



The Brooklyn
Hospital Center
Keeping Brooklyn Healthy

CMO UPDATE

A PUBLICATION FOR TBHC PHYSICIANS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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From the Chief Medical Officer EPIC UPDATE; DIRECTOR OF NURSING INFORMATICS



Sam Amifar, MD, MS

Epic Puzzle Almost Finished

TBHC has used Epic's MyChart in ambulatory care settings since 2018. Now, we are extending that same power everywhere – inpatient, Labs, Radiology, the Emergency

Department – every corner of TBHC, connected.

Here's where we stand currently:

We began our phased integration in August. Key multidisciplinary committees have been set up and they are meeting to build out and make decisions on set-up options. This process will continue through the rest of the calendar year.

In Q1 of 2027, we'll be testing systems and making sure interfaces are connecting properly.

In Q2, we'll start training and finishing the final touches. The final go-live will be late Summer 2027.

Get ready for one patient, one record, one seamless care journey. No more gaps or guesswork. Just safer, smarter, more coordinated care – exactly when and where it matters most.

Welcome, Michael LeTang, MS, NI-BC, CCRN

Mr. LeTang, our new Director of Nursing Informatics and Clinical System Integration, brings more than 20 years of experience across clinical nursing, healthcare technology, informatics, patient safety, quality and operational transformation. He is board certified in nursing informatics and critical care, holds multiple Epic certifications and is an Adjunct Clinical Professor



in the Graduate Nursing Informatics Program at the NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing, where he also earned his master of science degree in nursing informatics.

Mr. LeTang has designed and led large, complex clinical system implementations and integration initiatives, enterprise workflow redesign, clinical decision support, interoperability, and technology-enabled operational transformation. Most recently, he held clinical and nursing informatics leadership roles at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

At TBHC, Mr. LeTang leads nursing informatics strategy and clinical system integration, partnering across clinical, operational and technology teams to advance enterprise digital transformation. His work focuses on improving quality and operational performance while ensuring technology investments deliver meaningful value for patients, clinicians and the health system.

Travel Vaccines

TBHC is now offering our community a full range of travel vaccines. From Chikungunya to Yellow Fever, we can provide vaccines for any destinations and will work with a patient's insurance or offer reasonably priced vaccines for those immunizations not covered. To learn more or to make an appointment, visit tbh.org/vaccines.

Change in Our Board Chair

The Brooklyn Hospital Center is proud to announce the appointment of Adrina Banks-Martin as Chair of the Board of Trustees, effective immediately. Ms. Banks-Martin steps into this role following her tenure on both the Board of Trustees and the Community Advisory Board (CAB).

“The energy on our board is all about: How do we make this the best hospital for the community?

This priority gives you a solid foundation to work from,”

Ms. Banks-Martin says.

Ms. Banks-Martin’s election reflects the board’s broader, ongoing mission to prioritize building a board that more closely resembles TBHC and our culturally rich community. This mission was spearheaded by her predecessor, Lizanne Fontaine. “Lizanne has changed the face of the board,” Ms. Banks-Martin says. “There has been a huge shift in demographics over these past 10 years. We now have people who have grown up in the neighborhood, as well as people who are new to the community. These additions have made for a more diverse board, while also including individuals who have served the community for a long time.”

Ms. Fontaine, who has served on the board since 2002 and as chair since 2018, is delighted with her successor. “Adrina lives in the neighborhood and brings a wealth of experience to this role. She sat on the CAB, chaired the board’s Quality and Patient Safety Commit-

tee and was involved with many other committees. It is no wonder the Governance Committee recommended her to the full board, who approved her appointment unanimously.”

Ms. Banks-Martin has a full grasp of both the pride and challenges that come with being a community hospital in a city full of corporate-funded entities.

“Our clinicians, staff and administrative teams leverage

relationships and do a yeoman’s job of making sure that we provide cutting-edge care in a time of scarce resources.”

It’s that resourcefulness that draws both women, along with the rest of the board, to continue fighting for and representing TBHC. “The mission is very resonant with our neighbors,”

Ms. Fontaine says. “In a world that’s increasingly system-

atized, it’s nice to get behind something that is there for the community.

Adds Ms. Banks-Martin, “People enjoy and want to serve their community. It’s probably the most important part of our independence.”

Ms. Banks-Martin and Ms. Fontaine know a thing or two about affecting change. They initially met as undergraduates at Dartmouth College, part of only the second graduating class of women in the college’s history. Years later, it’s TBHC that brought the two friends back together, ushering in a new vision of what the board and the hospital can accomplish.



Lizanne Fontaine



Adrina Banks-Martin



Board of Trustees

Welcome!

GASTROENTEROLOGY



Denzil Etienne, MD
Attending
Gastroenterology & Hepatology

ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY



Timothy Henderson, MD
Attending

PODIATRY



Travis Blackburn, DPM
Attending

SURGERY



Adel Alhaj Saleh, MD
Attending, General Surgery and
Bariatric Surgery

INTERNAL MEDICINE



Rashika Bansal, MD
Medical Director
Diabetes and Obesity Center



Richard Pearl, MD
Attending

RADIOLOGY



Sergei Sobolevsky, MD
Attending
Vascular and Interventional
Radiology



Syed Farrukh Haider, MD
Attending, Endocrine and
General Surgery

PEDIATRICS



Marisa DeSanto, DO
Attending

New Leadership in Robotic Surgery



Caitlin Carr, MD, Attending in Gynecology/Oncology, has also been appointed Co-Director of Robotics. Dr. Carr's clinical interests include: surgery and management of uterine, ovarian, cervical, vaginal and vulvar cancers; hysterectomy and complex benign gynecologic surgeries; advanced abdominal-pelvic procedures; management of patients with hereditary cancer syndromes; and, of course, robotic and laparoscopic minimally invasive surgical procedures.

