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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 | | **Feb. 25, 2021** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | | | **UTMB NEWS** | |
| **Congratulations to**  ***Drs. Dawnelle Schatte and Premal Patel***  **for receiving 1st place recognition for**  **the innovations award at this years**  **Kennith I. Shine, MD Academy of Health Science Education Conference!**  The Innovations in Health Science Education award recognizes individuals who have implemented a project or program with a documented record of innovation and achievement in the last five years in undergraduate graduate health science education.  **Thank you both for representing**  **UTMB excellence in education!**    Majka Woods 3rd  Valerie Carmichael 10th  Norma Perez 14th  Rebecca Guler 16th  Lakshmanan Senthilkumaran 17th  Scott Boeh 21st  LaDonna Haney 24th  Shirley Pullen 28th | | | **UTMB’s Regional Maternal and Child Health Program awarded new grant**: As of Fiscal Year 2021, the Regional Maternal and Child Health Program (RMCHP) has secured an annual award of more than $8.5 million that can be renewed for up to five years, totaling up to approximately $42.7 million to render clinical care to eligible patients. Additionally, RMCHP’s WIC Division has been awarded more than $8.2 million to provide food and nutrition services to its more than 36,000 patients. Many of the RMCHP patients receive care under its state-funded grant programs, such as the Family Planning Program, Healthy Texas Women, Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening, and Title V. Comprised of 33 departments, including 14 RMCHP Clinics, 1 OBGYN Women’s Health Clinic, and 17 Women & Infant Care (WIC) Clinics throughout the state of Texas, RMCHP employs 58 mid-level providers, including nurse practitioners, physician assistants and certified nurses who specialize in Women’s Health, Pediatrics, Obstetrics, Dysplasia, Colposcopy, and other primary care services. Altogether they conduct approximately 105,000 patient visits each year.  **Celebrating Black History Month: Feb. 1-28:** UTMB and the Black Alliance Employee Resource Group would like to recognize Henrietta Lacks, an African American woman whose cells are the source of the first immortalized human cell line in American history. In 1951, Lacks was diagnosed with cervical cancer by Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. Her doctor obtained a biopsy from her cervix for diagnosis and treatment. A small part of Lacks’ tissue was taken to the tissue culture laboratory without her knowledge or consent, which was a common practice at the time. Dr. George Gey, the head of the laboratory, found that Lacks’ cells survived and replicated; before then, no human cells survived outside the body. Lacks died a few months after her diagnosis, but her cells—HeLa cells—continue to be used in scientific research and vaccine development. They have contributed to many medical breakthroughs, including research on the effects of zero gravity in outer space, the development of the polio vaccine, the study of cancer and the AIDS virus, the development of IVF, research on COVID-19 and more. It has been almost seven decades, and HeLa Cells have now lived more than twice as long outside Lacks’ body than inside. To learn more about the Black Alliance Employee Resource Group and how you can get involved, visit <https://www.utmb.edu/hr/diversity/black-alliance-resource-group>.  **Next Health Care Unmasked scheduled for March 2:** On the next Health Care Unmasked, Dr. Roberto Garofalo, professor and vice chair for research with the Department of Pediatrics and Dr. George Saade, professor and director of the Perinatal Research Division with the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, will join host TJ Aulds to discuss pregnancy and the COVID-19 vaccine, as well as their new study on whether breast milk has the ability to stop the spread of COVID-19 and whether moms can pass COVID-19 antibodies to their babies. The conversation is set for noon, March 2 on the i45NOW Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/i45NOW/>. | |
| OPICS  LEGEND | PATIENT CARE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT CMC | | | |
| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) | | | | |
