Greetings,

The first thing you’ll notice is that Well Aware Kids has a new name: AtlanticView Kids. This new version of the magazine has a new look and feel but is still aimed specifically at you – our community – featuring news and stories, health tips, and more from Goryeb Children’s Hospital and Atlantic Health System.

At the end of 2017, Atlantic Health System opened the Scoliosis and Spinal Deformity Center to provide individualized treatment plans for children and adults with spinal deformities, including scoliosis – conditions ranging from mild spine curvature to complex spinal deformity cases – using a range of treatment options.

We also launched two new programs to find and treat mental health issues that are surprisingly common in adolescents: anxiety, depression, and attention deficit disorder, as well as alcohol and substance misuse. The new programs aim to make care more accessible by integrating psychiatric care into pediatric offices.

In this issue, you’ll learn how the team of specialists at Goryeb’s Craniofacial Center correct cleft lip and palate, among the most common birth defects, giving a child a great reason to smile. In addition, you’ll read about solving a complex medical mystery, how to get ahead of asthma, and boosting your immune system with nutritious food.

We always want to hear from our readers, so please contact us at atlanticview@atlantichealth.org if you have a story idea or want to share a comment.

WALTER D. ROSENFELD, MD
Chair of Pediatrics,
Atlantic Health System
Children’s Health and
Goryeb Children’s Hospital

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Talk to us
Tell us what you want to read about in AtlanticView Kids. Email us at atlanticview@atlantichealth.org. Or write us at Atlantic Health System, Attn: AtlanticView Kids, P.O. Box 1905, Morristown, NJ 07962.

AtlanticView Kids
Twice a year, Atlantic Health System publishes AtlanticView Kids, which includes informative articles on many different health-related topics and events. Issues are available online at atlantichealth.org/atlanticview or email atlanticview@atlantichealth.org to receive a hard copy.

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Moments That Matter:
Expert Resources for
Treating Cleft Palate

AtlanticView Kids
at Goryeb Children’s Hospital
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For additional information, visit atlantichealth.org.

Atlantic Health System, an integrated health care network in New Jersey, is comprised of Morristown Medical Center, Overlook Medical Center, Newton Medical Center, Chilton Medical Center, Hackettstown Medical Center, Goryeb Children’s Hospital and Atlantic Rehabilitation. The six medical centers have a combined total of 1,767 licensed beds and more than 4,000 affiliated physicians providing a wide array of health care services to the residents of northern and central New Jersey. The medical centers, and Goryeb Children’s Hospital as part of Morristown Medical Center, are accredited by The Joint Commission. Specialty service areas include advanced cardiovascular care, pediatric medical and surgical specialties, neurology, orthopedics and sports medicine. Each of these programs has earned top ratings and recognitions in its respective field.

DISCLAIMER: The information contained within this magazine and website is not intended as a substitute for professional medical advice, for which your physician is your best choice. The information in the articles, on the website or on the sites to which it links should not be used as the basis for diagnosing or treating any medical condition. Reproduction of AtlanticView Kids in whole or in part without written permission from the publisher is prohibited. Copyright © 2018. All rights reserved.

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Creating Healthier Communities - We’re More Than Hospitals

When you hear about Atlantic Health System, you may naturally think hospitals. But “system” is what we are all about.

We are an integrated care delivery system that serves 4.9 million people across New Jersey. Integrated in that we work as a system – across more than 400 sites of care – to coordinate the health services patients need throughout their lives. We are not only healing illnesses in our hospitals, but encouraging and supporting a lifetime of health and wellness for our patients across our system of care.

Our patients connect with us through the offices of our affiliated physicians, urgent care clinics, hospitals, home care and hospice providers, rehabilitation facilities, medical laboratories, therapy and imaging centers - even from their home computers and smartphones. Should our patients need hospitalization, we are there to provide them with the best possible experience. But for everyday needs, our system of care is there, right in the heart of the communities we serve.

That’s what we mean when we say that Atlantic Health System is working hard to deliver the highest quality care at the right time, at the right place, and at the right cost.

STAY ON TOP OF ATLANTIC HEALTH SYSTEM NEWS

AtlantiCast is Atlantic Health System’s very own newscast. Broadcast every two weeks, AtlantiCast is a local news source for all things happening at Atlantic Health System’s hospitals and the communities we serve.

