

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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University Hospital Expert To Give Hepatitis Talk Today, Draw Attention to "Silent Epidemic"

WHO/WHAT

University Hospital's new Medical Director of the Liver Transplantation Center, Dr. Nikolaos Pyrsopoulos, will give a talk to staff and the community today to help promote awareness about hepatitis.

WHEN/WHERE

Today, Friday, July 26, 2013 12:00 p.m. University Hospital 150 Bergen Street Room H342/H349 Newark, NJ 07103

WHY

There are five main types of viral hepatitis, with types B and C in particular leading to chronic disease in hundreds of millions of people and the most common cause of liver cirrhosis and cancer. Hepatitis A and E are usually caused by eating or drinking contaminated food or water. Hepatitis B, C and D come from contact with infected bodily fluids and blood in particular. "Unfortunately, some people don't want to know about hepatitis or are afraid of the stigma associated with liver disease, but the more you know, the better the outcome," says Dr. Pyrsopoulos. "Hepatitis is very significant and can be very severe. It has been estimated that the majority of patients affected by hepatitis C might not know they are, and there might be a misconception that viral hepatitis is a mild disease. My main task is to raise awareness and to implement preventive measures so millions of people will not encounter complications from end stage liver disease and require liver transplantation."

About the expert:



Dr. Nikolaos Pyrsopoulos

Nikolaos Pyrsopoulos, MD, PhD, MBA, FACP, AGAF, Medical Director of University Hospital's Liver Transplantation Center, is a recent addition to the medical staff at the hospital. He joins the hospital from the University of Central Florida's medical school where he developed a new liver transplant program from its inception. Dr. Pyrsopoulos earned his medical degrees at the University of Athens and completed residencies and fellowships at Sismanoglio General Hospital in Athens as well as the University of Miami School of Medicine in Florida. Board-certified in internal medicine, gastroenterology and transplant hepatology,

Dr. Pyrsopoulos also received his MBA at the University of Miami School of Business. He is Director of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School.

University Hospital is one of the nation's leading academic medical centers. Located at University Heights in Newark, New Jersey, University Hospital is a principal teaching hospital of Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences and a regional resource for advanced services across many medical specialties.

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