



YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS



UTMB NEWS

Dr. Raimer named UTMB President: The UT System Board of Regents has named Dr. Ben Raimer as the president of the University of Texas Medical Branch, effective immediately. To read more, visit <https://utmb.us/63l>.

New UTMB Home Pages: Introduced in early October, new home pages are now live for internal and external visitors of UTMB Health's primary web domain, utmb.edu. To learn more about the update, visit <https://utmb.us/63m>.

From Executive Leadership: myPTO Program Update: An update on the myPTO program, including the news that all design decisions have been determined, and the new program is expected to launch March 28, 2022. To learn more, visit <https://utmb.us/63n>.

Annual Security Report, Annual Fire Safety Report and Maintaining a Drug-Free Campus publications available online: Each year, UTMB makes available an annual security report outlining our crime prevention program, including statistics and vital safety information; an annual fire safety report, which provides fire safety policies and statistics for UTMB's on-campus student housing areas; and a brochure with important messages on how to maintain a drug-free university. The most recent editions of the Annual Security Report, Annual Fire Safety Report and Maintaining a Drug-Free Campus brochure are posted on the UTMB website. The publications are offered for your review at www.utmb.edu/securityreport, www.utmb.edu/firesafetyreport and www.utmb.edu/drug-free.

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 in Galveston and League City. For more information and a full schedule, visit <https://utmb.us/4e1>.

Active shooter exercise planned for Oct. 9: The UTMB Police Department will conduct an active shooter training exercise on Oct. 9 from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the UTMB Health Education Center (HEC). During the training exercise, the HEC will not be accessible. An Everbridge Alert will be distributed at the beginning of the exercise and again when it concludes. For more information about the exercise, contact UTMB Assistant Chief David DeOre at dadeore@utmb.edu or (409) 740-9883 if you have any questions. To check or update your contact information in Everbridge/UTMB Alerts, visit <https://www.utmb.edu/alert/>.

COVID-19 UPDATES

Smart Health Cards: Available via MyChart, this new feature allows individuals to digitally verify COVID testing and vaccination status. To learn more, visit <https://utmb.us/63p>. For other COVID-19 information, access the latest Incident Command update online at <https://utmb.us/63o>.



AROUND UTMB (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team)

Updated info on the COVID-19 Vaccine Booster

Dose: UTMB is opening the booster vaccine program to all teaching staff (even if not a health care worker) who directly interface with students and have previously received the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine. In addition, those employees who support the health care and teaching operations are also invited for the booster dose. Read more at <https://utmb.us/63t>.

MONTHLY CYBERSECURITY UPDATE

How We're Doing: Last month, 4.09 percent (significant decrease) of recipients opened an attachment or revealed credentials in simulated phishing attacks by Information Security. Year to date, we're at 6.1 percent. Our goal is less than 3 percent.

A breakdown of department success/failure rate can be found at <https://utmb.us/62y> Learn more about cybersecurity at <https://www.utmb.edu/infosec>. Report potential phishing to cirt@utmb.edu.

De-JUNK your email: UTMB routinely processes over 9 million emails every month. Nearly 2/3 (over 60 percent) of these emails are unsolicited (usually advertisement for products or services) SPAM, the digital equivalent of JUNK mail.

All email is automatically scanned for malicious code (viruses, etc.), however since SPAM is usually just a nuisance (and because one person's JUNK email is another person's important business communication), there are only a few controls which can be used to limit or control their delivery.

Our email system reviews all emails and sends the most obvious of SPAMs to Quarantine, where users can review and, if necessary, release the email to their Inbox. UTMB's email administrators can globally block/blacklist email senders, however this option is only used for the most a grievous SPAMMERS or for those who are sending computer viruses, or attempting to perpetrate a scam (Gift Card Scam, for example).

Judicious use of Outlook's Junk email processes can also limit the impact of SPAM on your Inbox. You will need to empty the Junk folder in Outlook to permanently remove/delete the SPAM messages. To send unwanted email to your Junk folder, simply right click the unwanted/junk email and choose Junk | Block Email. Block Sender option in Outlook will override any global whitelist settings, i.e. the sender's email to you will be blocked and sent to Junk, even if whitelisted.

If you are not sure whether any received email is malicious or just Junk/SPAM, you can forward the email to cirt@utmb.edu and we will evaluate it and recommend how best to handle it.

REMINDERS

UTMB Flu Free Vaccination Program: UTMB offers its employees and volunteers free flu shots each year to help prevent the spread of seasonal influenza. Flu vaccines are available:

- Angleton Danbury Campus Hospital: Monday–Friday
- Clear Lake Campus Hospital: Oct. 19–21
- Jennie Sealy Hospital: Oct. 12–14 and Oct. 26–28
- League City Campus Hospital: Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
- UTMB Clinics and Inpatient Units: Monday–Friday

This year, UTMB's health care workers are also able to receive COVID vaccines and boosters at the Flu Free vaccination locations. See <https://utmb.us/614> for more details.

Family Leave Pool: UTMB has established a Family Leave Pool to support benefits-eligible employees who have exhausted their leave accruals and need time away from work for one of the following reasons:

- Birth of a child
- Care and bonding of a child under the age of 1, adoption or foster care placement of a child under 18 years of age, or the placement of any person 18 years of age or older requiring guardianship
- Serious illness of an employee or immediate family member, including a pandemic-related illness
- Extenuating circumstance created by an ongoing pandemic, including providing essential care to an immediate family member

Employees who meet the eligibility criteria may now request to receive withdrawals from the pool. Withdrawals will be considered on an individual basis, and the number of hours granted will depend on the size of the pool at the time of request. See <https://www.utmb.edu/hr/employees/fmla-and-sick-leave-pool-requests> to learn more about the pool and how to submit an application or donate your accrued vacation and/or sick leave hours.

