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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 26, 2021** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | **UTMB NEWS** |
| Office of Educational Development had 2 presentations at the AMEE Annual Conference: **Oral Presentation Skills Development in the Foundational Science Curriculum***Authors:   K Szauter, H West, E Buck,* *M Monteiro, and L Elferink***A pilot online faculty development curriculum using TED Masterclass to develop skills in presenting micro-lectures.** *Authors: Holly West and Kathleen Everling* | **COVID-19 UPDATES**Due to the Delta variant, cases continue to rise significantly throughout Texas, straining clinics, emergency departments and hospitals statewide. All faculty, staff and students throughout the state must continue to remain vigilant and practice safety protocols to protect self and others.**Access Center PBL COVID positions:**With COVID-19 surging once again in our communities, several UTMB employees who are not currently working in our clinical areas have expressed interest in picking up shifts to help support staffing needs. Pay By Letter (PBL) positions have now been approved for those who would like to volunteer for shifts within the Access Center. If interested, please complete the [Access Center PBL COVID Position Request](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=bSXve9uFJkWnLTGuolRoUm86fLNdvQ9IhP-UhBAw0bxUN0xZQVRIQTU4U1NPTVlCUEZGR0dOOFhGTS4u) form or contact Jesse Dodd at jldodd@utmb.edu for more information.UPDATE GUIDANCE**Short-term leave (with or without travel domestically) testing requirement:**Routine COVID testing is NOT REQUIRED for anyone who has been away from a UTMB location for any duration and remained within the U.S. or is returning to a UTMB location from a temporary teleworking assignment UNLESS:* You are symptomatic.
	+ Contact Employee Health at (409) 747-9172 or emphlthc@utmb.edu or Student Health at stdwappt@utmb.edu or (409) 747-9508.
	+ A molecular COVID test is required prior to return-to-work/class date at a UTMB location, regardless of your vaccination status.
	+ You may only return to work/class on-site with a negative molecular COVID test once symptoms have subsided.
* You have been in contact with anyone within the last 14 days who is COVID positive.
	+ Contact Employee Health at (409) 747-9172 or emphlthc@utmb.edu or Student Health at stdwappt@utmb.edu or (409) 747-9508.
	+ Follow UTMB’s testing and isolation requirements.

UTMB guidance for international travel remains the same and is consistent with CDC directives. Read the guidance [here](https://intranet.utmb.edu/iutmb/article/2021/08/24/covid-19-clinical-task-force-additional-information-and-revision-of-leave-related-testing-requirements).(continued) |
| TOPICSLEGEND |  PATIENT CARE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT CMC |
| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) |
| **COVID-19 UPDATE (continued)**QUICK LINKS* [Safety requirements](https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/employees-students#info), including masking, social distancing/meeting room capacity, travel, visitation
* Requirements if you are [Sick or Exposed](https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/employees-students/safety#sick)
* Emergency Leave [summary](https://liveutmb.sharepoint.com/%3Ab%3A/s/collaboration/HumanResources/Efkgbrq4LxhIqTeGMFa6SakBuVHfUbXycemth1cDpW5LRQ) and [FAQs](https://liveutmb.sharepoint.com/%3Ab%3A/s/collaboration/HumanResources/EQZLHoO3BD9Fh7oN1S4uTKkBXmoKRp65__AV1KW2eHemEg)
* [Schedule a vaccine online](https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/vaccine/) or get the vaccine through Employee Health clinics in Galveston and League City
* [Information on authorized booster shots](http://intranet.utmb.edu/iutmb/article/2021/08/16/covid-19-vaccine-booster-shots-available-for-eligible-immunocompromised-individuals)
* [Information on monoclonal antibody treatment](https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/patients/covid-treatment)

**Watch recording of the Aug. 25 Q&A session on current COVID-19 conditions**: On Aug. 25, UTMB’s chief medical officer, Dr. Gulshan Sharma, presented another COVID-19 update and question & answer session. Topics included information on breakthrough infections, boosters and post-COVID sequelae. The online session for UTMB employees/students was offered live via Microsoft Teams and a recording of the session is available at <https://utmb.us/5yf>. **Campus Carry reminder:** Among the new laws taking effect in Texas on Sept. 1 is HB 1927, the [Firearm Carry Act of 2021](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/87R/billtext/pdf/HB01927F.pdf). It is important to note that this new law **prohibits open carry on college campuses, in hospitals or in clinics**. The exclusion is outlined under Section 6 of the legislation, which references [Penal Code 46.03: Places Weapons Prohibited](https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PE/htm/PE.46.htm#46.03). Under the [2016 Campus Carry law](http://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/84R/billtext/html/SB00011F.htm), **concealed carry is allowed in designated areas only by individuals who have a valid concealed handgun license (CHL).** This legislation will not impact UTMB’s current Campus Carry policy. For information on UTMB’s Campus Carry policy and related designations for UTMB locations, visit <https://www.utmb.edu/campus-carry>. **Vending services at the Galveston, Clear Lake and League City campuses:** Sodexo’s vending solutions is continuously striving to improve vending services at UTMB. However, to report any issues you may be having with a vending machine at UTMB, please call (866) 796-8363 or email Conveniencesolutions.USA@Sodexo.com and provide the location noted on the machine. The customer service call center is available 24/7.**UTMB Health Saturday Sports Injury Clinic:** Every Saturday from Aug. 28 to Nov. 6, UTMB is offering a youth and school Saturday Sports Injury Clinic from 9 to 11 a.m. at 10121 Emmett F. Lowry Expressway in Texas City. The sports medicine team is trained to treat a full range of sports injuries, from strained muscles and twisted ankles to knee and shoulder pain. For more information, visit <https://www.utmbhealth.com/sports-medicine>.**Weekly Wellness Recap:** This month's theme is all about resilience and understanding how to build skills to help us get through setbacks.* Think and act horizontally—break down silos and division.
* Remember that all feelings and situations pass in time.
* “Be impeccable with your words today” (from Don Miguel Ruiz’s “The Four Agreements”)
* Try not to take things personally today.
* Avoid assumptions about others.
* Don’t forget your health even during stress—sleep, eat well, move.
* Ask for help when you need it. Use your resources.

