

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

A newsletter for the Maine Medical Center family

## BBCH Achieves Milestone 250 Days Without CLABSI

The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital Inpatient Unit staff on Bean 6 celebrated an important achievement last week: 250 days without CLABSI, or Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection.

A central line is a tube inserted into one of a patient's larger veins — in the neck, chest, or groin — that's used to deliver fluids or medications. Although central lines save lives, they increase the risk of infection because they provide a path for bacteria to enter the body.

Reducing CLABSI is a Quality goal of MMC's 2015 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP). In addition to many hospital initiatives, the unit employed floor-level practices that contributed to their success, including monthly meetings, patient education videos, demonstrations, and audits.

"Reducing our central line infection rate is truly a team effort," says Gail Chop, VP, Patient Care Services. "Our staff has shown how a coordinated, vigilant effort can make the hospital a safer place for our patients."



*Pictured: Melanie Lord, R.N., BBCH Nurse Manager; Gail Chop, R.N., Vice President of Patient Care Services; Maureen Van Benthuysen, Senior Vice President of Clinical Services; and Michael Payne, R.N.*

## Super Bowl Superstar Malcolm Butler Visits BBCH



*12-year-old BBCH patient Kathryn meets the Patriots' Malcolm Butler. Butler signed autographs on photos, patients' shirts, jackets, and even hospital ID bracelets.*

Patients of The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital (BBCH) were treated to a visit from New England Patriots defensive back Malcolm Butler on Friday, March 20.

Butler is known for preserving the team's 28-24 Super Bowl XLIX victory over the Seattle Seahawks with a late-game, goal-line interception and is now a fan favorite. He made a special trip to the hospital before an appearance at a Portland night club.

The superstar met with children and signed autographs. He also visited patients who were unable to leave their rooms. The kids were thrilled to meet the popular player.

"Wearing their Patriots shirts and caps with pride, the patients and families were super excited to meet Malcolm Butler," says Lorraine McElwain, Associate Chair of Pediatrics and Pediatric Hospitalist. "Being able to talk with him and have an autograph was a bonus!"