You can view AtlantiCast on the television screens throughout our system as well as at atlanticcast.org. It is also available on local news outlets, including News12, Fios1, Patch and TapINTO.

ATLANTIC HEALTH SYSTEM MAKES FORTUNE’S ’100 BEST COMPANIES TO WORK FOR’ LIST

Atlantic Health System is celebrating after being recognized among Fortune’s “100 Best Companies to Work For®” for the 10th consecutive year, ranking number 74. It is the only health care delivery system from New Jersey, and the top-ranked New Jersey-based company on the list.

GORYEB CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL NAMED A LEADER IN LGBTQ HEALTHCARE EQUALITY

Goryeb Children’s Hospital has again been recognized as a “Leader in LGBTQ Healthcare Equality” by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

The findings were part of the Healthcare Equality Index 2018 (HEI), the national LGBTQ benchmarking tool that evaluates health care facilities’ policies and practices related to the equity and inclusion of their LGBTQ patients, visitors and employees. The HEI 2018 evaluates more than 1,600 health care facilities nationwide.

THE MOVE TOWARD ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS

One patient, one record, one Atlantic Health System. That’s the guiding principle behind Epic, the electronic medical records system currently being adopted in Atlantic Health System’s hospitals and medical offices. When you are treated by any Atlantic Health System physician, that information becomes accessible to all Atlantic Health System physicians. This translates into more streamlined care, allowing for our staff to maximize time spent with patients.

Learn more about MyChart at atlantichealth.org/patient-portals.
Last year, Goryeb Children’s Hospital relocated its pediatric outpatient services to 55 Madison Avenue. The move, which was meant to improve the patient experience, has done just that and is being met with positive feedback from both children and parents. The specialties and practices that made the move across the street include:

- Cardiology
- Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Adolescent Medicine and Child Psychiatry
- Genetics
- Pulmonology
- Kid-Fit™

**A BETTER EXPERIENCE FOR ALL**

“We’ve improved the experience for everyone at the new location,” says Lisa R. Cuoco, RN, practice manager for Goryeb Specialty Practices/Physician Shared Services. “Patients are particularly impressed by the collaboration of the interdisciplinary team. You could also say it’s a ‘one-stop shop’ for care. For instance, everything from radiology, laboratory and extreme exercising testing to patient exam rooms, education rooms and KID-FIT are all on the same floor, ensuring everything runs smoothly.”

Bright colors, fun chairs, and wall mounted blocks and puzzles are also a welcome sight at the new location. And parents need not stress over parking, which is both free and easily accessible on site. These improvements also benefit staff and doctors, who share similar feelings about the accommodations.

“The collegial work and patient-centric environment has been enhanced even further by same floor access to lab and radiology - we know patients like the easy access,” says Oren Koslowe, MD, pediatric gastroenterologist for Atlantic Medical Group.

Other enhancements are planned for the future, so stay tuned.

For more information about patient services at Goryeb Children’s Hospital, visit atlantichealth.org/goryeb.
Springtime heralds the coming of blossoming flowers, often followed by coughing and sneezing. But some respiratory symptoms may be due to more than allergies, according to Arthur Atlas, MD, director of the Respiratory Center for Children at Goryeb Children’s Hospital. “About 10 percent of the population has asthma, a chronic condition characterized by inflammation of airways in the lungs. Asthma can be triggered by the seasons and weather, and we see more symptoms in the spring.”

Dr. Atlas says some of the symptoms to look for in children include frequent coughing, a wheezing sound when exhaling, shortness of breath or chest congestion. A peak flow meter or symptom scores can be used to monitor the control of asthma. A decrease in peak flows or an increase in respiratory symptoms are early signs of worsening asthma.

Asthma is treated with quick-relief medicine to stop symptoms and long-term control medicine to prevent symptoms. “Inhaled medicine, such as albuterol, helps with acute symptoms,” says Dr. Atlas. Doctors may also prescribe longer-term anti-inflammatory medicines such as inhaled steroids or long-acting bronchodilators.

