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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 | **September 16, 2021** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | **UTMB NEWS** |
| Congratulations to Diana Cabrera, MS4 and Bilingual Health Scholar, for winning the Hispanic Health Coalition Annual Scholarship for a Hispanic/Latino Graduate/Professional Student in a Health Career. Ms. Cabrera received one of three highly competitive scholarships awarded each year for academic excellence to one high school student, one undergraduate student, and one professional/graduate student pursuing a career in health. The Hispanic Health Coalition is celebrating its 25th anniversary. For further information on the Hispanic Health Coalition and the annual scholarship, please visit the website: [Hispanic Health Coalition (hispanic-health.org)](https://hispanic-health.org/).The Rural and Bilingual Health scholarly concentrations have teamed up to offer an additional opportunity for medical students interested in rural medicine and clinical service to Spanish-speaking patients. Further details and the curriculum can be found on the Bilingual Health Scholarly Concentration website: <https://www.utmb.edu/hcoe/bilingual-health> | **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 yourself and others. **Looking for a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine?**:UTMB is hosting a special weekend vaccination event Sept. 18-19 in Angleton, Galveston and Webster, featuring the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. This single-dose vaccination has been shown to be effective in reducing hospitalization and severe illness from COVID-19. This is the last of our current one-dose supply. It is approved for those 18 years of age and older. Get more information and schedule at <https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/patients/single-dose-vacc>. QUICK LINKS AND REMINDERS* [Travel requirements and guidelines](https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/employees-students/travel)
* [View previous Q&A sessions](http://intranet.utmb.edu/covid-19-internal/q-and-a) featuring Dr. Gulshan Sharma and other UTMB experts (UTMB login required)
* [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)

**PulseSecure VPN will be retired Oct. 6**:Cisco AnyConnect has been adopted as the VPN solution for UTMB. As a result, PulseSecure will be retired and no longer available for use on Oct. 6, 2021. Anyone still utilizing the PulseSecure VPN (MyVPN, ARDCVPN) is encouraged to make the switch to Cisco AnyConnect prior to Oct. 6 to avoid VPN connection issues. Cisco AnyConnect is available for self-install (see instructions <https://www.utmb.edu/it-services/remote/vpn>). Additional information on working remotely (computer requirements, when to use Citrix, when to use VPN, etc.) can be found here: <https://www.utmb.edu/it-services/remote/working-remotely>. If you experience any issues when installing, please reach out to the Service Desk at (409) 772-5200. We strongly encourage you to make the switch to Cisco AnyConnect as quickly as possible to avoid any issues when PulseSecure is retired. |
| OPICSLEGEND |  PATIENT CARE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT CMC |
| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) |
| **Weekly Wellness Recap**:This month's theme is all about self-care.* Find a caring, calming phrase to use when you feel low.
* Leave positive messages for yourself where you can see them regularly.
* Notice what you are feeling, without any judgment.
* Ask a trusted friend to tell you what strengths they see in you.
* No plans day. Make time to slow down and be kind to yourself.
* Enjoy photos from a time with happy memories.
* Don’t compare how you feel inside to how others appear outside.

 **UTMB School of Nursing receives Apple designation:**UTMB School of Nursing has been designated an Apple Distinguished School for its effective implementation of Apple technology in education. SON’s iLead (Innovative Learning Environment Accelerating Discovery) program equips every pre-licensure BSN student with an iPad and Apple Pencil. Faculty members, most of whom are Apple Certified Teachers, employ Apple technology to engage students in project collaborations, presentations, course assignments, simulation labs and research activities. Additionally, the graduate program has begun using iPads to facilitate clinical site visits, using FaceTime to evaluate nurse practitioner students in their clinical settings. The ability to be innovative and proficient with technology is a necessary skill to develop for future health care providers. Congratulations, SON! |  **The Joint Commission Questions of the Week—Medication Orders** *(continued from last week):***What if there are two pain medications ordered for the same pain scale?*** Providers must place only one medication and one route per pain scale. If the physician would like to order an IV and PO for the same pain scale, then the provider must include specific directions on when to administer which medication by each route (example, if not tolerating PO, give IV or specify which one is first-line therapy versus second-line therapy). If the provider places an order for two pain medications for the same pain scale, then the order must be clarified by the ordering physician prior to administering the pain medication.

 **How should ‘as-needed (PRN)’ orders be handled?*** PRN medication orders must be written with specific and clear directions as to when the medication should be administered.
* Duplicate PRN medications for the same indication but different routes must include specific directions on when to administer which medication by each route.
* PRN pain medication orders should include a pain scale. Multiple medications covering the same pain rating (example, two medications both covering pain rating 4-6) must be clarified by the ordering provider.

 **PRN pain medication orders:*** May not specify a frequency range.
* May not allow for multiple indications.
* May allow for patient preference if the patient requests a less-potent medication, a lesser prescribed dose in range order, or a less-intrusive route of administration if both routes are prescribed by the provider.

 Contact the health care provider for clarification if the order has an opportunity for individualized interpretation. |
| **DID YOU KNOW?**As of Sept. 15, total student enrollment for all four of UTMB’s schools for the fall 2021 semester is 3,460. That’s an increase from the 3,345 students who were enrolled five years ago at the start of the fall 2017 semester. Student enrollment in the four schools for fall 2021 includes: * Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences: 400
* School of Health Professions: 751
* School of Nursing: 1,193
* School of Medicine-MD: 931
* School of Medicine-PA: 185
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