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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 | | **Nov. 19, 2020** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | | | **UTMB NEWS** | |
|  | | | **Weekly Relay Notes taking a holiday on Thanksgiving**: Weekly Relay Notes will not be published on Thursday, Nov. 26, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. The next issue will be published on Thursday, Dec. 3. The Relay Notes team wishes everyone a healthy and safe holiday.  **$3,000 Nursing Referral Bonus:** All paid UTMB employees who refer an applicant to a Nurse Clinician III–IV position in any of UTMB’s Operating Rooms will be eligible for a special $3,000 bonus. If your referral is hired into a benefits-eligible position between Nov. 23 and Dec. 31, you will receive $1,500 when they complete six months of service and another $1,500 when they complete one year of service. For more information about the bonus requirements and guidelines, please see <https://www.utmb.edu/hr/employees/employee-recognition-and-perks>. **Free identity protection services offered to UT SELECT medical plan members:** UTMB employees and their families covered under the UT SELECT medical plan have access to identity protection services at no cost to them through Experian, an independent company. The services are available to give plan members some peace of mind and are intended to protect health and personal information. For more information, visit <https://utmb.us/4im>.  **UTMB partners with Lake Jackson Ob/Gyn**:With retirement in his future, Dr. Michael Gilliland, a long-time Ob/Gyn in Lake Jackson, is choosing to partner with UTMB to transition his practice to Dr. Megan Fish. A UTMB Ob/Gyn from the Brazoria County area, Dr. Fish will help ensure the members of her community continue to have access to high-quality care. For more information about the transition, visit [www.utmbhealth.com/OB-LakeJackson](http://www.utmbhealth.com/OB-LakeJackson).  **In case you missed it: Dr. Peter Kan featured in the November 18 episode of Health Care Unmasked**:Dr. Peter Kan, the Robert L. Moody Distinguished University Chair and chair of the new Department of Neurosurgery, joined host TJ Aulds to discuss how UTMB is expanding its neurosurgery expertise. To view this episode, visit <https://utmb.us/4ig>. Previous interviews from the series are available at <https://utmb.us/4i4>.  **REMINDER**  **Mini Town Hall/Galveston Symphony Orchestra string duet performance on Nov. 23:** UTMB President ad interim Dr. Ben Raimer will provide a brief Town Hall-type update on Nov. 23 beginning at 11:30 a.m. at Levin Hall on the Galveston Campus. His update will be followed at noon by a string duet performance by members of the Galveston Symphony Orchestra, to help UTMB usher in the holiday season. For more information,visit <https://utmb.us/4ii>. | |
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| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) | | | | |
| **Retail food service Thanksgiving holiday hours:**  The holiday hours for retail food service vendors are as follows:  **Thursday, Nov. 26, through Sunday, Nov. 29**  **Galveston**  John Sealy Hospital  ·         Subway will be open from 8 a.m.–8 p.m.  ·         Café on the Court, Chick-fil-A, and Starbucks will be closed.  Jennie Sealy Hospital  ·         Einstein Bros. Bagels will be open from 6:30 a.m.–2 p.m.  ·         Hospital Lobby vending machines will remain open 24/7 with healthy options  Clinical Services Wing (CSW):  ·       Smart Market will be open 24/7    **League City Campus Thursday, Nov. 26, through Friday, Nov. 27**   * Cafeteria will be closed Nov. 26 * Cafeteria will be open Nov. 27; salad bar will be closed * Vending machines will remain open 24/7     **Angleton Danbury Campus**   * Bayou Café open for breakfast and Employee Meal Only on Nov. 26 * Vending machines will remain open 24/7     **Clear Lake Campus**   * Starbucks will be closed Thursday, Nov. 26, through Sunday, Nov. 29 * Cafeteria opened for Employee Meal only on Nov. 26 * Cafeteria will only offer options from the Grill on Nov. 27 * Vending machines will remain open 24/7   **UTMB’s Dr. Dawn Nishi named a Galveston Women’s Conference Woman of the Year**: UTMB’s Dr. Shawn Nishi, associate professor in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, was recently named a Galveston Women’s Conference Woman of the Year by the Galveston Chamber of Commerce. The award recognizes the role she’s playing in UTMB’s response to COVID-19. Dr. Nishi was quick to share the recognition with many peers and colleagues, who she said were equally deserving. The announcement was made by the Chamber’s president and CEO, Gina Spagnola, from the Galveston Woman’s Conference at Moody Gardens.  **Revised Policy on COVID Isolation Precautions**: In view of the increasing number of persons who have tested positive for COVID-19 over the last several months following an initial infection, with or without new symptoms, a [​docx icon revised algorithm](https://liveutmb.