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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 | | **October 14, 2021** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | | | **UTMB NEWS** | |
|  | | | **COVID-19 UPDATE**  **Updated guidance on visitation, masking, meeting room capacity and pre-admission/pre-procedure testing:**  After a significant surge of COVID-19 cases this summer, driven by the highly transmissible Delta variant, the region is now experiencing a sufficient decline in the test positivity rate. As a result, UTMB is revising its safety measures for all visitors, employees and students. Read the latest guidance at <https://utmb.us/64f>.  **Dr. Afrouzian awarded the 2021 UT System Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Award:**  Dr. Marjan Afrouzian, associate professor in the Department of Pathology, has been awarded the 2021 UT System Board of Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Award. The award was established in 2008 to honor extraordinary classroom performance and innovation. Nominees undergo a series of rigorous evaluations, and the review panels consider a range of activities and criteria in their evaluations of a candidate's teaching performance, including classroom expertise, curricula quality, innovative course development and student learning outcomes. Congratulations, Dr. Afrouzian.  **Temporary expansion of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program**:  As a UTMB employee, you may qualify for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program administered by the U.S. Department of Education. Previously, the program forgave the remaining balance on Direct Loans after you made 120 qualifying payments while working full time. Now, any prior payment made will count as a qualifying payment, regardless of loan type, repayment plan or whether the payment was made in full or on time – all you need is qualifying employment. This temporary expansion is available through Oct. 31, 2022, as it is tied to accommodations due to the COVID-19 national emergency. To learn more about the program and how it may benefit you, visit <https://www.utmb.edu/hr/employees/compensation-and-benefits>.  **FY21 total rewards statements**:  Total rewards statements for FY21 are now available through [Employee Self Service](http://www.utmb.edu/hcm/hcm_redirect.asp?strApplication=employee%20self%20service) for all full-time and part-time employees. This personalized statement reflects the institution’s commitment and investment in our employees and is designed to help you better understand the true value of the total compensation package you receive from UTMB. For details on accessing and reading your statement, please see <https://www.utmb.edu/hr/employees/compensation-and-benefits>. | |
| OPICS  LEGEND | PATIENT CARE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT CMC | | | |
| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) | | | | |
| **Retail Dining customer service survey**:  UTMB Retail Dining and Sodexo are conducting an annual survey to learn more about what they’re doing well and where they have room for improvement. Please select your campus below to be redirected to a short survey:   * [Galveston Campus](https://utmb.us/646) * [League City Campus](https://utmb.us/647) * [Clear Lake Campus](https://utmb.us/648) * [Angleton Danbury Campus](https://utmb.us/649)   **UTMB to honor breast cancer survivors Oct. 20**:  UTMB will honor breast cancer survivors for National Breast Reconstruction Awareness (BRA) Day from 7 to 8:30 p.m., Oct. 20 during a special Zoom presentation event. Specializing in breast cancer prevention, screening, treatment, and plastic surgery options, the team will host two virtual panel discussions, outlined below:   * 7 p.m.: Meet our multidisciplinary breast cancer experts * 7:45 p.m.: Hear from patients about their experiences   To learn more, visit <https://www.utmb.edu/surgery/divisions-and-sections/plastic-surgery/bra-day-2021/bra-day-home>. Register online at <https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zmS9N8w7Rda2953fOYUgKw>.  **REMINDERS**  **UTMB Flu Free Vaccination Program**:  UTMB’s Flu Free vaccination program offers employees and volunteers free flu shots each year to help prevent the spread of seasonal influenza. Flu vaccines are available at all UTMB campuses and clinics. This year, UTMB’s health care workers are also able to receive COVID vaccines and boosters as a part of the Flu Free vaccination program. For more details, please see <https://utmb.us/614>.  **Thank You Thursdays—Mammograms for UTMB employees**:  As part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, UTMB’s Department of Radiology is encouraging employees across the institution to get their mammogram screenings done—either in one of our Breast Centers at the Clear Lake and Angleton Danbury campuses or on the mobile mammography van which will be making stops on our Galveston and League City campuses. For more information and a full schedule, visit <https://utmb.us/4e1>.  **Weekly Wellness Tips**:  This week’s theme is focused on optimism.   * Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing. * Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation. * Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted. * Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting. * Take a small step toward a positive change you want to see in society. * Set hopeful but realistic goals for the week ahead. * Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future.   **Dr. Campbell to join UTMB as chair of the Department of Family Medicine**:  Kendall M. Campbell, MD, FAAFP, will join UTMB as professor and chair of the Department of Family Medicine on Oct. 15. Dr. Campbell comes to UTMB from East Carolina University Brody School of Medicine, where he has been senior associate dean for academic affairs and chief academic officer since 2019, and associate professor with tenure in the Department of Family Medicine since 2016. He served as Brody’s Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion from 2016 to 2019 and has been director of the Research Group for Underrepresented Minorities in Academic Medicine. Previously, Dr. Campbell held appointments at Florida State University College of Medicine and the University of Florida College of Medicine. We look forward to welcoming him! | | | **IN CASE YOU MISSED IT**  **Oct. 13 episode of Health Care Unmasked**  Dr. Vicki Klimberg, professor and chief, UTMB’s Division of Surgical Oncology in the Department of Surgery and medical director of the UTMB Cancer Center, joined host TJ Aulds to discuss breast cancer treatment options and the reduction of pain following surgery. This episode was the second in a series of four exploring the ins and outs of breast cancer and women’s health with a variety of UTMB experts throughout the month of October, the full episode can be found online at <https://www.facebook.com/i45NOW/videos/4341180302666187>. All future episodes, which are tentatively scheduled for Wednesdays at noon for the remainder of the month, will also be aired online at [www.facebook.com/i45now](http://www.facebook.com/i45now).  **Oct. 6 Town Hall**  UTMB President Dr. Ben Raimer hosted a virtual Town Hall on Oct. 6 to give kudos to the UTMB community for the hard work done throughout FY21. Mission area updates were also provided by Dr. Charles P. Mouton, executive vice president and provost and dean of the School of Medicine; Dr. Tim Harlin, executive vice president and CEO for the Health System; and Cheryl Sadro, executive vice president and chief business and finance officer. To watch the full presentation, visit <https://www.utmb.edu/president/town-hall/article/2021/10/06/default-calendar/virtual-town-hall-on-oct.-6-2021>. | |
| **DID YOU KNOW?** A large majority of UTMB students currently enrolled in our four schools have done their part to fight the COVID-19 pandemic by choosing to get vaccinated. According to data from Student Health vaccination records and uploaded records of student CDC cards, here’s the latest breakdown in percentages of students fully vaccinated by school:   * School of Medicine, MD: 95% * School of Medicine, PA: 94% * School of Nursing, Undergraduate: 90% * School of Nursing, Graduate: 75% * School of Health Professions: 84% * Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences: 81%   UTMB employees and students who want to get vaccinated can visit <https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/employees-students#vaccine> to make an online appointment.    **The Joint Commission Questions of the Week—Code carts**:  **What system is in place for assuring the integrity of the code cart/emergency cart?**   * Respiratory Therapy issues red numbered locks. Respiratory also re-stocks and fills opened code carts. The Pharmacy department is responsible for replacing used or expired medications in the code-cart medication trays. * Code-cart locks should only be broken for an emergency and for monthly checks. * The expiration date of the tray will be the earliest expiration date of the medications in the tray. * When emergency medication is used, or if the medication in the medication tray is expired, the code-cart medication tray should be returned to the pharmacy by Respiratory staff to be replaced as soon as possible. * Code-cart medication trays are used on isolation patients and must be disinfected by respiratory therapists before they are returned to pharmacy for replenishment. * Every day, code carts must be checked and logs documented. * Emergency medications (both adult and pediatric) are secured in a code cart or emergency medication tackle box with a break-away lock.   **Where is the nearest code cart for your department located? Is it secure?**   * Staff on each unit should know where their code cart is located. Be sure to communicate this information with your team or ask your supervisor. * Make sure staff are familiar with contents of the cart and the procedures for using the cart.   **Do you have pediatric supplies in the code cart?**   * Our code carts are universal. All have pediatric supplies. | |