For those children who have been diagnosed with asthma, the Asthma Program at the Respiratory Center for Children, Goryeb Children’s Hospital, offers evaluation, educational programs, treatment and follow-up care. The center’s pediatric respiratory specialists offer a full range of pediatric pulmonary care services using advanced technology and treatments.

Because asthma is a chronic condition, Dr. Atlas recommends being proactive by developing a treatment plan to prevent symptoms that can increase in the spring. A treatment plan will include ways to avoid asthma triggers, monitor symptoms and take medicines. Some ways to minimize not only asthma symptoms but allergies in general include: Stay inside on high-pollen days; use air-conditioning; use saline rinses; or take over-the-counter antihistamines.

To reach the Respiratory Center for Children at Goryeb Children’s Hospital, please call 973-971-4142 or visit atlantichealth.org/kidsrespiratory.
Expert Resources for Treating Cleft Palate
Two of the most common birth defects are an isolated cleft lip or a cleft lip with an associated cleft palate. Babies with severe clefts need surgery in the first weeks of life to help with feeding and hearing. Even after many surgeries up through adolescence, they can have serious difficulty speaking.

“When my son, Christian, was born at Chilton Medical Center, we found he had a bilateral cleft lip and palate,” says Beth Italiano of Lords Valley, PA. Having the bilateral variety is one of the least common, yet most severe types of clefting. “It was overwhelming at first. I visited over a dozen different doctors to make sure we had the best ones for him.”

She found the most impressive choice to be the team at the Craniofacial Center at Goryeb Children’s Hospital in Morristown. Like Chilton, it is also part of Atlantic Health System.

“It was a two-hour commute for us, so it wasn’t the most convenient option,” she says. “But the whole team is amazing. They helped me every step of the way.”

ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES OF CLEFT

A cleft is when the tissue that forms a baby’s lips or palate (the roof of the mouth) does not fully close together before birth. In severe cases like Christian’s, this causes the lip to be divided into three sections. It also causes an open area inside the mouth, so foods and fluids can pass into the nose. Infants need special feeding devices and many surgeries, beginning in the first weeks of life.

“Children with cleft lip or palate need a lot of health care services while their body is growing, and also after their face is fully mature,” says Sue Wood, RN, nurse coordinator for Goryeb’s Craniofacial Center. “We see some patients into their 20s.”

To help parents and patients navigate through all the treatment choices, the team at Goryeb invites them to meet with the entire group of craniofacial experts all in one room at the same time. It takes a full team to manage patient care and to provide for all the needs that arise from bilateral lip and cleft palate.

According to Gerard A. Begley, DMD, chief of oral and maxillofacial surgery at Goryeb Children’s Hospital, “the objective of our treatment is to assist in restoring form and function to the facial structures, leading to a pleasing, harmonious appearance. Patient care at the Craniofacial Center involves not only the above, but also encompasses many specialties including nutrition, speech, hearing, and emotional and psychological development.” Dr. Begley continues, “A carefully orchestrated, multiple stage correctional program is a key component for cleft lip and palate patients.”

“Parents are incredibly grateful to have this opportunity,” Wood says. “With other centers, meeting all the members of the team can take hours of one-on-one appointments.” It’s important to note that the Goryeb Cleft Program is an American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (ACPA) approved program.

FROM SURGERIES TO THE SOCCER FIELD

For Christian, now 10, difficulty speaking had made making friends somewhat hard. Today, after six surgeries at Goryeb, he enjoys much better speech, and a strong group of friends.

He has five more surgeries ahead. But for now, he’s enjoying fourth grade, soccer, and family trips with his mom, 12-year-old brother Devin, and new sister Teagan, 1.

“It’s such a great team there at the Craniofacial Center at Goryeb,” Italiano says. And she measures their work this past decade with a simple thought any parent would understand.

“It’s gratifying now just to see Christian heal and make new friends.”

For more information, please call 973-971-8585 and visit atlantichealth.org/craniofacial.
In the early morning hospital dimness, a man awoke to see a platoon of doctors surrounding his 14-year-old daughter’s bed. He could see her sitting up, mouth open, a glint of sweat on her cheeks and forehead. He could hear her rapid, ragged breaths, almost as if she had just run a race. She looked over to him. She was scared. And suddenly, so was he.