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/collaboration/webfiles/EUz9tgOsVrJNsnpCGmNTVtoBwK24PWOp1epGiCZT6Q2Eng?e=XvG5eD) has been developed to assist with the interpretation of results and decisions for isolation precautions in hospitalized patients. The [​docx icon TDCJ Hospital Galveston-specific algorithm](https://liveutmb.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/collaboration/webfiles/ER_sSQcRlq5NhzcdepdCv68B2iEiomCA1Z3X2-H47XRrpg?e=AMpKYe) for testing and isolation has also been amended. In general, a positive test within 90 days of the initial positive test in an asymptomatic person is unlikely to represent a case of re-infection. However, after 90 days, consideration for re-infection may be warranted. Please contact the Department of Infection Control & Healthcare Epidemiology at (409) 772-3192 for any questions. Information can also be found at  <https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/all-utmb-staff/working-during-covid-19>.  **Patient Centeredness Tip – Set a standard for Shared Decision Making**: When implemented effectively, Shared Decision Making promotes patient engagement, emphasizes the patient as an important part of the health care team, identifies what the patient knows about his condition and treatment options, and detects misconceptions the patient may have. It improves physician-patient communication and is an excellent model for patient-centered care.  **Thanksgiving meals**: UTMB wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. As a token of our appreciation, we’ll be providing a meal to each UTMB employee working on our campuses during the holiday on Nov. 26. Meal distribution will vary by location. More information will be coming soon. | | | **COVID-19: Novel coronavirus updates  Review the Oct. 30 Executive Leadership message on guidelines for meetings and holiday celebrations:** With both the holiday and cold and flu seasons upon us, it’s more important than ever to keep the following guidelines and tips in mind when gathering in groups for work-related or social events.  **Work-Related On-Campus Conferences and Meetings:**   * Every attendee must wear a mask that covers both the mouth and nose. * If participants are sitting around a large table, they must practice social distancing by keeping at least 6 feet of space between each other. * Maximum occupancy of 50% of the room’s usual capacity is currently allowed in any UTMB conference room for business meetings. * However, we encourage the continued use of teleconferencing tools whenever possible. * Meals during meetings are generally discouraged. If you need to provide refreshments, allow no more than 15 minutes of unmasked time for participants to consume light snacks or drinks while maintaining a safe distance.   **Holiday Celebrations and Other Social Gatherings:**   * The state rules for increased capacity at commercial restaurants and bars do not apply to health care or educational facilities, or to other workplaces. * Departmentally sanctioned holiday celebrations are not allowed, on or off campus. * Any other in-person social gathering must adhere to the room capacity limits, masking requirements and social distancing rules for ‘Conferences and Meetings,’ as noted above. * For social gatherings of more than 10 participants, ensure compliance with the safety rules and maintain a sign-in attendance sheet. The sign-in sheet must be made available for any future epidemiologic investigations, to help with contact tracing.   For more information, visit <https://utmb.us/4hi>.  **COVID-19 site:** You can find the latest information regarding UTMB’s institution-wide response online at [www.utmb.edu/covid-19](http://www.utmb.edu/covid-19). | |
| **DID YOU KNOW?** From FY14-FY20, UTMB’s Faculty Group Practice saw an 8 percent increase in deliveries, a 149 percent increase in Emergency Department visits, a 26 percent increase in clinic visits and a 39 percent increase in hospital discharges. These impressive stats, informative stories and more can be found in the group’s new monthly newsletter, available at <https://utmb.us/4ih>.  **Weekly Wellness Recap**:Shared by the UTMB RISE (Resilience in Stressful Events) Task Force, these tips are just one way we can all work to stay emotionally healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic.   * **Ask yourself**, “what’s the BEST that can happen?” * **Make a list** of 3 things you are hopeful about. * **Notice when you are feeling judgmental** and replace it with kindness and empathy. * **Identify what has helped you get through tough times** in life and write those down in a journal. * **Identify what you have learned** from a recent difficult challenge or time. * If you feel yourself starting to overreact, **take a deep breath or two before you do**. This takes only seconds but can make a huge difference. * **Remember we all struggle at times**; we are all human. This is something we share no matter who we are. | |