UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
Newark, New Jersey

RUTGERS
New Jersey Medical School

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE   May 15, 2014

University Hospital	**American Liver Foundation**	**NJ Sharing Network**
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INVITATION TO COVER

Celebrating Another Chance at Life
"Re-Birthday Party" Will Highlight the Miracle of Liver Transplantation

WHO:
American Liver Foundation, Greater New York Division, University Hospital, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School and NJ Sharing Network

WHAT:
American Liver Foundation, University Hospital, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School and NJ Sharing Network will host a "Re-Birthday Party" to celebrate those who are alive today because of a liver transplant. The event will include their personal testimonies about how someone else's gift of life, through organ donation, saved their life. In addition to honoring transplant recipients, living donors, and donor families, this event will celebrate the 25th anniversary of New Jersey's first liver transplant which was performed in 1989 at University Hospital in Newark.

Speakers also will include:

Baburao Koneru, M.D.
Program Director, Liver Transplantation, University Hospital
Professor and Chief, Liver Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

and

Nikolaos T. Pyrsopoulos, MD, PhD, MBA, FACP, AGAF
Medical Director, Liver Transplantation, University Hospital
Associate Professor and Director of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

will speak about new developments in liver transplantation.

WHEN/WHERE
Saturday, May 17, 2014, 10:00 a.m.
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

Medical Science Building (MSB)
185 South Orange Avenue
Grand Foyer, Level B
Newark, New Jersey 07103

WHY:
More than 120,000 people are on the national transplant waiting list. Each day, 18 people die waiting for a life-saving organ transplant, and nearly 5,000 are waiting in New Jersey alone. They are our family members, colleagues, neighbors, and friends. This event will celebrate those who received a transplant and share the latest news in liver transplantation.

Approximately 6,000 liver transplants are performed in the U.S. each year. The University Hospital Center for Liver Diseases is the only liver transplant center in northern New Jersey and has performed 1,321 liver transplants since being established in 1989.
Many patients, such as Elizabeth Roberts-Coral of Wayne, New Jersey, are a living testament of the University Hospital Center for Liver Diseases' life-saving work. A home health aide and native of Peru, Roberts-Coral is considered a miracle. She received a liver transplant in 2000 and another in 2013 due to several health complications following a trip abroad. At one point, she was only given a five percent chance of living. Roberts-Coral, however, is alive and thriving today.

Another transplant recipient, Joseph Rufalo of Kenilworth, New Jersey, received a liver transplant last October. A pianist who has performed with Bob Dylan and Muddy Waters, he will be sharing his musical gifts at the
Re-birthday Party.

American Liver Foundation The American Liver Foundation is the nation's largest non-profit organization focused solely on promoting liver health and disease prevention. The American Liver Foundation achieves its mission in the fight against liver disease by funding scientific research, education for medical professionals, advocacy, information and support programs for patients and their families as well as public awareness campaigns about liver wellness and disease prevention.   The mission of the American Liver Foundation is to facilitate, advocate and promote education, support and research for the prevention, treatment and cure of liver disease. Additional information can be found at www.liverfoundation.org or by calling 1 800 GO LIVER (800-465-4837).

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. For more information about University Hospital, please visit www.uhnj.org.

NJ Sharing Network is a non-profit, federally designated organization responsible for the recovery and placement of donated organs and tissue for New Jersey residents in need of life-saving transplants. NJ Sharing Network partners with Donate Life America, a not-for-profit national alliance that drives communities to increase their numbers of registered donors. NJ Sharing Network honors those who gave, pays tribute to those who received, offers hope to those who continue to wait, and remembers the lives lost while waiting...for the gift of life.

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Rutgers New Jersey Medical School is the oldest school of medicine in the state. Today it is part of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and graduates approximately 170 physicians a year. In addition to providing the MD degree, the school offers MD/PhD, MD/MPH and MD/MBA degrees through collaborations with other institutions of higher education. Dedicated to excellence in education, research, clinical care and community outreach, the medical school comprises 22 academic departments and works with several healthcare partners, including its principal teaching hospital, The University Hospital. Its faculty consists of numerous world-renowned scientists and many of the region's "top doctors." Home to the nation's oldest student-run clinic, New Jersey Medical School hosts more than 50 centers and institutes,

including the Public Health Research Institute Center, the Global Tuberculosis Institute and the Neurological Institute of New Jersey. For more information please visit: njms.rutgers.edu

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