“We have to take her to the Intensive Care Unit,” a doctor said. Equipment there could help her breathe more easily. As the nurses packed up IVs and hooked up portable tanks of oxygen, the girl’s father and mother gathered their books and bags. His wife seemed much calmer than he felt. Until that moment, he had not believed his daughter was that sick. The doctor diagnosed her with a rare autoimmune disease known as granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GPA).

Now, five years later, the girl is in college and doing well. She is active and while she gave up playing soccer after her illness, she has since recovered much of her lung function. And, she still visits her specialists at Goryeb Children’s Hospital.

The series of moments that fell into place for this particular patient: The diligent family pediatrician who follows the patient, carefully monitoring symptoms and progress; access to a hospital like Goryeb Children’s Hospital that can care for children like this patient; a pediatric subspecialist who recognized the connection between seemingly unrelated symptoms and solved the medical mystery; and the many people who cared for the patient and her family during her illness, all made a successful outcome possible.

“This case highlights the complexity of care that Goryeb Children’s Hospital is equipped to handle,” says Simona Nativ, MD, the patient’s rheumatologist. Dr. Nativ remembers determining the GPA diagnosis and credits the family’s pediatrician, Suhaib Nashi, MD, who was thorough and persistent as the family consulted doctor after doctor, struggling to find the cause of their daughter’s symptoms. “It was Dr. Nashi who specifically requested a rheumatology consult,” Dr. Nativ recalls.

Pediatric patients only account for about 5 to 10 percent of cases diagnosed with this already rare condition. Long after the patient was discharged, her impact was felt at Goryeb. Many nurses, medical students and physicians learned valuable lessons about diagnosis and treatment of rare conditions in children from this case.

And roughly five years later, this patient is designing her own road map for success as she grows into adulthood and continues to inspire the medical professionals who saved her life.

For more information, call Rheumatology at 973-971-4096.
For adolescents, the goal of two new programs at Atlantic Health System is to find and treat mental health issues that are surprisingly common: anxiety, depression, and attention deficit disorder, as well as alcohol and substance misuse.

These affect one in every five children over age 14, and they can be debilitating. “Psychiatric problems affect physical health, and they can affect children’s ability to excel personally and in school,” says Thomas Zaubler, MD, MPH, chairman of the department of psychiatry at Morristown Medical Center. “Though we have effective treatments – medicines and psychotherapy – most kids receive no treatment at all.”

Often, no one diagnoses children with these conditions. There is also a shortage of children’s mental health professionals, he says.

However, the two new programs at Atlantic Health System bring innovative ways to solve these problems, by integrating psychiatric care into pediatric offices.

**PILOT PROGRAM**
One program involves mental health screenings during a child’s yearly wellness visit. Run by the hospital’s department of psychiatry, the team includes a behavioral health clinician who is on-site in the pediatrician’s office and other specialists when needed – all overseen by a child psychiatrist.

“This initiative is the first in the state to integrate psychiatric care into a pediatric practice,” Dr. Zaubler says. “This makes care more accessible for the children who need it.”

A grant from the Women’s Association of Morristown Medical Center funds the pilot program, now at Atlantic Health System’s Madison Pediatrics in Morristown.

**MENTAL HEALTH ‘HUBS’**
In another initiative, pediatricians screen for anxiety, depression and other mental health conditions, and refer patients to a “hub” of professionals who provide consultation to the pediatric practice, care coordination, referrals to community providers and some direct care as well. Hubs are located in Morris and Passaic counties as well as in Somerset, Sussex, Warren and Hunterdon counties.

The hubs are funded through Hackensack Meridian’s grant from the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, and they have partnered with Atlantic Health System.

“The purpose is to identify common psychiatric problems as early as possible and coordinate any care children need,” Dr. Zaubler says. “By having a place where pediatricians can get support to manage these health issues, they are better able to help their patients improve their mental health.”

• If you have noticed any of these signs, please talk to your child’s pediatrician.
• To schedule a mental health evaluation and/or appointments, call our ACCESS phone number at 1-888-247-1400.
NEW TREATMENTS FOR SCOLIOSIS AND SPINAL DEFORMITIES

At the end of last year, Atlantic Health System opened the Scoliosis and Spinal Deformity Center. Atlantic Health System developed the center to provide exemplary medical care and care management to adults and children with spinal deformities, including scoliosis.

