The Arizona Health Sciences Center at the University of Arizona has numerous people, programs and initiatives aimed at improving the state’s health-care workforce, life sciences economy and health-care delivery system. Each month we compile the top stories and notable news items that highlight our efforts and progress in these important areas.

Partnering on Health-Care Transformation

Dr. Rick Kittles Appointed Director of New Division of Population Genetics at the Arizona Health Sciences Center and UA Professor of Surgery and Public Health
Posted: Aug. 18, 2014
A national leader on cancer health disparities and the role of genes and environment in disease, with a particular interest in prostate cancer, Dr. Kittles is a pioneer in DNA testing to trace the ancestry of African Americans.
Media Mentions:
To run in Chronicle of Higher Education

UA College of Public Health Welcomes Medical Scientist and Health Policy Researcher Dr. Michael Halpern
Posted: Aug. 18, 2014
Dr. Halpern has more than 20 years of experience in health services research and policy analysis, including evaluating patterns of medical care, quality of care, comparative effectiveness and cost-effectiveness, access to care, and disparities.
Media Mentions:
Arizona Business Magazine

UAMC Earns Perfect Score in Transit Time Project to Improve Delivery of Newborn Screenings to State Lab
Posted: Aug. 13, 2014
The University of Arizona Medical Center was among 35 hospitals honored Aug. 7 in Phoenix by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), for reducing delays in reporting newborn screening tests to the state.

Noted Physician-Scientist Dr. Monica Kraft Appointed Chair of Department of Medicine at UA College of Medicine – Tucson
Posted: Aug. 12, 2014
Monica Kraft, MD, an internationally renowned physician-scientist who specializes in translational asthma research, has been named chair of the Department of Medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson. She is scheduled to begin her new duties at the UA in December.
Media Mentions:
Chronicle of Higher Education

Expanding the Life Sciences Enterprise and Health-Care Professional Pipeline

Video: New UA Medical Class Shares ‘Wildcat Pride’ During Orientation and White Coat Ceremony
Posted: Aug. 15, 2014
A new video captures the enthusiasm of the 115 new medical students at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson as they begin rigorous training to become much-needed physicians for our state and beyond.
Media Mentions:
Arizona Daily Star

UA’s Inaugural Class of Integrative Health Professionals Exceeds Expectations
Posted: Aug. 15, 2014
Graduates of Integrative Health and Lifestyle Program are trained ‘to be present and mindful’ in their care of patients and beyond

**UA Summer Health Internship Immerses Students in Border Research**  
Posted: Aug. 6, 2014  
The 10-week health-care focused internship program provides UA graduate and undergraduate students with varying experience in research and knowledge of border community health, with valuable insight and hands-on research training from UA border experts.  
**Media Mentions:**  
Insurancenewsnet.com

**The Future of Medicine Begins With Donning the White Coat**  
Posted: Aug. 6, 2014  
The Arizona Health Sciences Center is committed to creating a health-care workforce representative of the state: the 115 members of the UA College of Medicine – Tucson class of 2018 includes 75 students who are Arizona residents, 33 who are UA graduates, 25 students who hold graduate or professional degrees, 59 female students and two who are student-veterans.  
**Media Mentions:**  
Arizona Daily Wildcat

**Expanding Access to Low Cost, High Quality Care**

**UA’s Dr. Dan Derksen Appointed Director of The Community, Environment & Policy Division**  
Posted: Aug. 28, 2014  
Dan Derksen, MD, professor and the Walter H. Pearce Endowed Chair, has been named director of the community, environment and policy division at the University of Arizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health.

**¡Vida! Cancer Survivorship Program Honored by Arizona Rural Health Association**  
Posted: Aug. 21, 2014  
Arizona Telemedicine Program broadcasts ¡Vida!, to sites across the state; the UA Cancer Center program was recognized for demonstrating “excellence in the provision of health services” to rural and other medically underserved people.

**Philippines Surgical Medical Mission Includes UA Anesthesiology Team**  
With minimal standard equipment, most of which consisted of supplies the team brought themselves, a team of surgeons and anesthesiologist, three from the University of Arizona, complete more than 116 major surgical procedures during a medical mission in the Philippines.

**UA Department of Pediatrics and the University of Arizona Health Network Welcome Pediatric Sports Medicine Physician Dr. Mo Mortazavi**  
A board-certified pediatric sports medicine physician, Dr. Mortazavi is developing the first dedicated pediatric sports medicine program in Tucson—scheduled to launch Aug. 19 at the UAHN Children’s Multi-Specialty Clinic at Wilmot.