DID YOU KNOW?

On Oct. 5, 1891, the founding members of the University of Texas Medical Department met for the first time—in Old Red—with 23 medical students and 13 faculty members. True pioneers, they set out to change the course of Texas medicine, with a mission to improve health through education, research and patient care. Since then, UTMB has become a bustling center for scientific inquiry, a training ground for the future of medicine, nursing, health professions and biomedical research, and a catalyst for improving the health of society. To learn more about all the greatness achieved over the past 130 years, visit <https://www.utmb.edu/130>.

REMINDERS (cont.)

Annual Employee Evaluations: The institutional deadline to complete employee evaluations for FY21 is Oct. 29, 2021. An annual evaluation is required by the University of Texas System for all full-time, part-time and casual employees hired on or before Feb. 28, 2021. For more information about the annual evaluation process, please see <https://utmb.us/63q>.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Health Care Unmasked from Oct. 6: Dr. Angelica Robinson, physician and associate professor with the UTMB Department of Radiology and Dr. Kimberlyn Robinson, a UTMB OB/GYN in Clear Lake, joined host TJ Aulds to discuss women's health and breast cancer. The first in a series of four episodes that will explore 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/226083426217719>. 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.

Oct. 6 Town Hall now online: 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 Cheryl Sadro, executive vice president and chief business and finance officer; Dr. Tim Harlin, executive vice president and CEO for the Health System; and Dr. Charles P. Mouton, executive vice president and provost and dean of the School of Medicine. To watch the full presentation, visit <https://utmb.us/63a>.

Weekly Wellness Recap:

This month's theme is all about self-care.

- Remind yourself that things can change for the better.
- Look for the good in people around you today.
- Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding.
- Share an important goal with someone you trust.
- Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished this week.
- Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward.
- Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today.



The Joint Commission Questions of the Week: High Alert and Look-Alike/Sound-Alike (LASA) Medications

What are High-Risk medications?

- High-Risk medications are drugs that have been identified by the hospital and Institute of Safe Medical Practices (ISMP) as medications that have caused or have the potential to cause serious medication errors.
- High-Risk medications are broken into two categories:
 - *High Alert:* medications that have been identified through ISMP as medications that have the potential to cause serious errors.
 - *Look-Alike/Sound-Alike:* medications that may be mistaken for each other due to similar drug names and/or a name pronunciation.

UTMB's list of **high-alert medications** should be posted in each unit.

Please refer to that list to answer the following questions:

- What high-alert medications are used on your unit?
- What are the safety strategies for these medications?

UTMB's list of **sound-alike/look-alike medications** should be on each unit. Please refer to that list to answer the following questions:

- What sound-alike/look-alike medications are used on your unit?
- What are the safety strategies for these medications?

UTMB's list of **tall-man labeling drugs** should be on each unit. Please refer to that list to answer the following questions:

- What tall-man labeling drugs are used on your unit?
- What are the safety strategies for these medications?

For additional information see Pharmacy Policy: [07.66 High-Risk Medications](#)

IV Admixtures: Who is responsible for preparing I.V. admixtures?

- Pharmacy prepares all I.V. admixtures except in urgent situations in which a delay could harm the patient or when short drug stabilities do not permit advanced preparation. Any IV admixture prepared outside the pharmacy, including spiked large volume IV's must be administered immediately (within one hour) and must follow all the TJC requirements for labeling of medications.



Provost's Lecture Series scheduled for Oct. 29: The next installment of the Provost's Lecture Series is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 29 at noon via Zoom. Lisa Campo-Engelstein, PhD, will present "Queer Eye for the Clinician and PI: Ethically Caring for LGBTQ Individuals." The goal of this talk is to discuss issues affecting LGBTQ groups to identify strategies for providing inclusive, high-quality healthcare for all. Dr. Campo-Engelstein is director of the Institute for Bioethics and Health Humanities, the Harris L. Kempner Chair in the Humanities in Medicine and associate professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Population Health at UTMB. All UTMB faculty, staff and students are invited to attend. More information and Zoom link at <https://utmb.us/63s>.



2022 John P. McGovern Student Awards in

Oslerian Medicine: These awards provide monetary support for the education of medical students whose performance and conduct exemplify those ideals of medical practice taught by Sir William Osler.

The students who are given the honor of this award are called "Osler Student Scholars." For more information or to download an application, visit <https://utmb.us/63r>. **The deadline for application packets is 5 p.m., Jan. 14, 2022.**



2021 recipient of the Jess Hay Endowment for

Chancellor's Graduate Student Research Fellowship: Nolan Michael Dvorak, a third-year PhD student and Presidential Scholar in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences' Pharmacology and Toxicology Graduate Program, is a 2021 recipient of the Jess Hay Endowment for Chancellor's Graduate Student Research Fellowship. This prestigious honor is bestowed upon only two outstanding graduate students from UT System institutions each year, thanks to a generous endowment established by former UT System Regent Jess Hay. Mr. Dvorak, a member of Dr. Fernanda Laezza's laboratory, is recognized for both scholastic excellence and research productivity; his research interests are focused on neurophysiology and neuropharmacological drug development.