
Zoom On: James Krinsley, Director of Critical Care, Stamford Hospital



[Prof. James Krinsley](#)

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James S. Krinsley, MD, FCCM, FCCP is [Director of Critical Care, Stamford Hospital](#) and Clinical Professor of Medicine at [Columbia University](#).

What are your key areas of interest and research?

Glucose control in the critically ill.

What are the major challenges in your field?

Once an outstanding result has been achieved in the ICU, to ensure that the processes of care that were necessary to achieve that result are maintained.

What is your top management tip?

ICU is a team sport. Listen to all of your colleagues and give them the respect that they deserved.

What would you single out as a career highlight?

The selection of our hospital by the US Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals for the [Codman Award](#) for hospital quality, in [recognition of our ICU's work on glucose control](#) and the related publication of our before and after investigation of intensive insulin therapy, resulting in an absolute and relative reduction in mortality of 6.1% and 29.3%, respectively.

If you had not chosen this career path you would have become a...?

Lead guitarist in a rock and roll band. I played in bands through the end of medical school, but ultimately decided that I was not talented enough to pursue that path.

What are your personal interests outside of work?

Travel, reading, music (I have very eclectic tastes), my wonderful wife and children.

Your favourite quote? Dr. Francis Peabody: "The secret of the care of the patient is in caring for the patient." (from an [essay published in JAMA in 1927](#))

Prof. Krinsley is a pulmonologist and has been Director of Critical care at Stamford Hospital since 1998. The [Institute for Healthcare Improvement](#) and [National Coalition on Health Care](#) named the Stamford Hospital ICU as one of 11 best practices in the USA in 2002.

Further Reading

Krinsley JS (2014) [Glycaemic control in the critically ill: what have we learned since NICE-SUGAR?](#) ICU Management, 14(1)21-2, 24.

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