**Dr. William ‘Scott’ Killgore Joins Department of Psychiatry at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson**  
Posted: Aug. 12, 2014  
A clinical neuropsychologist whose research focuses on understanding the brain systems involved in emotional processes and cognitive performance, Dr. Killgore studies methods for accelerating recovery from mild traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder, as well as the critical performance and mental health needs of active military personnel and returning combat veterans.

**Arizona Telemedicine Program at AHSC Appoints National Advisory Board for Telemedicine and Telehealth Service Provider Showcase**  
Posted: Aug. 12, 2014  
The 24 nationally recognized thought leaders and health-care innovators from across the country have made major strides in the telemedicine arena.
Media Mentions:
Arizona Business Magazine

UA Alumnus Developing Support System for Retaining Nurse Practitioners in Rural Areas
Posted: Aug. 6, 2014
Dr. Van Roper, a family nurse practitioner who earned his PhD in nursing from the UA, has been in clinical practice for more than 20 years, primarily in rural, frontier and urban areas.

Dr. Iman Ghaderi, a Specialist in Advanced Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Procedures, Joins UA Department of Surgery
Posted: Aug. 4, 2014
Dr. Ghaderi specializes in minimally invasive and advance laparoscopic procedures for the treatment of many upper gastrointestinal conditions, including reflux disease and esophageal motility disorders, abdominal wall hernias, weight loss surgery and advanced endoscopy.

Other News & Notes

Bear Down! Members of the UA Football Team to Visit Patients at Diamond Children’s
Posted: Aug. 27, 2014
Team members will meet in the lobby of Diamond Children’s (1501 N. Campbell Ave.) and then proceed to patient rooms on the fifth and sixth floors.
Media Mentions:
ArizonaWildcats.com
Tucson News Now

Changes in Medical Education the Focus of the Fall Donald K. Buffmire Lecture at the UA College of Medicine – Tucson, Sept. 3
Posted: Aug. 26, 2014
Donald K. Buffmire Visiting Lectureship in Medicine series sponsored by the Flinn Foundation

UA Professor Dr. Lynn Gerald Receives Lifetime Achievement Award
Posted: Aug. 25, 2014
The award is given to an individual who has provided outstanding service relevant to the behavioral or social aspects of the prevention or treatment of lung diseases, critical illness or sleep disorders.
Media Mentions:
Arizona Daily Star
Arizona Daily Wildcat

‘The Art and Work of Dave Cantrell: 30 Years of Excellence’ at the Arizona Health Sciences Library through Oct. 29
Posted: Aug. 22, 2014
Exhibit of nearly 50 examples, including two- and three-dimensional illustrations, of Cantrell’s work as a scientific illustrator, animation specialist and designer with AHSC BioCommunications from 1984 until his death Dec. 17, 2013.

National Health Equity Expert Dr. Winston Wong to Speak at Arizona Health Sciences Center, Sept. 9
Posted: Aug. 22, 2014
Committed to fostering diversity and inclusion in health care, the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson will host a free Diversity Seminar Series on Sept. 9 featuring Winston Wong, MD, MS, director of disparities improvement and quality initiatives at Kaiser Permanente and a noted expert in population health management.

UA Arthritis Center Presents ‘Outcomes and Evidence on Joint Replacement Surgery,’ Sept. 3
Posted: Aug. 22, 2014
Free lecture, open to the public, by UA orthopaedic surgeon Dr. Michael Dohm, who will discuss current surgical and non-surgical treatments for joint disease, the history of joint replacement surgery and outcomes, and the importance of rehabilitation and nutrition.
Media Mentions:
Arizona Daily Star

People and Programs On The Move At the Arizona Health Sciences Center
UA Emergency Medicine receives training grant to improve care and outcomes of critically ill patients; Dr. John Sakles elected to International Airway Faculty of the Society for Airway Management; Dr. Rifat Latifi and International Virtual e-Hospital Foundation receive $512,000 USAID Award for Trauma and Emergency Service Reforms in Albania.

**Media Mentions:**
InsuranceNewsnet.com

**UA Department of Pediatrics and the University of Arizona Health Network Welcome Dr. Sarah M. Becker to the Division of Critical Care**

*Posted: Aug. 7, 2014*

Dr. Becker's clinical and research interests are in the areas of diagnostic imaging in the pediatric emergency department and the use of simulation medicine in residency training programs.

**Watch Out for Bites from ‘Invisible’ Snakes, Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center Warns**

*Posted: Aug. 5, 2014*

The poison center urges anyone who feels a mysterious "sting," "pinch" or "bite" while outdoors, especially on an arm or a leg, to immediately call the center at 1-800-222-1222.

**Media Mentions:**
Arizona Daily Star
Arizona Public Media
KGUN9 News
KVOA-TV
MedicalXpress.com
Sierra Vista Herald
Tucson Sentinel
Yuma News Now