

**NASSAU-SUFFOLK
HOSPITAL
COUNCIL, INC.**

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MEMBER HOSPITALS

Brookhaven Memorial
Hospital Medical Center
East Patchogue

Catholic Health Services
of Long Island

- Good Samaritan Hospital
Medical Center
West Islip
- Mercy Medical Center
Rockville Centre
- St. Catherine of Siena
Medical Center
Smithtown
- St. Charles Hospital
Port Jefferson
- St. Francis Hospital
Roslyn

Eastern Long Island Hospital
Greenport

Long Beach Medical Center
Long Beach

John T. Mather Memorial
Hospital
Port Jefferson

Nassau University
Medical Center
East Meadow

New Island Hospital
Bethpage

North Shore-Long Island
Jewish Health System

- Glen Cove Hospital
- North Shore
University Hospital
- Plainview Hospital
- Syosset Hospital
- Franklin Hospital
- Huntington Hospital
- Southside Hospital

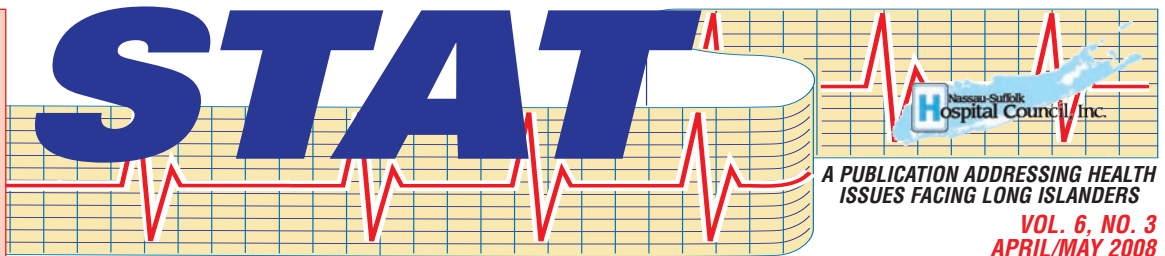
Peconic Bay Medical Center
Riverhead

Southampton Hospital
Southampton

Stony Brook
University Hospital
Stony Brook

Winthrop South Nassau
University Health System

- South Nassau
Communities Hospital
Oceanside
- Winthrop-University
Hospital
Mineola



(Lto R) Nicholas Lacetera, Chairman of the Hauppauge Industrial Association; Kevin Dahill, president/CEO of the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council; Dr. John Sardelis, Dean of the Health Care Management Program at St. Joseph's College; Kevin Quinn, partner at Chernoff Diamond, Dr. Matthew Lewis, President, Creating Wellness Center of Commack; Jay Branstein, licensed optician, Terri Alessi-Miceli, president of Hauppauge Industrial Association.

Business Takes Health Care Temperature

Feeling unwell about their ability to continue to afford health insurance for their employees and uncertain about the future direction of health care delivery, Long Island employers and business leaders heard from a panel of health care experts at a Hauppauge Industrial Association-sponsored Executive Breakfast held April 8, 2008 at the Sheraton Hotel in Hauppauge.

With little progress being made on curing the nation's health care woes, symptoms of our inefficient health care system continue to plague providers, patients, and even payors. These include:

- Health care spending overall will account for 19.5 percent of the Gross Domestic Product by 2017
- The U.S. ranks 37th in world in terms of health care effectiveness
- One in every two Americans suffers from a chronic disease
- Employees pay 59 percent more than they did in 2003 for their employer-sponsored health insurance
- Employer's health care expenditures for next year are expected to rise by an average of \$577 per employee
- There are 47 million uninsured Americans
- Drugs cost an average 30 to 50 percent more in U.S. than in Europe
- The Medicare Trust Fund could become insolvent by 2019

Hospitals Face Uncertainties in Washington DC

With passage of the New York State budget behind them, Long Island's 24 not-for-profit and public hospitals must still grapple with unresolved federal issues. Most pressing is a series of Medicaid regulations proposed by the Bush Administration that would restrict how states spend federal Medicaid money. Legislative moratoria on two of the regulatory proposals – to restrict intergovernmental transfers (IGTs) of Medicaid funds and to eliminate Medicaid reimbursement for Graduate Medical Education – are due to expire on May 25.

However, the House recently passed the Medicaid Safety Net Act of 2008 by a vote of 349 – 62. The bill will prevent the Bush Administration and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services from implementing seven harmful Medicaid regulations. The bill has been fast-tracked in the Senate, but it faces an uphill climb in the closely divided chamber.

Also on the federal radar is the possibility that the nation's physicians will face a 10 percent reduction in Medicare reimbursements, if legislative action is not taken by July 1, 2008.