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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. 5, 2020** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | | | **UTMB NEWS** | |
| Premium Vector | Congrats congratulations card lettering calligraphy text  brush    Congratulations to Dr. Woods in her recent appointment of Vice Dean for Academic Affairs in the School of Medicine.  Thank you, Dr. Woods, for your outstanding leadership! | | | **Important instructions regarding personal packages delivered at UTMB**:With the dramatic shift to eCommerce and internet shopping, some faculty and staff have elected to receive personal packages at work through UTMB’s Mail Services or Central Receiving departments. For security reasons, all package deliveries, regardless of sender or type, must be processed through our mailroom or Central Receiving, consuming staff time and state resources that should be reserved only for university business. For more information, visit <https://utmb.us/4hh>.  **New episode of Health Care Unmasked set for Nov. 18:** The next Health Care Unmasked with host TJ Aulds is set for noon on Wednesday, Nov. 18, on the i45NOW Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/i45NOW/>. Set a reminder now to tune in or catch the replay later on the channel. **Phishing alert: Beware of ransomware scammers:** Health care entities are being attacked by ransomware scammers. The attack begins with a phishing attempt. If you receive an email indicating you (or your child) have been identified by contact tracing as having been exposed to the Covid-19 virus, containing a PDF file or website URL for additional information, there is a high probability it is a phishing scam. Please disregard and delete these emails. For more information, visit <https://utmb.us/4hj>.  **UTMB announces termination of Aetna commercial contract**:UTMB has notified Aetna that we intend to terminate our commercial insurance contract with the company in 180 days. This means we will no longer be an in-network provider for patients who have Aetna commercial insurance as of May 6, 2021. For more information, visit <https://utmb.us/4hk>.  **REMINDER**  **UT FLEX deadlines extended:** Employees participating in a UT FLEX Health Care Reimbursement Account (HCRA) and/or UT FLEX Dependent Day Care Reimbursement Account (DCRA) for the 2019–2020 benefits plan year may incur new eligible expenses through Dec. 31, 2020. The claims filing deadline for both accounts is Jan. 15, 2021. Please be advised that any unclaimed funds as of Dec. 31, 2020, will be forfeited. To view your account balance(s), spending guidelines and eligible health care and dependent care expenses, visit [www.myutflex.com](http://www.myutflex.com). | |
| OPICS  LEGEND | PATIENT CARE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT CMC | | | |
| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) | | | | |
| **COVID-19: Novel coronavirus updates  Reducing COVID-19 Risk for the Holiday Season:** With year-end holidays and events coming up, UTMB urges everyone to take the following precautions every day. And please urge your family and friends to do the same.   * Wear a mask that covers your mouth and nose. * Avoid large groups of people. * Maintain a safe distance (6 feet or more) from people who are not part of your household. * Wash your hands frequently, for at least 20 seconds each time. * Use hand sanitizer containing at least 60 percent alcohol when you cannot wash your hands. * Stay home if you are ill. * If you haven’t done so already, get your flu shot.   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)  **GALVESTON CAMPUS**  **John Sealy Hospital modernization updates:** The following are impacts related to Phase II of the John Sealy Hospital Modernization project: ***John Sealy Hospital east/ west covered walkway to be removed***.   * The John Sealy Hospital entrance east/west covered walkway is no longer needed and will be removed. * An approximately 3-week pedestrian detour to the north/south covered walkway begins Nov. 16. * Circle drive remains open to vehicle traffic. * Patient drop off/ pick up will not be impacted. * The two short-term parking spots will remain available.   ***The following unit moves originally scheduled for the week of Nov. 2 are being rescheduled. Updated move dates will be available soon***.   * The 3C Labor & Delivery Unit will move into the new 4A wing. * The 7C Mother Baby Unit will move into the 5A wing while the 8C Mother Baby Unit remains in place. * The 6C NICU will move to 8A.   **Beth Fingado earns top Lean certification**: Kudos to Beth Fingado, vice president, System Optimization and Performance Improvement, for her recent Gold-Level Shingo Certification from the Society of Mechanical Engineers (SME). This certification is the highest level of its kind and recognizes Beth for her education and training in all aspects of Lean transformation across an entire enterprise. Lean is a philosophy focused on continual process improvement. In health care settings, it is patient-centered and quality-oriented. It focuses on engaging employees in evaluating and refining key processes to ensure they add value from the patient’s perspective while removing waste (unnecessary steps) from the system to enhance the work environment for employees. Congratulations on this exciting achievement, Beth!   **Congratulations to our recent Always Award winners**: The quarterly Always Award recognizes units, practice areas and groups that have demonstrated exceptional performance based on patient satisfaction scores from Press Ganey surveys, quality data and other measures. The Inpatient Always Award this quarter went to Clear Lake Hospital Medical/Surgical Unit 4A. The unit was recognized for exceptional patient satisfaction scores in communication with doctors, discharge information and overall patient satisfaction. Patients commented on the quality and frequency of supervisor visits, as well as the friendliness and attentiveness of the nursing staff and care team. The Ambulatory Award went to Children’s Center of Clear Lake for overall patient satisfaction, exceptional listening and communication skills and for always demonstrating compassion and respect for patients and families. Thank you for providing Best Care to our patients, teams! | | | **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.   * Take time to see the bigger picture—put a problem or situation in perspective. * Do something you really enjoy. Help your brain release your feel-good chemistry. * Get back to the basics—vow to eat healthy, exercise and sleep well. Boost that immunity and your mood. * If things get tough, remind yourself that this will pass. It always does. * Reach out to someone you trust and share your feelings with them. This is good for you and them. * Find the positive in a difficult situation. Take a breath and say it out loud. * Challenge a negative thought by finding a new interpretation. Pay attention to your language—is it mostly negative or positive?   **Dr. Majka Woods named vice dean for Academic Affairs in the School of Medicine:** Majka Woods, PhD, has been named vice dean for Academic Affairs in the School of Medicine. She has served in the role in an interim capacity since July 2019. Dr. Woods joined UTMB in 2015 as assistant dean and director of educational development, and most recently served as associate dean for Educational Affairs in the School of Medicine. Since joining UTMB, she has helped to expand and support faculty development efforts related to the delivery of high-quality medical education, and has collaborated with other schools to develop robust, consistent education systems. We appreciate her leadership and look forward to her continued contributions. | |
| **DID YOU KNOW?** Members of the COVID-19 Houston-Galveston Cruise Ship Response Team were recently awarded the U.S. Coast Guard’s Meritorious Public Service Award for their unified response to the impacts the pandemic had aboard multiple cruise ships within the Houston-Galveston region from January through May 2020. The team, which includes representatives from UTMB, Texas City’s Marine Safety Unit, Galveston-Texas City Pilots, Galveston County Health District, the Port of Galveston, U.S. Customs & Border Protection and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, facilitated the safe evacuation of 18 critically ill patients, ensured the health and well-being of over 5,500 on-board crew members, and enabled the disembarkation of over 1,600 crew members—who represented 26 different countries—back to their respective homes. Many thanks and appreciation to this group for a job well done. | |