



The Brooklyn Hospital Center

SPRING 2023

Keeping Brooklyn Healthy

Accreditations & Visitation Policy



Community Affairs: Good Neighbors



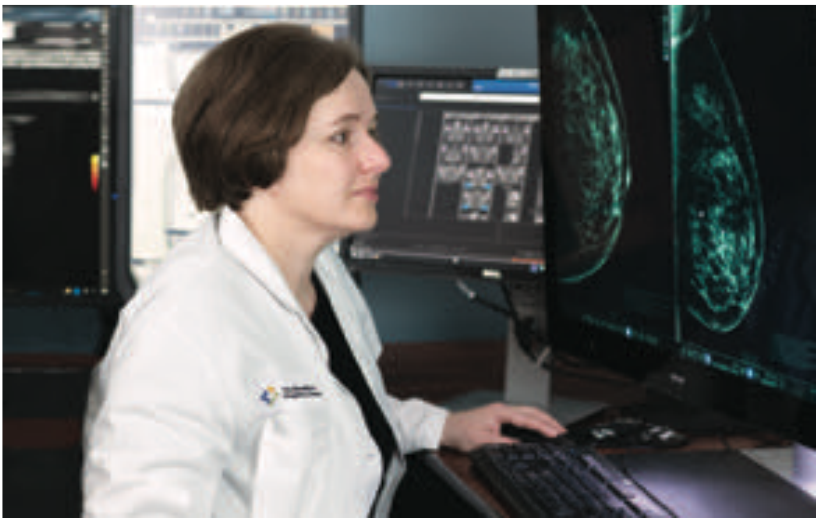
How to Make an Appointment



Monthly Blood Drive



Providing for Our Community: A to Z Services





Gary G. Terrinoni

MESSAGE FROM TBHC'S PRESIDENT

Accreditations, Visitation and Masks

In November, **The Joint Commission** arrived for its reaccreditation survey. The Joint Commission, a nonprofit organization, is the nation's oldest and largest standard-setting and accrediting body in the country. It accredits more than 22,000 healthcare organizations and programs and is considered the gold standard of quality assurance. I am happy to report that our survey was a success and TBHC is again fully reaccredited. As we planned for the visit, I often joined our frontline staff and participated in many useful exercises. I learned that careful preparation helps us stay on top of our game. While recertification won't happen for another three years, TBHC is committed to adhering to rigorous quality standards daily.

TBHC also again received a **Primary Stroke Center** designation from the New York State Department of Health in recognition that we met the highest standard for the treatment of stroke patients. We have been recognized as such since 2006, but this was the first year that the process was conducted by the rigorous Joint Commission. With our speed of treatment and cutting-edge advances, we will continue to participate in the state's stroke system of care. Our team is on call 24/7, and offers thrombolytic therapy and state-of-the-art neuroimaging for all neurovascular emergencies, as well as follow-up care and rehabilitation.

Other good news I know the community has been waiting for: we have updated our **visitation protocol** to now extend from 12 noon to 8 pm! Also we are allowing two visitors over the age of 18. If you are visiting a patient in maternity, pediatrics (under age of 15) or at end of life, there may be further accommodations on visiting. But also keep in mind that if you are visiting a patient in isolation or intensive care, there may be restrictions on visiting. Please check

with nursing staff; only Nursing Administration can make these exceptions. And, we continue to only allow one visitor in the Emergency Department and Recovery Room.

Other good news! **The Covid mask requirement was lifted** at TBHC starting May 1. In response to the state and federal government relaxation of mask mandates, and the decline in active Covid cases, masks will no longer be required for TBHC staff, patients or visitors in the hospital or at any of the ambulatory locations. Anyone choosing to still wear a mask is, of course, welcome to do so.

And finally, because the safety of patients, visitors and staff is our priority, we have implemented a high-tech **weapons detection system** at the Emergency Department entrance and in the main lobby. These sophisticated systems are not metal detectors and will not set off alarms for those who have medical devices such as pacemakers, metal rods and clips. They are also non-invasive. As you can see in the below photo, people simply walk through the system and the intelligent technology only picks up the presence of weapons.

All these changes add up to a better and safer experience for us all!



Covid Vaccines Are Still Important. While Covid is no longer considered a state of emergency as of May 2023, it is still prevalent and a major health risk to everyone. Are your Covid vaccines and boosters up-to-date? TBHC remains committed to protecting the community through its Vaccine Center. Please visit tbh.org/vaccines for more information on how to make a vaccine appointment.

SPECIALTIES FROM A TO Z

Taking a closer look at some of our services, and some

We have more than 50 surgical, medical and other specialties and subspecialties at TBHC, an impressive Neurology, Radiology, and Podiatric Foot and Ankle Surgery. We want you to know the depth of expertise

MIDWIFERY: A Traditional Model Within a Modern OB/GYN Department



The ability to access a midwife is one of the many perks of prenatal care at TBHC. “With rightful attention on the nationwide rates of substandard care for women of color, midwifery provides a traditional, more holistic approach to all women,” says Yvette Byer-Henry, CNM, a TBHC midwife (shown

on cover, bottom left corner). “Midwives spend more time with the patients and delve deeper into their total well being. As a result, outcomes tend to be better.”

