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Monday, October 24, 2011

- Greek Life holds CATwalk race to benefit Arizona Cancer Center
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- Mayor Gordon celebrates the progress of eight years of building downtown
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- Hands Turned On Launches Energy Medicine T-shirts Designed by Ann Marie Chiasson M.D.
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- Physicians to Offer Real Life Solutions on Capitol Hill for Cutting Medical Costs, Increasing Quality
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- New Obesity Study Results Reported from University of Arizona
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- Researchers at University of Arizona School of Medicine Publish New Data on Nuclear Envelope
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- Research from University of Arizona College of Medicine Yields New Data on Herpes Simplex Virus
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- Vaccinations for children increasingly rejected by parents (Elizabeth Jacobs, University of Arizona College of Public Health)
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- Labor and Delivery Remembrance Service (University of Arizona Medical Center)
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- University of Arizona’s CATWALK
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- Researchers develop method to rapidly ID optimal drug cocktails (Pak Wong, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Arizona)

- Integrator Blog - Integrator Forum: 20 Voices on Weil/Univ. Arizona and the American Board of Integrative Medicine
  10/23/2011 HealthWorld Online [View Clip]

- GVFD donates to cancer research (Arizona Cancer Center)
  10/22/2011 Green Valley News [View Clip]

- Tucson woman uses breast cancer scare to help others (Dr Ana Marie
  10/22/2011 KOLD-TV [View Clip]
Hands Turned On Launches Energy Medicine T-shirts Designed by Ann Marie Chiasson M.D.
10/24/2011
NewsRx.com

Hands Turned On LLC announced the launch of a new clothing line designed to help people heal themselves using energy medicine, the ancient art of healing through touch, breath, movement, and sound (see also ).

The clothing line is designed by Ann Marie Chiasson M.D., a renowned energy medicine healer who teaches at the University of Arizona's Center for Integrative Medicine with its founder, integrative medicine expert, Dr. Andrew Weil. She is also the author of a comprehensive home study kit entitled Energy Healing: The Essentials of Self-Care, and co-author, along with Dr. Weil, of Self-Healing with Energy Medicine.

The shirt designs feature Dr. Chiasson's own handprints showing wearers how to position their hands to perform a specific healing exercise. Each T-shirt also comes with an instructional hangtag that explains how to perform the energy healing technique that the shirt demonstrates. The shirts are made of cotton and come in a range of colors such as kiwi, indigo, plum and teal.

"Dr. Ann Marie Chiasson is a wonderful energy healer," says Dr. Andrew Weil. "Having her work available through Hands Turned On is a gift. I highly recommend these clothes to anyone who wants to explore self healing."

Popular designs are "Practice Extreme Gratitude," "Ten Seconds to Center" and "We Must Polish the Heart Everyday," all of which include handprints and the corresponding instructional tag.

"Energy medicine is an innovative way for people to tap into their body's healing powers and feel healthier and more vitalized," Dr. Chiasson says. The shirts are available online at the company's website, www.handsturnedon.com for $28.00 each plus shipping and handling.
Ann Marie Chiasson, M.D., M.P.H., has extensive experience exploring energy medicine and alternative healing practices and shares her knowledge through interactive workshops, lectures and writing. In addition to completing a Fellowship in Integrative Medicine at The University of Arizona, she has studied with Mayan shamanic healers in the Yucatan Peninsula. Dr. Chiasson is also Canadian Board Certified in Family Practice, holds a Masters Degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University and an M.D. from Dalhousie School of Medicine in Nova Scotia, Canada.

Hands Turned On was co-founded by Dr. Chiasson and Katherine R. Lewis. Both founders are graduates of Haverford College. Ms. Lewis holds an M.B.A. from Harvard University.

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Physicians to Offer Real Life Solutions on Capitol Hill for Cutting Medical Costs, Increasing Quality
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NewsRx.com

The physician members of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (www.AAPSonline.org) are on the front lines of patient care and know what works (and what doesn't) for improving their patients' access to quality, affordable medical care. On October 13, 2011, two AAPS physician members will join with Congressman Marsha Blackburn (TN-7) for a briefing on Capitol Hill to provide information on what is already happening outside the Beltway to restore the patient-physician relationship and lower costs (see also ).

