

Welcome to our Inaugural Issue!

Insight features the impact of philanthropy on care provided by Bridgeport Hospital.

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Virtual Reality Sets: A Therapeutic Oasis for Burn Patients



Virtual Reality headsets used by patients of the Connecticut Burn Center

With support from our donors including Connecticut's firefighters, the **Connecticut Burn Center** at Bridgeport Hospital has embraced advanced technology to enhance patient care, incorporating virtual reality (VR) as a powerful tool for pain management. Burn injuries often involve severe pain during treatment and recovery, sometimes rendering traditional pain management methods insufficient. VR offers a promising alternative by immersing patients in a virtual environment that distracts them from their physical discomfort.

By donning VR headsets, burn patients can escape the confines of their hospital rooms and experience soothing landscapes or engaging activities. This immersive distraction has shown remarkable effectiveness in reducing perceived pain levels, providing patients with a psychological respite while undergoing medical procedures or rehabilitation.

The innovative use of VR at the Burn Center goes beyond mere distraction. Therapeutic VR applications specifically designed for pain management offer interactive experiences tailored to each patient's needs. These applications can incorporate mindfulness techniques, relaxation exercises, and cognitive behavioral strategies, empowering patients to actively participate in their journey to pain relief.

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Fact:

Biplane imaging uses two rotating cameras and the computer images that provide 3-D images of area surgeons need to see.

Bridgeport Hospital Receives Transformative \$2 Million Gift for Cutting-Edge Biplane Imaging System



Precise Images provided by biplane technology

In a landmark development for neurovascular care, the Elizabeth M. Pfriem Foundation has made a generous \$2 million gift to Bridgeport Hospital. This major philanthropic investment was earmarked for the acquisition of a state-of-the-art biplane imaging system, positioning the hospital as a leader in neurovascular care in our region.

The biplane represents a technological leap forward in diagnostic and interventional radiology. This sophisticated equipment provides clinicians with detailed, real-time, and multi-dimensional views of the brain and other vascular structures. Such precision is invaluable in guiding intricate procedures, especially for patients that have suffered ischemic or large-artery strokes. The biplane enhances diagnostic accuracy and optimizes patient outcomes for a wide variety of neurovascular conditions.

The impact of the Pfriem Foundation's gift extends far beyond the acquisition of equipment. It underscores a commitment to advancing the health of our community by ensuring that patients have access to the latest innovations in care. The contribution exemplifies how private philanthropy can be a catalyst for transformative change in the medical landscape.

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Fact:

Using the Scalp Cooling Technology can reduce hair loss of chemotherapy patients by up to 45%.

Norma Pfriem Breast Center Empowers Patients with Paxman Scalp Cooling Technology



Patients showing how to use Scalp Cooling Technology

Facing a breast cancer diagnosis is a daunting journey, and the side effects of chemotherapy, notably hair loss, often add emotional strain to an already challenging experience. Paxman Scalp Cooling emerges as a beacon of hope for breast cancer patients, offering a groundbreaking solution to mitigate the distressing impact of hair loss during treatment. Thanks to benefactors of the Norma Pfriem Breast Center, scalp cooling technology is available to our patients.

This innovative technology works by reducing the temperature of the scalp, constricting blood vessels and limiting the amount of chemotherapy drugs that reach the hair follicles. This process helps to preserve the integrity of the hair, providing patients with a tangible way to maintain a sense of normalcy and control over their appearance.

The significance of Paxman Scalp Cooling extends beyond cosmetic concerns. Hair loss can be a deeply emotional aspect of cancer treatment, impacting self-esteem and mental well-being. By preserving hair, Paxman Scalp Cooling contributes to a more positive and empowering experience for patients, fostering a sense of dignity and confidence during a challenging time.

Clinical studies have demonstrated the efficacy of Paxman Scalp Cooling in reducing hair loss, with many patients reporting high satisfaction levels. Beyond the physical benefits, the emotional well-being and mental resilience that stem from maintaining one's appearance are invaluable aspects of the healing process. Paxman

Scalp Cooling stands as a testament to the evolving landscape of cancer care, embracing not only the medical needs but also the emotional and psychological dimensions of the patient experience.

For more information, please contact Meghan McCloat at Meghan.McCloat@bpthosp.org.

Donors In Focus



From left to right: Matt Lambert and Brian Curry from Coke Northeast; Mary Jo Smith, Director of Nursing for Yale New Haven Children's Hospital Regional Services; Todd Anderson, Coke Northeast; Stephen Jakab, President, Bridgeport Hospital Foundation and VP & Chief Development Officer, Yale New Haven Hospital; and Spencer Ranno, Coke Northeast.

Representatives from Coke Northeast recently presented boxes of the famous Coke Teddy Bear to the Pediatric Specialty Center at Park Avenue Medical Center in Trumbull.

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