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Building a Better Banner – UMC Tucson

Last week’s groundbreaking ceremony celebrating the construction of a new $400 million tower at Banner – University Medical Center Tucson was a highly visible reminder of the endless possibilities of the Banner Health / University of Arizona partnership. More than 100 faculty, staff, neighbors, donors and leaders from Banner, the UA and the community attended.

You’ll see steel going up next month at the construction site and a completed nine-story tower in 2019. View Fact Sheets on the new tower and on the Banner Health Center going up at Campbell Avenue and Allen Road.
Meet BUMG’s New Chief Operating Officer

Scott Hofferber, the new COO of Banner – University Medical Group, starts Monday. He comes to us most recently from the University of Missouri – Columbia, where he was the executive director of University Physicians, a practice plan of 530 academic physicians.

Scott will be stopping by to introduce himself in the Banner – UMC Tucson physician lounge 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 8. Similar visits are being scheduled for BUMCP and BUMCS physician lounges. Stay tuned.

Physician Comp PULSE Survey Coming

Share your feedback June 13-27

Please keep an eye out for the next PULSE survey in your inbox later this month to gauge your understanding of the new compensation model, effectiveness of communication efforts and overall readiness to transition to the new plan.

A link to the survey will be sent directly to your email and should take less than five minutes to complete. Your input is important, so please complete the survey and encourage your colleagues to do the same.

Results from the survey will be used to improve and target our communication and change management efforts.
Think it Might be Measles?

Due to the current outbreak in Pinal County, providers should consider measles in their differential diagnosis in any patient with associated symptoms.

Measles is characterized by a prodrome of fever (as high as 105°F) and malaise, cough, coryza, and conjunctivitis, a pathognomonic enanthema (Koplik spots) followed by a maculopapular rash. The rash usually appears about 14 days after a person is exposed; however, the incubation period ranges from seven to 21 days. The rash spreads from the head to the trunk to the lower extremities. Patients are considered to be contagious from four days before to four days after the rash appears. Please note that immunocompromised patients sometimes do not develop the rash.

Patients suspected of measles should be immediately masked and taken to a negative pressure room. Measles (Rubeola) PCR and serology testing will be performed and will require a nasopharyngeal swab, urine and serum. The NP swab and urine will be sent for Measles PCR. The serum will be sent for Measles IgM.

Exposure history can be helpful in determining a diagnosis. A list of public exposures can be found here. At BUMG clinics, patients with possible symptoms are being told to call ahead before going to any health-care provider. Earlier this year, Banner successfully completed a measles immunization campaign to ensure all Banner employees are properly protected against this disease.

New ICU Leadership at BUMCT
Congratulations to Christian Bime, MD, assistant professor, Medicine, the new medical director of the medical ICU (D3W) at Banner – University Medical Center Tucson. He replaces Gordon Carr, MD, who recently assumed the hospital’s Chief Medical Officer position.

And kudos to Esther Kim, MD, assistant professor, Critical Care Medicine, who has taken over the directorship of the cardiovascular ICU (4NW).

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**Medical Devices & Patient Safety Lecture**
**June 6, Tucson**

Risk Management has invited a speaker from MedSun’s Medical Product Safety Network to discuss patient safety issues related to medical devices from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. June 6 in Kiewit Auditorium in the University of Arizona Cancer Center.

Learn how to improve patient safety by recognizing and reporting problems with medical devices, especially problems involving human error.

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**Setting the Standard of Care**
**Journal articles highlight Banner’s EMR, TeleICU**

“Real-Time Automated Sampling of Electronic Medical Records Predicts Hospital Mortality,” a study published in the May issue of *The American Journal of Medicine*, describes how ongoing monitoring at Banner through the EMR identifies patients in early...
stages of deterioration and alerts providers to make potentially life-saving interventions.

Banner’s Hargobind Khurana, MD, and Robert Groves Jr., MD, were the co-lead authors of the article, with contributors Michael P. Simons, MD, Mary Martin, PharmD, Brenda Stoffer, RN, Sherri Kou, MS, Richard Gerkin, MD, Eric Reiman, MD, and Sairam Parthasarathy, MD.