“Many people first present with a potential spine issue to their primary care physician or pediatrician. Additional expertise is required to comprehensively handle these cases,” says Steven Maser, MD, medical director of orthopedic surgery for Atlantic Health System. “The Scoliosis and Spinal Deformity Center offers these frontline doctors a resource by providing the most comprehensive screening and evaluation, and assisting in the coordination of care for patients with spine problems. We are well-equipped to treat conditions from a mild spine curvature to complex spinal deformity cases in both children and adults.”

The center’s care team creates individualized treatment plans designed to each patient’s particular deformity pattern. Treatments range from growth preservation techniques for scoliosis treatment, genetic testing to predict potential curve progression, as well as more traditional treatment options such as bracing or spinal fusion. The treatment team, comprised of medical staff from different areas of specialty, is using evidence-based techniques and new technology. Fellowship-trained scoliosis and spinal deformity surgeons lead each team.

Surgeons use the O-arm® intraoperative imaging system and the StealthStation® Surgical Navigation System, new technology that combines intraoperative CT imaging and 3-D navigation to allow for accurate and safe instrumentation placement during spinal deformity surgery.

“Our advanced technology allows the surgical team to see CT images in real time, ensuring we are guiding our hardware to the right location with pinpoint accuracy,” says Jason E. Lowenstein, MD, director of the Scoliosis and Spinal Deformity Center. “For patients dealing with scoliosis and complex spinal deformity, this technology is critical to allow for safe placement of our instrumentation. This allows us to maximally correct our patients’ spinal deformities, which greatly improves their overall clinical outcomes.”

“While spine problems are frequently seen in adults, the most common form of scoliosis occurs in children and teenagers,” says Walter Rosenfeld, MD, chair of pediatrics for Goryeb Children’s Hospital. “Our specialists in pediatric pulmonology, neurology and child development, as well as our hospital-based critical care team, will work collaboratively with the spine surgeons to ensure the best outcomes and the best patient experience for this group of patients.”

Surgeons caring for patients at the Scoliosis and Spinal Deformity Center currently operate at Morristown and Overlook medical centers. The Joint Commission has consistently accredited both medical centers as Centers of Excellence, and U.S. News & World Report has recognized Morristown Medical Center’s orthopedic program as a best-in-nation program.

To learn more about the Scoliosis and Spinal Deformity Center or to make an appointment, call 973-971-6879 or email spinaldeformity@atlantichealth.org.
It’s that time of year again when fresh fruits and vegetables are abundant in New Jersey. According to Kelly Varzea, a registered dietitian in the pediatric gastroenterology department for Goryeb Children’s Hospital, “Locally grown food often has greater nutritional value. Fruits and vegetables that are imported are often harvested before they are ripe and are older by the time they get to your plate; the timing of harvest and consumption impacts the content of vitamins and minerals.”

All foods are not created equal and when it comes to healthy eating, superfoods are packed with flavor and nutrition.

“I consider a superfood an environmentally sustainable food, packed with vitamins, minerals, fiber and phytonutrients,” says Varzea.

Some local superfoods that are at their peak during early spring and summer in New Jersey are asparagus, berries, tomatoes, peaches and peppers. “Asparagus is one of the first crops to be harvested in spring,” says Varzea. “It’s a great source of vitamin K, is high in fiber, and is one of the vegetables that has the highest amount of protein, with about one-half a gram of protein per stalk.”

Strawberries, raspberries, blackberries and blueberries are high in vitamin C, as are peaches and tomatoes. “One red pepper contains about double the vitamin C needed in one day. Tomatoes are high in lycopene, a phytonutrient thought to play a role in cancer and cardiovascular disease prevention,” says Varzea.

Varzea recommends eating superfoods raw for a snack. You can roast or grill asparagus, tomatoes and peppers to bring out the flavor. Peaches and berries can be added to yogurt, salads or mashed into a marinade for a natural added sweetness.

