



YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS



UTMB NEWS

Best Care third-period results are in:

UTMB received its results for the third period of the 2018 Vizient Quality and Accountability Study last week, and we remain in the Top 10 among the study's 95 participating comprehensive academic medical centers, with a current overall ranking of **No. 4**. As shown in the chart below, UTMB continues to do well across most domains. Our ranking fell only slightly in the safety and effectiveness domains. Otherwise, our performance improved in all other domains, including efficiency. UTMB's ongoing efforts to reduce 30-day readmissions, health care-associated infections and perioperative and post-operative complications should help us maintain—and even improve—our standing in the final results of the study, which are expected in October. Thank you for your continued focus and commitment to providing Best Care to every patient, every time and for working hard to make UTMB a high value practicing organization.

| Domain | 2018 Period 1 Ranking (July 2017-Sept. 2017) | 2018 Period 2 Ranking (July 2017-Dec. 2017) | 2018 Period 3 Ranking (July 2017-March 2018) |
|----------------------|---|--|---|
| Overall | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| Mortality | 6 | 7 | 5 |
| Safety | 1 | 27 | 30 |
| Effectiveness | 22 | 15 | 16 |
| Patient Centeredness | 30 | 18 | 14 |
| Efficiency | 24 | 15 | 11 |
| Equity | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Marshall named Fellow of the American Academy Nursing:

Dr. David Marshall, chief nursing and patient care services executive, has been named a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. He is one of 195 nurse leaders worldwide selected this year as an AAN fellow, one of the highest honors in the nursing profession. Fellow selection criteria includes evidence of significant contributions to nursing and health care and sponsorship by two current academy fellows. Applicants are reviewed by a panel of elected and appointed fellows, and selection is based, in part, on the extent the nominee's nursing career has influenced health policies and the health and well-being of all. A ceremony honoring this year's inductees will take place during the AAN's annual policy conference, Transforming Health, Driving Policy, Nov. 1-3, 2018, in Washington, D.C.



AROUND UTMB (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team)

Change coming to iUTMB on July 25:

To enhance web performance and improve security and reliability, a change is coming to iUTMB, the university's [internal home page](#) for faculty, staff and students. If you are on the UTMB network at any campus or clinic (excluding CMC, which has its own home page), iUTMB is likely the first page that greets you when you turn on your computer at work. It serves up a long list of commonly referenced links and employee/student news. The public typically sees our [public home page](#) or [patient care site](#). Although iUTMB is designed for our internal audience, it is currently available to the public. **That will change on July 25, when iUTMB becomes available exclusively via our intranet.**

How will this affect me?

Most users will not notice a change. If you are on the UTMB network or using the university's virtual private network (VPN), you will access iUTMB as you do today and it will continue to serve as your default home page. If you are NOT on the UTMB network and try to access iUTMB, you will be taken to a new portal page that features some commonly used links and a link to log in via UTMB's VPN. You can [preview the iUTMB public portal now](#). Please use the survey link to provide feedback or ask questions.

Conducting meaningful employee evaluations:

To assist with the FY18 performance review cycle, Human Resources is offering training on UTMB's performance management program. All employees and managers are invited to attend one of these training sessions to learn more about each phase of the annual evaluation process and how to effectively document, track and measure performance.

- Angleton Danbury Campus – July 18
- Galveston Campus – July 16, 18, 24 and 26
- League City Campus – Aug. 2 and 8
- Correctional Managed Care – Contact local HR office for assistance

The FY18 review period ends Aug. 31, and the institutional deadline for completing an evaluation for eligible employees is Oct. 31. For more details, see <https://hr.utmb.edu/relations/performance/>.

DID YOU KNOW?

UTMB Alerts is our institution's method of communicating with faculty, staff and students during severe weather conditions or other emergency events that have the potential to threaten safety or impact business operations. Employees and students are automatically enrolled in the UTMB Alerts notification system, using the basic directory information such as a UTMB email address or phone number. But to receive UTMB Alerts notifications on a mobile device, a few extra steps are required. Here's how:

- Point your web browser to the UTMB Directory (<https://intranet.utmb.edu/directory/>) and search for your own name.
- Once you've located your contact information in the directory, click on the middle button in the blue bar titled, "Edit My Alert Info."
- On the next screen, log in with your UTMB username and password.
- On the My Profile page, click on "Edit" in the top right-hand corner of the white box.
- Add your mobile device number in the "Mobile Phone" and "Text Message" fields.
- Click the blue "Save" bar and then exit.

