restoration, burn reconstructive surgeries, corrective surgeries for congenital anomalies such as clubfoot and cleft palate, cancer operations and obstetric surgeries.

Future missions will include Team ENT, Guatemala, September 2018, Team MI, Uganda, October 2018 and Team ENT, Guatemala, November 2018. For more information, visit www.operationinternational.org.

Thank you Michael for your volunteer work and devotion to helping those who are underprivileged.
Congratulations to employees Cheryl Donnelly, Joanne Moss, Rosanna Roth, Marilee Worrell, Kiran Ratala, and Katherine Lederman. They are Catskill Regional’s most recent recipients of the Good Catch Award! A Good Catch is defined as an event or circumstance that has the potential to cause an incident or medical error, but that did not actually occur due to corrective action and/or timely intervention. Nominations are judged by the Patient Safety Subcommittee on the criteria of the likelihood that a patient safety issue would have resulted and potential impact to the patient(s). Anyone can nominate a staff member, a leader or practitioner. Individuals may also nominate themselves. For more information on The Good Catch Patient Safety Award, contact QA Data Coordinator, Katie Haun, at 333-1294 or khaun@ormc.org.
New Diagnostic Imaging And Respiratory Care Technology

The CRMC Diagnostic Imaging and Respiratory Care Services Department has installed a new Non-Ferrous (MRI Safe) Cardio-Respiratory Monitor, Pump and Ventilator. This service will allow us to safely monitor and treat critical patients that require MRI exams. Please contact Donna L. DeStefano, RT(R)(M), Director of Radiology at ddestefano@ghvhs.org or Beth Kellogg, RRT, Director, GHVHS Cardiopulmonary & Special Diagnostics at Bkellogg@ghvhs.org with any questions.

Blood Drive

Wednesday, September 12

Catskill Regional, in partnership with the American Red Cross, sponsors regular monthly blood drives. They are held from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Harris Campus located at 68 Harris Bushville Road, 2nd floor boardroom, Ambulatory Services Building.

Donors must bring a form of ID. Repeat donors must wait 56 days between donations.

Thank You

Thank you to all Operating Room staff, including ambulatory and recovery room, and physicians for participating in the school supplies collection and a big ‘thank you’ to Dawn Perry and Michelle Mootz for organizing it.

The Global Big Latch On

Catskill Regional participated in the Global Big Latch On event to kick-off National Breastfeeding Awareness Month in August. The event was part of an international effort to raise awareness of the benefits of nursing a child. Thank you to all of the moms and their babies who participated.