Dr. Carr joins previously appointed Peter Einersen, MD, Director of Robotics and Chief of Bariatric Surgery, in managing this robust and exciting robotics division.

For information on referrals, consults or any other questions about robotic surgery, please reach out to roboticsurgery@tbh.org or call x8811.

Rounds

New Reproductive Endocrinology and Fertility

Fellowship: TBHC is proud to announce the launch of The Brooklyn Hospital Center-Kofinas Fertility Group Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (REI) Fellowship Program. The REI Fellowship is a three-year training program designed to prepare physicians for leadership roles in reproductive medicine through academic scholarship and clinical innovation. The program integrates high-volume clinical training, advanced assisted reproductive technology (ART), robust research opportunities and dedicated faculty mentorship into a comprehensive educational experience.

Clinical training includes extensive hands-on experience through direct mentorship with faculty at the Kofinas Fertility Group, a high-volume ART center known for its expertise in complex infertility care. Fellows gain comprehensive experience in ovulation induction, intrauterine insemination (IUI), in vitro fertilization (IVF), fertility preservation, recurrent pregnancy loss evaluation and the management of conditions such as polycystic ovary syndrome, diminished ovarian reserve and endometriosis. Training also includes ultrasound-guided interventions and reproductive laboratory interpretation, as well as advanced laparoscopic and reproductive surgery, including laparoscopic myomectomy and surgical treatment of severe endometriosis. For more information, please visit <https://www.reifellowshipbk.com>.



Inaugural Annual Clergy Breakfast: Over the summer, TBHC hosted the inaugural Clergy Breakfast, featuring keynote speaker Dr. Rev. A.R. Bernard, Founding Pastor of Christian Cultural Center and NYPD Chaplain. Dr. Bernard spoke about the need for community and the

importance of houses of worship—as well as health-care institutions and law enforcement—in creating and fostering such community.



Other speakers discussed similar themes and viewed the breakfast as an opportunity to strengthen interfaith connections and collaborations with TBHC. Everyone shared their goal of improving the lives of Brooklynites.

It was a wonderful day and TBHC was thrilled to have the opportunity to gather with so many clergy members from different faiths, along with NYPD, elected officials, community leaders and hospital leader.

\$10,000 Lotus Awards: The Lee Park Foundation recognized **Kathleen Bryan**, Critical Care Float Pool Patient Care Assistant, and **Sixtina Climer, RN**, La Providencia Family Health Center with a \$10,000 award to each. Established in memory of Dr. Jang Ho Lee, a revered healer, teacher and practitioner of Buddhist doctrine, the Lotus Awards celebrate nurses and clinical care professionals who embody compassion, clinical excellence and selfless service in patient care. The award is unique in being open to both licensed nurses and clinical care staff.

Now is the best time to get a flu shot! Encourage your patients, family, friends and colleagues to get their flu shot. And don't forget to make your own appointment at tbh.org/vaccines.



PATIENT TESTIMONIAL

Cancer Care Without Crossing a Bridge

When Kim Flodin was diagnosed with breast cancer in autumn 2025, her options were numerous and varied. They included some of the best-known and most respected institutions in the country right here in the New York area. But for Kim, who has served TBHC almost nine years, most recently as Vice President for Marketing and Communications, there was no place like home.

“Of course, I considered everything available to me,” she says. “There are some snazzy names out there. But TBHC has the new Cancer Center, and I felt very confident with our team. The idea of getting on a subway for multiple doctor and treatment appointments was daunting.”

Kim’s cancer journey began with a screening. She is a strong believer in annual mammograms, and on that year’s routine checkup something suspicious appeared. Her TBHC radiologists kept an eye on it and eventually performed a needle biopsy on two separate areas.

Only 18 percent of such procedures yield a cancer diagnosis. Kim was in that group for both areas. Kim knew that TBHC had the most current imaging equipment and excellent staff who collaborate across disciplines to provide the best care. “I really loved that my surgeon would say, ‘Hey I spoke with the radiologist and we think this.’ I’m sure such teamwork happens elsewhere, particularly when it comes to cancer, but the intimate scale of TBHC made me trust that all my docs were in easy and frequent conversation with each other, resulting in my best care.”

Kim’s team was largely female by choice and included: Cynthia Chen, DO, breast cancer surgeon; Haritha Veeramachaneni, MD, attending plastic surgeon; Shreya Goyal, MD, medical oncologist at The Brooklyn Cancer Center, and the “quarterback” of Kim’s cancer care; Jason Nazari, MD, radiation oncologist at the Cancer Center; and her primary family medicine physician, Nada Al-Hashimi, MD, Family Medicine.



Kim Flodin

With her own research and the team’s expert input, Kim formulated a treatment plan and elected to go with two lumpectomies immediately followed by reconstructive surgery. Radiation therapy followed the procedure, as did targeted hormone therapy, more frequent screenings and more reconstructive surgery, some approaches lasting as long as five years.

The great news for Kim is that the outcome has been extremely positive. “Thanks to everyone’s diligence and the excellent screenings I received at the onset, my cancers were even smaller and earlier than we initially thought,” she explains. “I never regret picking TBHC. I’ve only experienced excellence, comfort and convenience; it’s been the right choice for me.”