| **Level 3 designation and four new surgeons elevate the Clear Lake Hospital Campus Trauma Center:** CLC’s trauma center has recently earned Level 3 designation, defined by the American College of Surgeons as having “resources for the emergency resuscitation, surgery and intensive care of most trauma patients. A Level III center has transfer agreements with Level I and/or Level II trauma centers that provide back-up resources for the care of exceptionally severe injuries.” In addition to this new designation, the campus has added four new trauma surgeons including Jennifer Moffett, MD; Michael Norman, MD, FACS; Hoang Pham, MD, FACS; and Frank Welsh, MD, FACS. Advanced practice provider Cheryl Breaux, FNP, APRN, rounds out the team. To read more about this designation and the team visit <http://intranet.utmb.edu/fgp/articles/trauma-program>.  **2021 AHRQ Patient Safety Culture Survey for Inpatient and Ambulatory goes live March 1:** The Health System invites all clinicians and employees across the organization to participate in the 2021 Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Patient Safety Culture Survey, launching on March 1, 2021. The surveys will be open for approximately six weeks. The AHRQ Patient Safety Culture Survey is the industry’s best tool for understanding, promoting, and maintaining a culture of patient safety. The survey assessment tool is used to assess the current status of perceptions about teamwork and the culture of patient safety within healthcare systems. It will help UTMB identify strengths and areas for improvement while also allowing us to make external comparisons against other organizations. For more information and to access the surveys on March 1, please visit <http://intranet.utmb.edu/qhs/ahrq-patient-safety-culture-surveys-2021>  **IN CASE YOU MISSED IT**  **UTMB Cardiologists lend expertise during latest Health and Wellness with UTMB Health videos:** In recognition of American Heart Month, UTMB’s Dr. Aly Ashraf, board certified pediatric cardiologist, director of the Division of Pediatric Cardiology and professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Dr. Rafic Berbarie, general cardiologist and associate professor in the Division of Cardiology, were each interviewed during February by Meagan Clanahan, co-owner of the Houston Moms Blog, as part of the new Health and Wellness with UTMB Health video series. During Dr. Aly’s discussion, which can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/HoustonMomsBlog/videos/530560461241555>, he and Meagan talked about congenital heart defects, while Dr. Berbarie’s interview, available at <https://www.facebook.com/413169965420122/videos/186138699973792>, explored heart disease risk factors specific to women.  **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.**The focus for February is inclusion**. Here are this week’s tips:   * Help someone feel like they belong today. * Appreciate the emotion and richness in people’s eyes today. * Say hello to someone you don’t know today. * Notice when you jump to conclusions about someone or some situation—reflect on this. * Consider the liberating act of forgiveness today. * Seek out wonder and beauty in your surroundings today. * Thought for today: One of the hallmarks of social wellness is being inclusive, not exclusive, with our kindness.   **The Joint Commission Questions of the Week: Storage of Needles and Syringes:**  **Q: What is the correct way to store needles and syringes?**  A: Needles and syringes should be kept in a secure area to protect from tampering or theft. A secure area is one where staff is providing patient care or staff is present and effectively ensures that access to the area or storage device is restricted to authorized individuals. They should also ensure patients and visitors are not allowed access to these supplies without the supervision or presence of a health care professional. Secured areas include, but are not limited to, staffed nurses’ stations or areas that are in the immediate supervised area at all times, storage alcoves that are closed where the contents of the storage is not readily apparent (through labels or visible windows) and where staff are in the area at all times, and locked rooms or cabinets/drawers.  **Q: What should I do if I am unsure of the proper storage of needles or syringes?**  A: If there are any questions as to whether a needle or syringe storage area is considered a “secured area,” a proactive risk assessment should be conducted and documented, and the results reported to the Safety & Security Management Subcommittee. Please contact Will Pate or Kathleen O’Neill for additional information.  **Epic upgrade set for March 6:** March 6 will bring changes to the UTMB Epic system, but you can start learning about the upgrade now at [Epic Upgrade Webpage](http://intranet.utmb.edu/emr/epic-upgrade-march-2021/epic-upgrade-overview) (<https://utmb.us/4pn>) for a preview of enhancements by application and/or user role. The system is scheduled to be unavailable March 6 from 9 until 11 p.m.  During this timeframe, all Epic users should follow established downtime procedures for their area.  The SRO-Shadow Read Only version of Epic will be available. | | | **SAVE THE DATE Virtual Town Hall on March 9:** UTMB President ad interim Dr. Ben G. Raimer will host a special livestream-only Town Hall on Tuesday, March 9 at noon. More information on viewing options and topics to be covered will be available soon in Weekly Relays, iUTMB and the I Am UTMB Facebook page. Individuals who have questions for Dr. Raimer are encouraged to submit them at <https://www.utmb.edu/eac/contact-us>.  **GALVESTON CAMPUS Temporary network outages for patching maintenance:** Once or twice a year, patches must be applied to our network to ensure its stability and security. The most recent scheduled patching was delayed due to COVID. Unfortunately, we have since experienced preventable outages, and we must now apply the patches. Each downtime outage will impact computers as well as phones; the outage should last approximately 15 minutes within a one-hour maintenance window as follows:  Start time of 9:00 p.m.  Tuesday, March 2                UTMB Health Clinics Building  Wednesday March 3          Primary Care Pavilion  Thursday, March 4              Clinical Sciences Building  Tuesday, March 9               Old Children’s Hospital  Thursday, March 11            McCullough  Start time of 5:00 a.m.  Wednesday, March 10       John Sealy Annex  Tuesday, March 16              TDCJ Hospital Galveston  Wednesday, March 17       R. Waverley Smith Pavilion  Thursday, March 18            John Sealy Hospital Towers  **COVID-19 UPDATES—VACCINE EDITION  Recent COVID-19 Clinical Task Force messages:**   * See the [Feb. 23 COVID-19 Clinical Task Force message](https://intranet.utmb.edu/iutmb/article/2021/02/23/reminder-vaccine-appointments-available) regarding the availability of Phase 1A/1B COVID-19 vaccine appointments. * See the [Feb. 24 COVID-19 Clinical Task Force message](https://intranet.utmb.edu/iutmb/article/2021/02/24/from-the-covid-19-clinical-task-force-updated-policy-for-quarantine-of-vaccinated-employees-students-and-patients) regarding the Updated policy for quarantine of vaccinated employees, students and patients. | |
| **DID YOU KNOW?**  The Pediatric Inpatient Unit and Emergency Department at the Clear Lake Hospital Campus recently celebrated one year of serving the community. Opened on Feb. 19, 2020 in collaboration with Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital, the unit is comprised of nurses and ancillary staff that have more than 70 years’ combined experience in pediatrics and the PICU setting. While in the unit, patients have access to pediatric subspecialists in the fields of Allergy/Immunology, Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, General Surgery, Genetics, Hematology, Infectious Disease, Neurology, Nephrology, Orthopedics, Otolaryngology, Plastic Surgery, Psychiatry and Urology. Since opening, more than 635 patients have been seen by the expert clinicians at UTMB. For more information on these locations, visit [www.utmbhealth.com/bayareakids](http://www.utmbhealth.com/bayareakids).  **Laboratory Services Customer Satisfaction Survey:** UTMB Laboratory Services is dedicated to providing high quality, accurate and timely laboratory testing and diagnostic services to our health care providers for treatment and management of their patients. Because your feedback is essential to helping us better understand your clinical needs and expectations, we would like to invite you to complete a brief survey. We know your time is valuable, so the questionnaire was designed to take only **three to five minutes of your time**. Your responses will remain anonymous and will help us to establish benchmarks, identify trends and make improvements to our services. The survey will remain open until Saturday, **March 13**. Thank you in advance for your participation. To access the survey, please [click here](http://survey.utmb.edu/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=m2K0667K) or use the QR Code. Qr code  Description automatically generated  **2021 POM4 Essay Award**:Fourth Year medical students voluntarily enroll in the Practice of Medicine-4 Course. Students meet monthly in small groups with faculty facilitators. During the POM-4 Course, students continue to reflect and grow in their professional identity by continuing their mentoring relationship with a faculty facilitator. Topics of discussion include (but are not limited to) reflection, mentoring, career planning, professionalism, and the healthcare system structure. One session is dedicated to Sir William Osler in which students write an essay about Osler’s contributions to medical education for medical students and postgraduates in training. The John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine sponsors an award for this essay. The recipients will be honored during the March Osler Club meeting.  The 2021 POM4 Essay Award winners are: Justin Cordova, Lenexa Morais and Rahul Shah.  **2021 Excellence in Clinical Teaching Awards**:The John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine has announced the recipients of its 2021 Excellence in Clinical Teaching Awards. This award recognizes the fundamental concept, exemplified by Sir William Osler, that the development of outstanding physicians occurs primarily in clinical settings.  This honor is accompanied by a monetary award to support professional development and/or teaching programs.  Congratulations to:  Dr. John C. Hagedorn, II – Dept. of Orthopedic Surgery and Rehabilitation  Dr. Andrew G. Lee – Dept. Of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  Dr. Jennifer R. Raley – Dept. of Family Medicine  Dr. David Reynoso – Dept. of Internal Medicine  Dr. Beth M. Teegarden – Dept. of Anesthesiology | |