 **Call for nominations—2022 Excellence in Clinical Teaching Awards:** Nominations are being accepted for the John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine 2022 Excellence in Clinical Teaching Awards. Up to five faculty members will be selected to receive the honor, which recognizes the fundamental concept, exemplified by Sir William Osler, that the development of outstanding physicians occurs primarily in clinical settings. Each recipient will receive $5,000 for support of his or her professional development and/or teaching programs. Nominations must include a statement no more than 200 words in length, addressed to the John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine and sent to 8.208 Rebecca Sealy Hospital, Route 0162, or by email to mcacadem@utmb.edu. The deadline is 5 p.m., Sept. 24. For more information, visit <https://www.utmb.edu/osler/awards/excellence-in-clinical-teaching-award>. | **REMINDER AS WE ENTER PEAK OF HURRICANE SEASON****Check your UTMB Alerts contact information:** UTMB Alerts is one of our institution’s methods for alerting faculty, staff and students of 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 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 recommended 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>. |
| **DID YOU KNOW?**UTMB’s Department of Physician Assistant Studies held its commencement ceremony on Aug. 21 at William C. Levin Hall on the Galveston Campus, with 90 graduates receiving Master of Physician Assistant Studies degrees. The ceremony featured a commencement address by Janet Southerland, DDS, MPH, PhD, UTMB’s Vice President of Interprofessional Education, Institutional Effectiveness and the Health Education Center. As in-person attendance was limited, a livestream broadcast of the ceremony enabled students' families and friends to watch from home. You can view the ceremony online at <https://vimeo.com/590272427>. **The Joint Commission Questions of the Week—Patient Fall Prevention:** **What is UTMB’s policy on inpatient fall risk assessment/reassessment?**Fall Risk Assessment/Reassessment is performed for patients 3 months old and older:* Humpty Dumpty assessment tool is used for pediatrics and Morse fall scale is used for adults.
* Upon admission: Assessment on all inpatients within 24 hours of admission, including patients in observation status.
* All patients will be re-assessed every shift, with any change in the patient’s condition, and after a fall. Important note: Surgery or tests and procedures may warrant a reassessment due to a change in patient condition.
* In the Emergency Department (ED), a fall-risk assessment will be completed at the time of the ED nursing focused assessment.

**What are some of the interventions to reduce falls?*** Yellow wristband (to indicate patient at risk for falls).
* Use of safe footwear for ambulating patients (as appropriate).
* Fall risk sign posted outside patient door.
* Accompanying patient with ambulation.
* “Call Don’t Fall” visual cues in room and bathroom.
* Not leaving a child unattended in bathroom.
* Education for Patient/Family regarding falls prevention.
* Removing all unused equipment from room (when applicable).
* Protective barriers to close off spaces, gaps in the bed.
* Keeping door open at all times, unless specified isolation precaution are in use.
* Checking on patient every hour at a minimum (or more frequently as needed, individualized to patient).
* Moving patient closer to nurses’ station (if room is available).
* Assessing need for 1:1 supervision.
* Implementing and documenting an individualized fall prevention plan of care every shift in the EMR.
* Communicating fall risk during handoff, including documentation in Epic on the Fall Plan of Care.
* Documenting patient and family education in the family teaching document.

See Policy: [IHOP 9.13.39 Patient Falls Prevention](https://www.utmb.edu/policies_and_procedures/IHOP/Clinical/General_Clinical_Procedures_and_Care/IHOP%20-%2009.13.39%20-%20Patient%20Falls%20Prevention%20Plan.pdf) for additional information.  Outpatient Fall Prevention Program**What is UTMB’s policy on outpatient fall assessment?*** Fall-risk screening must be completed for all ambulatory patients.
* If there is a positive response to the fall screening, the patient will be escorted to the room or procedural area. The nurse will document the patient as a fall risk. Further evaluate and select fall risk prevention intervention guidelines as appropriate per patient.
* All pediatric patients < 5 years of age and all patients receiving moderate/deep sedation or anesthesia are considered an increased risk for falls. Therefore, the Ambulatory Fall Risk Screening Tools will not be completed for these groups.

See Policy: [C52 Ambulatory Fall Risk Prevention/Interventions and Post Fall](https://intranet.utmb.edu/policies_and_procedures/Non-IHOP/Ambulatory_Clinics/C52%20Ambulatory%20Fall%20Risk%20Prevention%20Interventons%20and%20Post%20Fall%20Reporting.pdf) for additional information. |