In another recent publication, a Chest Journal study shows ICU patients have shorter stays in Banner’s TeleICU program. Additionally, no adverse outcomes associated with a shorter ICU stay were observed. Instead a trend towards lower hospital mortality was noted.

TeleICU patients are co-managed through telemedicine by intensivists in a remote center who collaborate with bedside hospital intensivists. Banner’s TeleICU program currently covers more than 450 ICU beds throughout most Banner hospitals. The program will be implemented at Banner – UMC Tucson and Banner – UMC South this summer.

“We believe this study is great news for patients, because less time spent in an ICU can mean less exposure to infection, less risk for complications and hastened recovery in the area of the hospital that cares for the sickest patients,” Dr. Groves said.

To date, more than 200,000 patients have received care using Banner’s TeleICU program. Outcome data collected from these patients have been evaluated through a risk adjustment tool called APACHE, used by hundreds of hospitals. This tool shows the following experience at Banner through 2014:

- 1,890 lives saved beyond predicted
- 45,861 fewer hospital days than predicted
- 46,435 fewer ICU days than predicted
$109 million in length-of-stay costs saved. However, if you manage a specialty clinic and believe the clinic should remain open those days, please notify your Executive Director or department administrator.
Update from COM – Tucson
2016 Faculty Mentoring Awards

From left, Dean Chuck Cairns, MD, Senior Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs Anne Wright, PhD; Judith Gordon, PhD; John Hughes, MD; Paul Krieg, PhD; Baldassarre Stea, MD, PhD; and Sairam Parthasarathy, MD. Not pictured, Paul Gordon, MD, MPH.

The UA College of Medicine – Tucson is proud to announce the recipients of the 2016 College of Medicine Faculty Mentoring Awards and a sampling from their nominations:

**Judith Gordon, PhD**, professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine

“As she should, Dr. Gordon lets me struggle through the details of challenges myself, but she provides support and information that assist me in coming to decisions.”

**Paul Gordon, MD, MPH**, professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine

“He encouraged me to take risks, engage more fully in teaching and to thoughtfully engage in challenging dialogues.”

**John Hughes, MD**, associate professor, Department of Surgery

“He changed my life and my practice and I know that the patients under my care are better for his role in my training.”
**Paul Krieg, PhD**, professor, Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine

“No UA career workshop that I have ever attended has matched the wisdom and common sense that Dr. Krieg provides, and, in fact, he should be giving some of these workshops.”

**Sairam Parthasarathy, MD**, professor, Department of Medicine

“He is nationally known in sleep medicine, and with his support, I have been able to participate in sleep medicine workshops and present my research at international conferences.”

**Baldassarre Stea, MD, PhD**, professor and chair, Department of Radiation Oncology

“During every interaction with him, he imparts some piece of wisdom that enhances training and career development.”

Nominations for these awards are submitted to the Dean’s Council on Faculty Affairs, which reviews the applications and identifies the top candidates based on how they have contributed to a mentee’s success, fostered development and created opportunities. Learn more about mentoring opportunities and resources for COM-T faculty here.
Update from COM – Phoenix
Pioneering Research Tool Developed

In partnership with the University of Luxembourg, the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix has developed a new instrument for studying a biological model of the human gastrointestinal tract that mimics the actual conditions and processes that occur within the intestine.

The research, published earlier this month in *Nature Communications*, will allow scientists to see how cells from individuals respond to certain drugs, allowing them to formulate personalized drug therapies. With the organ-on-a-chip technology, researchers can analyze the complex interactions between human cells and the microbial ecosystems of the gut, predicting their effects on health or disease onset, and study the action of probiotics, nutritional compounds or drugs.

The “Human-Microbial Cross-Talk model,” or HuMiX, was designed and prototyped at the College of Medicine’s Center for Applied NanoBioscience and Medicine, led by Director and Professor Frederic Zenhausern, PhD.

In the News

**As Phoenix booms, health systems revamp to catch up**
Kathy Bollinger, executive VP of Banner – University Medicine

**Banner UMC breaks ground on new 9-story tower**
BUMG CCAO Pradeep Kadambi, MD, BUMCT CEO Tom Dickson & CNO Cathy Townsend

**Moving up: Pediatric cardiac surgeon Mary-Jane Barth**