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Connecticut Hospital Association to Recognize The William W. Backus Hospital's Jenifer Siegelman, MD, MPH, as a 2013 Healthcare Hero

WALLINGFORD – At its 95th Annual Meeting on June 25, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will recognize Jenifer Siegelman, MD, MPH, CT Scan Section Chief, Diagnostic Imaging Department, The William W. Backus Hospital, as a 2013 Healthcare Hero. She was nominated for this award by Heather Beausoleil of the Backus communications department.

Dr. Jenifer Siegelman, MD, MPH, CT Scan Section Chief of Backus Hospital's Diagnostic Imaging Department, is a champion for change. A steward of safety, Dr. Siegelman has taken the lead at Backus Hospital to help ensure that patients scheduled for CT scans get the right test and the right dose for the right reason. Working with the entire Diagnostic Imaging team, she developed a protocol to tailor each patient's test to his or her specific healthcare need, helping to reduce radiation exposure.

"We have set into motion a radiation dose optimization process using international benchmarks for exposure levels, with monitoring and audit of size- and age-specific exposure and radiation dose levels," she said. Dr. Siegelman and her colleagues view weekly snapshots and determine whether there is any variability from protocol.

Dr. Siegelman leads a unified and talented team, and continually educates them about the complexities involved in performing optimal medical scans, reducing radiation exposure, assisting and educating providers to choose imaging tests wisely, and offering the best possible radiology care for the community. In the past year, she has performed extensive research on radiation dose optimization. Her work has been published in a number of publications, including an upcoming edition of the peer-reviewed publication *Journal of the American College of Radiology*.

An advocate of patient safety, Dr. Siegelman works to ensure that community hospitals have open lines of communication with industry leaders to train staff on best practices and provide the best care possible.

CHA's Healthcare Heroes award was developed in 2002 to celebrate the invaluable contributions of healthcare workers, both to their field and to the community at large. Now in its 12th year, the presentation of the Healthcare Heroes awards has become a highlight of CHA's Annual Meeting.



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About CHA

The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, diversity, and hospital reimbursement.