General Update

The Arizona Cancer Center’s Cancer Prevention and Control Fellowship Program has received a five-year, $2.5 million grant renewal. The training program has had National Cancer Institute funding since 1998. The postdoctoral training program admits fellows from a range of disciplines relevant to cancer prevention and control. The program provides experiences in a variety of scientific disciplines including epidemiology, biostatistics, nutritional science, cancer biology and clinical medicine. At the completion of the two-year program, fellows are positioned to be competitive for grant funding and as future leaders in the field of cancer prevention and control.

The Information Systems and Services departments are well on the way to integration. You may have recently heard the exciting news that the legacy UPH and UMC Allscripts systems will merge on December 13, 2010. Curious about the status of other ISS projects happening at UMC and UPH? You can access an integrated projects list at the respective organizational Intranets by clicking on one of the links below. This information is updated on a bi-weekly basis.

If you are on the UPH network, click: http://info.upi.ad/HomePage/UMC_UPH_Projects.pdf.

If you are on the UMC network, click: http://medseekintra/sitemaker/websitefiles/MedseekIntra86000/workfiles/iss/UMC_UPH_Projects.pdf

Pediatric Hematology/Oncology became a provider based physician office on November 1, 2010. Services now offered on 3W at the UMC campus, are physician visits for pediatric hematology/oncology and long term survivors; care coordination and infusion therapy services for pediatric BMT, oncology and non-oncology patients. The physicians include Emmanuel Katsanis, MD; Lisa Kopp, MD; Brenda Wittman, MD; Puja Gupta, MD and Lucy Pelayo-Katsanis, CPNP. The manager is Rose Harris, RN.

UA Healthcare has a year-to-date operating income of approximately $2.1 million, which is $9 million behind budget. The health plans are performing slightly better than budget and continue to trend positively, despite cuts in rates paid to the plan to cover services to its members. The inpatient volumes at the hospitals continue to lag budget expectations and are the primary driver of the $240,000 loss from operations in October. The Practice Plan is also $745,000 behind budget for October and $1.1 million year-to-date. Low in-patient and ancillary volumes are the primary issue in the practice plan. With the opening of the new bed tower at the UMC campus, operating costs have increased and which requires a higher patient census to offset the fixed costs of the new facility. The census at University Physicians Hospital is behind budgeted volumes. We continue to work on programs that will improve referrals from area community hospitals and are developing processes to ensure our patients are cared for in the most cost efficient and appropriate setting.

The Health Plan recently completed its annual Network Development and Management Plan (NDMP). The NDMP is a complete analysis of the Health Plan’s provider network and ensures that the provider network not only meets federal and state adequacy requirements, but also meets the needs of health plan members. As a result, potential service gaps and interventions are identified to ensure members have access to needed services. The Health Plan will also identify opportunities in which the delivery system divisions of UA Healthcare can partner with the Health Plan to provide services to members while increasing volume to the system.

Dear Kevin and Steve...

Please e-mail your questions, comments, suggestions or feedback to: integration@umcaz.edu