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[**Weekly Relays User Guide**](https://ispace.utmb.edu/xythoswfs/webview/_xy-12470404_1)

**TOPICS LEGEND**

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| C:\Users\krhensle\Desktop\SMALL LOGO (2).jpg | | WEEKLY RELAYS | | **August 2, 2018** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | | | **UTMB NEWS** | |
| **VDAA Accolades**  The Vice Dean would like to recognize Dr. Ruth Levine’s recognition by the AAMC for service in AAMC’s Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) Certificate Program providing leadership education and serving as coach to the LEAD fellows.  **OSAA**  Call for Hector P. Garcia Cultural Competence Essay and Abstract for Poster Contests: Students from all UTMB Schools are invited to enter the Hector P. Garcia, M.D., Cultural Competence Essay and Poster Contests.  Deadline to submit essays: August 24, 2018 by 5 pm.  Deadline to submit abstract for poster (max 275 words): August 17, 2018 by 5pm.  Winners of the essay ($1000) and poster ($500) contests will be announced at the annual luncheon held on Friday, September 14, 2018. Please review the requirements and [register on the website](https://www.utmb.edu/studentservices/hector-p-garcia-award): <https://www.utmb.edu/studentservices/hector-p-garcia-award>  Frontera de Salud partnered with Casa El Buen Samaritano to host a health fair for mostly Spanish-speaking patients in Southwest Houston on July 21, 2018. A variety of public health and medical issues were represented at booths including yoga and mindfulness, body mass index, blood pressure, blood glucose, fall and stroke prevention, nutrition and hydroponic gardening, women’s healthcare, occupational therapy, adult vaccines, and health literacy. Over 100 patients were in attendance at the health fair and had the opportunity to win prizes and be educated on these health topics. <https://www.facebook.com/fronteradesaludutmb/> | | | **Episode 9 of President Callender’s Pulse video series now available:**  In the latest Pulse video update, Dr. Callender discusses where we stand with the work of The Berkeley Research Group (BRG). The highlights:   * We are now thinking about *how* we pursue the goals outlined in BRG’s recommendations for our Health System. (Refer to Pulse episode 7 for information on the recommendations). * Health System CEO Donna Sollenberger has created four work groups that are focusing on the following areas:  1. Cost of care and quality 2. Workforce management 3. Our ambulatory network 4. Portfolio management, which will look at our plans for advancing our clinical programs, assess where we are with our clinical strategic plan and determine whether we need to adjust our plans or their implementation going forward.  * The work groups are composed of representatives of each of these areas. * We expect the implementation to take place over the next six to eight months. * A reminder that this work is about our long-term health as an institution: how we deal with decreased reimbursement, decreased research funding and decreased funding for education. * For this reason, we want to take our time, think about our approach, and make sure that we do the best we can to make UTMB as efficient as possible and able to survive in a much more complex and competitive environment in the future. * You can get more information on the BRG work groups, including co-leaders for each, at <https://utmb.us/2wi>(UTMB network or VPN connection required). * Meanwhile, initial recommendations from Huron, which is looking at the Academic Enterprise and Institutional Support, were expected at the end of July. * Huron information will be featured in a future Pulse video.   **UTMB Alerts mass notification system to test Aug. 8**: UTMB wants to make sure that all faculty, staff and students are informed in the event of an emergency. In order to test our ability to communicate quickly, a test of the UTMB Alerts emergency notification system—which can send messages via text, call or email—will be conducted on Aug. 8. This will be a test and not an actual emergency. If you are not signed up to receive messages on your mobile phone, go to the [UTMB Alerts web page](https://member.everbridge.net/saml/login/everbridgeutmbmbr/892807736723573/alias/defaultAlias?disco=true) for instructions on how to review and update your information.  **UTMB receives Get With the Guidelines awards:**  UTMB has recently received three awards from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s Get With the Guidelines initiative. UTMB received a Gold Plus designation for stroke, Gold designation for resuscitation and a Silver designation for pediatric resuscitation. The award recognizes the hospital’s commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines based on the latest scientific evidence.  **Bhardwaj named Deans Fellow by AAMC:**  Dr. Anish Bhardwaj has officially been conferred the status of Council of Deans Fellow by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). The Council of Deans Fellowship Program was created to enhance the development of future leaders in academic medicine. It is designed for senior faculty members, including department chairs and assistant and associate deans, who are interested in being considered for deanships in the near future.  **Urban to lead UTMB research:**  Dr. Randy Urban will become UTMB’s Chief Research Officer on Sept. 1 as Dr. David Niesel steps down to focus on his duties as dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Urban will continue to serve as vice dean for Clinical Research for the School of Medicine.  **Check your UT FLEX program balances:**  Employees participating in the FY18 UT FLEX program are reminded to check their flexible spending account balance(s) and to use remaining funds. To view your account balance(s), spending guidelines and eligible health care and dependent care expenses, go to [www.myutflex.com](http://www.myutflex.com). Please note that funds left over at the end of the plan year and subsequent grace period will be lost.  **UTMB honorees in Galveston County Daily News “40 Under 40”**: UTMB’s Estela Castillo, Jennifer Haglund and Dr. Kimberlyn Robinson have been named to The Galveston County Daily News’ inaugural “40 Under 40” magazine. This new magazine profiles the best and brightest in Galveston County as nominated by their peers in the community. | |