A certified nurse-midwife (CNM), like Ms. Byer-Henry, is an advanced practice registered nurse who has graduated from a master’s-level nurse-midwifery education program and is state licensed. Within the TBHC obstetric program, midwives take care of women throughout their pregnancy and during the postpartum period, and work closely with the delivering physician. “Midwives also take care of women of all ages, not just during childbearing years,” notes Ms. Byer-Henry.

“Midwives serve in a department that includes some of the most qualified and experienced providers in Brooklyn,” says Erroll I. Byer, Jr., MD, Chair of OB/GYN. TBHC provides access to perinatal, diagnostic ultrasound, fetal testing and maternal-fetal medicine and reproductive genetic specialists. The department also has a robust gynecological program that offers annual screenings for gynecological and breast cancers; fertility evaluation and egg cryopreservation; counseling for, access to and management of all birth control methods; and care through menopause and postmenopausal years. The department also has specialists in gynecological cancers and urogynecological care.

NEUROLOGY: Technology to Uncover the Mystery of Many Disorders



Neurological disorders such as Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis or Guillain-Barre syndrome can be difficult to diagnose. Symptoms of one condition can mimic another. There is rarely a simple blood test for diagnosis; it often involves several approaches from the tried-and-true ham-

mer reflex test, to sophisticated electromyography and nerve conduction tests that require savvy interpretation.

The TBHC Division of Neurology offers the expertise and technology to diagnose and treat neurological conditions. The division is headed by Edward Chai, MD, who works closely with Jeffrey Davis, MD. Dr. Davis (shown on cover, middle right) is board certified in both neurology and electromyography, one of only a handful of similarly double-boarded Brooklyn physicians.

Electromyography, which examines your muscles’ electrical signals, is done by the same equipment as a nerve conduction study test, which measures your nerves’ electrical signals. “Both tests are almost always conducted at the same time as they both provide essential data for accurate diagnosis,” says Dr. Davis, who is known to play classical music to create a relaxing atmosphere for the two-hour test.

“The division provides ongoing care for chronic neurological conditions such as epilepsy and neuropathy, and is also a partner in the care of complex inpatients, such as those with stroke,” says Dr. Chai.

“I am fortunate to work closely with Dr. Chai, who is an excellent neurologist. We are both supported by a wonderful staff headed by Practice Manager Darleen Daley,” says Dr. Davis.

How To Make an Appointment. To schedule online, visit tbh.org and click “Make an Appointment.” You’ll next locations. You can also contact our call center at 1.833.TBHC.NOW (833.824.2669). For Radiology appointments, please

of the excellent providers behind them!

roster from A to Z (well, really W for Wound Care!). In this issue, we take a closer look at Midwifery, available and the terrific providers who deliver that care.

RADIOLOGY: Breast Imaging and Other Ways to See Inside the Body



The ability to better see inside the body has arguably been one of the most miraculous medical developments over the past 50 years. In fact, the American Cancer Society reports that breast cancer rates have declined by 40 percent, in large part because of the improvements in early detection.

Digital mammography, breast ultrasound and MRI (magnetic resonance) scans help TBHC radiologists spot early cancers. Stereotactic (mammography guided), ultrasound- and MRI-guided biopsies remove suspicious tissue for analysis.

“We also enable surgeons in the OR find abnormal breast lesions to remove with the help of image-guided needle localizations,” says Natalie Igel, MD, Interim Chair of Radiology (shown on the cover, bottom right).

While the new Breast Center is an area of particular pride at TBHC (“we are among the best in Brooklyn,” says Dr. Igel), the department also provides excellent body imaging, musculoskeletal radiology (extremities), neuroradiology (mostly of the spine), nuclear medicine (injected radioactive materials are scanned for diagnostic purposes), and vascular and interventional radiology (threading tiny instruments through blood vessels to the site of illness for diagnosis and treatment.)

An exciting development has been the recent opening of Brooklyn Imaging (174 Myrtle Avenue), a partnership between TBHC and New York Blood & Cancer (with whom we partnered to open the nearby Brooklyn Cancer Center). This new venture provides an excellent extension of the hospital services, especially in the area of diagnosing and treating cancers.

PODIATRIC FOOT AND ANKLE SURGERY: In-Office Care Through Surgery



Sure, podiatry involves checking on the feet of a patient with diabetes, and the treatment of common foot problems like bunions, hammertoes and nail disorders. But did you know that TBHC’s division is officially called Podiatric Foot and Ankle Surgery Services and boasts physicians who are further

trained in foot surgery? In fact, Division Chief O. Joseph Falcone, DPM (shown on the cover, top right and here with some of his team) is a podiatric surgeon as are all his staff physicians. Dr. Falcone is also director of the residency program in podiatric medicine and surgery, meaning his team trains future podiatric surgeons.