It is strongly recommend that you enter your mobile contact information to ensure you get emergency messages quickly on a device that is (nearly) always close by. For a screencast that outlines the steps to signing up your mobile device for UTMB Alerts, visit <https://utmb.us/2vf>.

☑ ACTION ITEM: Annual benefits enrollment:

The annual enrollment period for the 2018–2019 benefits plan year is July 15 to 31. During this period, you may make changes to your benefits elections, add or remove dependents and/or enroll in a flexible spending account.

- You will need the personal identification number provided to you by the Office of Employee Benefits to access the [My UT Benefits](#) online system. Your PIN will be/was delivered by email on July 15.
- No action is necessary if you do not want to make any changes to your coverage for the upcoming plan year; however, employees interested in a flexible spending account must actively enroll each year.
- Your annual enrollment elections and new rates are effective Sept. 1.

See

https://hr.utmb.edu/hrbbc/benefits/annual_enrollment/ for more annual enrollment information.

REMINDERS

Annual compliance training:

The deadline for all employees to complete their annual compliance training for FY18 is Aug. 31. Please take a few minutes today to log in to the [UTMB Learn](#) system at <https://learn.utmb.edu> and complete any remaining courses and activities. Employees who do not finish their training by the institutional deadline will be suspended without pay until all requirements are met. For questions or concerns about your assigned compliance training, please contact your manager or the Office of Institutional Compliance at (409) 747-8700.

Options for accessing Dr. Callender’s Pulse video content:

The Pulse video recap will return to Weekly Relays on July 19. In the meantime, remember there are multiple ways to access the Pulse messages. In addition to the recap in Weekly Relays, you can watch and listen to the videos from the Office of the President web site (www.utmb.edu/president). Modern web browsers work best. If you are at a PC without audio or speakers, you can turn on closed captioning on the web site, by clicking the “CC” symbol in the video player tool bar. You will see captions if the sound is muted. Or, you can access the transcripts on the web site to read the messages; a transcript accompanies each video. If you are a social media user, the videos (with subtitles) are posted to the UTMB employee Facebook page, I Am UTMB. (www.facebook.com/lamUTMB/).



The Joint Commission Readiness Questions of the Week: Medication management (Part 2 of 2):

Is it appropriate to carry medications in pockets, lab coats, fanny packs, etc.?

Answer: No. Storing and carrying medications in pockets, lab coats, fanny packs, etc., even for a short time, may be considered problematic for several reasons. For example, the effectiveness of the medication could be compromised by the proximity to higher body temperatures and humidity, or there may be concerns related to infection control and the potential for diversion (the transfer of any legally prescribed controlled substance from the individual for whom it was prescribed to another person for any illicit use).

Which of the following is NOT true regarding the placement of pour bottles and IVs in warmers?

- You should follow manufacturer guidelines for proper storage.
- You should record a shortened expiration date (“Beyond Use Date”) on the warmed fluids to ensure that expired fluids are not administered to patients.
- You should follow the same expiration dating guidelines as the dating of opened multi-dose vials, which is 28 days.
- The use of contrast warmers is not allowed at UTMB. Contrasts should be administered at room temperature.

Answer: C. We must ensure that the manufacturer's guidelines are followed for storage of such fluids. The package insert provides a temperature range in which the items must be stored. Contact the pharmacy if a package insert is not readily available. For many such products, warmer temperatures result in a decreased storage time. For example, a liter IV bag might not expire for several years if stored at room temperature, but if stored at a higher temperature, it might expire in only two weeks. Use the fluid warming guidelines available on the UTMB Joint Commission web page <http://intranet.utmb.edu/QHS/TheJointCommission/default.asp>.

Apply to become a member of UTMB's Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC):

The Institutional Ethics Committee is an integral part of the UTMB Ethics Program that provides comprehensive, integrated ethics support for the institution. The IEC is a multidisciplinary forum for the analysis and discussion of ethical issues and standards affecting patient care, professional education and community interests in service to the organizational mission of improving health. This mission is fulfilled through the committee's advisory, educational, policy management and service functions. Anyone at UTMB may submit an application for membership. The committee is seeking individuals who have an interest and commitment to ethical discourse, diversity of perspective, and respect for divergent opinions. All students are encouraged to apply. The term of commitment for new members is three years (student commitment is for one year). Meetings occur monthly, with the possibility of emergent meetings should the need arise. Apply at <http://intranet.utmb.edu/healthsystem/Patients/submissions.asp>. The application deadline is July 20.