For food that is picked at or right before prime ripeness, Varzea recommends visiting a local farmers’ market. “It’s a great family activity because they often have music and activities for kids. They are a great way to introduce your child to a variety of foods. It also teaches them about the work that is needed for the growing and harvesting process that gets the food from the farm onto their plate.”

Nutritious Food for the Whole Family
As a parent or guardian, you make choices about health care for your child every day. This physician or that one? Which over-the-counter medicine is most effective? Which has fewer side effects?

When your child has a serious injury or illness, however, such choices can be very difficult. The stakes are high. Options can be complicated.

“An important message that we share is that we know that everyone wants the best for the child,” says Erin Johnson, MD, who is a pediatric critical care physician for Goryeb Children’s Hospital. “That includes the parents, guardians and other loved ones, as well as every medical provider. When there is a difficult decision to make or a difference of opinion, Goryeb Children’s Hospital has a group of people to be your resource.”

Dr. Johnson is the lead physician at Goryeb for a program called the Bioethics Consultation Service. She is a specialist in the field called “pediatric bioethics,” which offers many services that include helping families and care providers with difficult health care decisions for children.

“We meet with people as a group or one-on-one, to help them weigh the benefits and burdens of different options for care,” she says. “The decisions are made by the patient, when possible, the family and their physicians.”

ATLANTIC MEDICAL GROUP

Dr. Johnson is part of Atlantic Medical Group, a multispecialty network of health care providers. For more information, visit atlanticmedicalgroupnj.org.
Advances in the treatment of cancer continue to improve with the help of clinical research trials like those conducted at Atlantic Health System. “Most clinical trials are related to chemotherapy,” says Steve Halpern, MD, director, Pediatric Oncology Center. “Because of that, we’ve changed the way the chemotherapy is given to help better kill the cancer cells. But now, we’re seeing more targeted therapy used in conjunction with chemotherapy.”

In targeted therapy, the unique properties of the cancer cell are attacked directly. “We had a child recently who had the most common type of leukemia. We treated her with one round of chemotherapy, and it didn’t work. She got sick and lost her hair and was in the hospital quite a bit,” says Dr. Halpern. “We then gave her targeted therapy once a week as an outpatient. She felt much better within a short time and after just three weekly treatments of this targeted therapy, the leukemia was completely eradicated.” For more information, please call 973-971-6720.

In addition to the pediatric cancer research, we are conducting clinical studies in adults at Atlantic Health System’s Overlook Medical Center. Overlook Medical Center is the only hospital in New Jersey involved in the MIND Study of Artemis’ minimally invasive neuro evacuation device to remove intracerebral hemorrhage. The device is inserted through a small incision into the affected area of the brain and removes the clot by suctioning it out through a catheterlike device. The study is open to patients 18 to 80 years old with an intracerebral hemorrhage.

“Our interventionalist team has performed about 60 of these procedures using the Artemis device over a two-year period and has seen an increase in survival rate with the device pre-trial,” according to principal investigator Paul Saphier, MD, an endovascular neurosurgeon for Atlantic Neuroscience Institute. “We are proud to be a major participant in this trial, as well as many others, that provide a benefit to our patients.” For more information, call 833-733-4641.

Visit atlantichealth.org/research for more information.
Foundations Look to Improve CARE FOR PEDIATRIC PATIENTS

In the Gagnon Children’s Emergency Center, a bedside ultrasound is needed by physicians for the timely diagnoses of various emergent conditions. The equipment will also be used to perform specific procedures with less complications.

In response to community concerns, the Overlook Foundation hosted a panel discussion, “Supporting Resiliency in Adolescents and Children,” to address childhood anxiety. Parents, teachers, coaches and staff attended the event at the Kent Place School in Summit.

Chilton Medical Center’s Children’s Center is seeking funding for i-STAT portable blood analyzers, which would improve the patient experience by providing quicker care decisions and shorter visits.

The Newton Medical Center Foundation is seeking funding for a pediatric transilluminator for the emergency department. This device would help locate veins for blood draws, resulting in quicker treatment and diagnosis.

Hackettstown Medical Center is completing an emergency department renovation, funded in part by the foundation. Pediatric ED patients, in particular, will benefit from a new “Results Waiting” fast-track area. This provides patients a more relaxed space, improving what is often an intimidating experience.