“The idea of what podiatry was back in the day differs from what a modern division is today,” explains Dr. Falcone. “Of course we do the in-office care of callouses and ingrown toenails, but we also operate on newborns with club feet, perform joint replacements on arthritic feet, and handle severe ankle ligament or tendon trauma cases—the full gamut of care for the lower extremity from below the knee down, for all ages.”

This highly sophisticated surgical division works in tandem with the Orthopedic Surgery division and sees patients at Physicians Pavilion, the Ambulatory Care Center, the Williamsburg and LaProvidencia Family Health Centers, and the Family Medicine Center.

Another offering of the division, TBHC’s Wound Care and Hyperbaric Center, provides a comprehensive approach to treating persistent, slow-healing wounds. Using a team of multidisciplinary specialists and state-of-the-art wound care techniques, the Center achieves excellent healing rates and fast healing times.

be able to select your specialty or subspecialty. From there, you’ll be able to choose providers, dates, times and call 718.250.6304.

GOOD NEIGHBORS WORKING TOGETHER WITH OUR COMMUNITY

A Look-Back and an Important Breakfast

Our Community Affairs Department is ever busy reaching out and collaborating with our neighbors and community and elected leaders. This past six months saw a **flurry of generosity from our Community Advisory Board (CAB)** and other community organizations, especially around the holidays as our youngest patients were gifted with toys and get-well cards. Shown below, Jackie Moore, CAB member; Sakibeh Mustafa, TBHC Community Liaison; Kim Best, PhD, CAB Chair; and Deborah Benson, CAB Secretary.



Brooklyn Chapter President; Lu-Shawn Thompson, Jack & Jill, Brooklyn Chapter Community Service Committee Co-Chair; and Chrystal Williams, Jack & Jill, Brooklyn Chapter Community Service Committee Member.

Finally, on April 12, TBHC hosted a **Legislative Breakfast**, where President and CEO Gary Terrinoni (shown below, left) presented his vision for a health-care equity model that benefits all patients across Brooklyn. Guests included New York City Council Member and Chair of the Committee on Hospitals Mercedes Narcisse (shown below, center) and New York City Council Member Lincoln Restler (shown below, right), as well as representatives from the offices of State Senator Andrew Gounardes, Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso and Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzales, as well as NYPD Chief Scott Henderson. Representatives from Farragut Houses, Walt Whitman Houses and Ingersoll Houses, the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership, and St. Francis College among others attended.



On Martin Luther King Day, The Brooklyn chapter of **Jack and Jill of America honored the life and legacy of Dr. King** by establishing the first-ever “Little Library” at TBHC’s Children’s Health Center and by donating more than 400 books to our pediatric patients. Jack and Jill

is a leadership organization formed during the Great Depression by African American mothers to bring together children in a social and cultural environment. Shown top right: Cynthia Aker, Jack & Jill, Brooklyn Chapter Community Service Committee Co-Chair; Kisha Ramsey, Jack & Jill, Brooklyn Chapter Community Service Committee member; Lenny Singletary, TBHC Senior Vice President, External Affairs, Strategy & Marketing; Danielle Eaddy-Alleyne, Jack & Jill,

Community Affairs News You Can Use. Are you part of an organization, school, workplace or place of worship that wishes to have a TBHC professional give a talk or blood pressure screening to your group? Visit tbh.org/community-affairs and scroll down for a form, which you can fill out for your request.



The Brooklyn
Hospital Center

121 DeKalb Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11201
www.tbh.org

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #3109
NEW YORK, NY

Inside:

[Accreditations and visitor policy updated](#)

[A look at Midwifery, Neurology, Radiology, Podiatric Surgery](#)

[Happenings in Community Affairs](#)



Facebook/brooklynhospitalcente



@official_tbhc



@official_tbhc

Monthly Blood Drives at TBHC

Roughly one in seven hospital admissions require a blood transfusion. Those in need include: cancer patients, accident, burn or trauma victims, transplant recipients, surgery patients, chronically transfused patients suffering from sickle cell disease or thalassemia, and many more.

TBHC hosts monthly blood drives in its cafeteria, and they are open to the community. They occur on the third Thursday of each month, from 12 noon to 6 pm. You can help answer the call for the City's blood emergency, as announced by New York Blood Center, by signing up to donate blood at TBHC. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are welcome, space permitting. Please remember to eat and drink before donating and to bring your donor ID card or an ID with your name and photo. It only takes one hour to donate, and a single donation can save multiple lives.



To make an appointment, call 1.800.933.BLOOD and specify The Brooklyn Hospital Center site.