| TOPICS  LEGEND | PATIENT CARE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT CMC | | | |
| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) | | | | |
| **REMINDERS**  **New leadership roles in Academic Enterprise:**  As of Aug. 1, Dr. Anish Bhardwaj, professor and chair of the Department of Neurology, who has served as associate provost for faculty affairs and professional development, is serving as provost ad interim. Dr. Charles Mouton, vice dean for academic affairs, is serving as interim dean of the School of Medicine.  **Temporary closure to John Sealy Hospital circle drive and walkway:**  Please be advised and communicate with UTMB patients and visitors that the circle drive and the east/west covered walkway in front of John Sealy Hospital will be closed on Saturday, Aug. 11, and possibly Sunday, Aug. 12. The closure will start at 4 a.m. on Saturday and run as late as 8 p.m.; the closure will extend to Sunday only if necessary. The closure will take place in order to set up a large crane that will lift new air handlers into the hospital. The front door of the hospital will remain open during this closure.    **Modified Early Warning Score system now live**:  On July 31, UTMB went live with a Modified Early Warning Score ([MEWS](https://academic.oup.com/qjmed/article/94/10/521/1558977)) system. Every 30 minutes, the Epic medical record now calculates and displays a MEWS score on all inpatients. The calculation includes: (1) heart rate, (2) systolic blood pressure, (3) respiratory rate, (4) temperature and (5) level of consciousness based on nursing documentation. For adult medical-surgical patients in Jennie Sealy Hospital and TDCJ Hospital Galveston, patient scores are further categorized as green (0-3), yellow (4-5), or red (≥6). The Medical-Surgical Resource Nurse and a Rapid Response Team will be automatically paged to the bedside to assist with the evaluation of patients in yellow and red zones, respectively. (A similar closed-loop alert and response will be extended for pediatric early warning signs and maternal early warning signs in the near future; a notification process is currently being piloted on the League City and Angleton Danbury campuses).    **Patient Experience and Event Reporting (Juvo) training materials now available online**:  In addition to handouts containing form field descriptions and general information on how to file a report, a video on how to create an event report is also posted on the Quality, Safety & Performance Improvement website. In addition to capturing information on near misses and adverse events, users now have the ability to submit patient experience reports such as compliments and complaints. Please visit <http://intranet.utmb.edu/qhs/> for more information.    **New online course to be required for CMC Training Review beginning in FY19**:  All CMC staff are required to take 340B Annual Training regardless of role/job title.   * 340B Drug Pricing Program is a federal drug discount program that provides significant discounts. * Participation in the 340B program has resulted in significant savings for the CMC Program, of approximately $95 million per year. * To participate, UTMB must comply with strict program requirements to ensure compliance and provide ongoing education to staff. * Covered entities can face sanctions for non-compliance including (1) being removed from the 340B program and/or (2) repayment to manufacturers for the time period for which the violation occurred. * The findings from 340B audits may be used to refer matters to the Office of Inspector General (OIG) or Department of Justice (DOJ). * Removal from the program would cost UTMB a significant amount in cost savings and revenue and could jeopardize some services we provide.     **Annual evaluations reminder**:  The following deadlines have been established for completion of annual evaluations for FY18:   * Managers must enter key performance goals and competencies in ePerformance by Aug. 15 * Employees must complete a self-evaluation in ePerformance by Sept. 15 * Managers must meet with staff to review performance documents and complete the evaluation process in ePerformance by Oct. 15 * Evaluations must be completed for all employees hired on or before Feb 28, 2018. | | | **The Joint Commission Readiness Topic of the Week:**  **What can be stored under a sink?**  Answer:Nothing!  **How do you store patient supplies?**  Answer:   * Only rooms that have been designated for storage can be used as a storage room. * All patient care supplies must be at least 5 inches from the floor. * All patient care supplies should be stored away from the edge of a sink to avoid possible splash contamination. * If used, wire shelving –whether fixed or mobile-- must have the lowest level shelf covered with a plastic cover. * Clean linens in carts and storage areas should be covered at all times. * Corrugated cardboard material delivered to health care areas should be broken down and the cardboard removed in a timely manner. Use of corrugated cardboard cartons in health care storage areas must be assessed by Infection Control & Healthcare Epidemiology to assure that the use of such cartons does not compromise the cleanliness or sterility of patient supplies. Internal shipping boxes (not corrugated boxes) may be used to dispense sterile and clean supplies but should be discarded when the box has been emptied.   For additional information, refer to Policy 8.1.21 Guidelines for Storage of Patient Care Supplies: <https://utmb.us/2wh> | |
| **DID YOU KNOW?**  The Texas Constitution of 1876 called for “a university of the first class” to be established in the Lone Star State. Five years later—in 1881—the state’s voters chose Galveston as the site of the University of Texas Medical Department and Austin as the site of the university’s main campus. Galveston garnered 68 percent of the vote, with 29,741 in favor of the island location. (The runner-up, Houston, had 12,586 votes.) Ten years later, the medical school held its first session with 23 students and 13 faculty members in one building, the Ashbel Smith Building or “Old Red.” The John Sealy Training School for Nurses (which had opened in 1890) became part of the medical department in 1896. The “University of Texas Medical Branch” name was adopted in 1919. | |