TIME: Thursday, October 13, 2011 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

LOCATION: 2456 Rayburn House Office Building, Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.


BACKGROUND: Congressman Blackburn will discuss the Health Care Choice Act, HR 371. The Health Care Choice Act empowers consumers by giving them the ability to purchase an affordable health insurance policy with a range of options. It will replace Washington mandates with interstate competition so that consumers can have better options at lower prices.

G. Keith Smith, M.D. will discuss the Surgery Center of Oklahoma, a 32,535 square foot, state-of-the-art multispecialty facility in Oklahoma City, owned and operated by approximately 40 of the top surgeons and anesthesiologists in central Oklahoma.

In contrast to a vast majority of hospitals that obfuscate their prices, Dr. Smith's center offers patients (including the uninsured and under-insured) transparent, direct, packaged pricing on surgical procedures, thus the patient knows exactly what the cost of the service will be upfront. It is no secret to anyone that the pricing of surgical services is at the top of the list of problems in our dysfunctional healthcare system. Bureaucracy at the insurance and hospital levels, cost shifting and the absence of free market principles are among the culprits for what has caused surgical care in the United States to be cost prohibitive. It is clear that something must change. Dr. Smith believes that a very different approach is necessary, one involving transparent and direct pricing, and his surgery center is proving that market-based solutions provide quality and pricing that are unmatched.
Also presenting will be Jane Orient, M.D. Doctor Orient is the Executive Director of Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, a voice for patients and physicians independence since 1943, and has been in solo practice of general internal medicine since 1981. "Many physician members of AAPS are finding innovative, market-based practice models that allow them to work directly for their patients and break away from the bureaucratic quagmire of big-insurance and government payment," explains Dr. Orient. She is a clinical lecturer in medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine and the author of Sapira's Art and Science of Bedside Diagnosis. Dr. Orient also authored YOUR Doctor Is Not In: Healthy Skepticism about National Health Care, published by Crown.

SOURCE Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS)

Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS)

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New Obesity Study Results Reported from University of Arizona
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According to the authors of a study from Tucson, Arizona, "The optimal amount of vegetable consumption required to reduce chronic disease risk is widely debated. Intervention trials evaluating biological activity of vegetables at various doses are limited."

"We conducted a 3-dose, crossover feeding trial to test the hypothesis that vegetable intake is associated in a dose-dependent manner with increased plasma carotenoids and subsequently reduced oxidative stress and inflammation in 49 overweight, postmenopausal women. Participants were assigned in random order to 2 (130 g), 5 (1287 g), and 10 (614 g) daily servings of fresh, greenhouse-grown vegetables for 3-wk intervals with a 4-wk washout period between treatments. Plasma total carotenoids significantly increased from 1.63 to 2.07 μmol/L with a dose of 2 vegetable servings, from 1.49 to 2.84 μmol/L with a dose of 5 vegetable servings, and from 1.40 to 4.42 μmol/L with a dose of 10 vegetable servings (pre-post paired t tests, all P< 0.001). The change during each feeding period increased with each dose level (P < 0.001). Urine concentrations of 8-isoprostane F2 alpha, hexanoyl lysine, and serum high sensitivity C-reactive protein were not affected by any administered vegetable dose," wrote T.E. Crane and colleagues, University of Arizona (see also ).

The researchers concluded: "In this variable-dose vegetable study, a dose-response for plasma carotenoids was demonstrated without significant change in oxidative stress or inflammation in overweight, postmenopausal women. J. Nutr. 141:1827 1833, 2011."

Crane and colleagues published their study in the Journal of Nutrition (Increasing the Vegetable Intake Dose Is Associated with a Rise in Plasma Carotenoids without Modifying Oxidative Stress or Inflammation in Overweight or Obese Postmenopausal Women. Journal of Nutrition, 2011;141(10):1827-1833).

For more information, contact T.E. Crane, University of Arizona, Arizona Cancer Center, Tucson, AZ, United States.

Publisher contact information for the Journal of Nutrition is: American Society Nutritional Science, 9650 Rockville Pike, Rm L-2407A, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA.
Researchers at University of Arizona School of Medicine Publish New Data on Nuclear Envelope
10/24/2011
NewsRx.com

New research, "Specific cleavage of the nuclear pore complex protein Nup62 by a viral protease," is the subject of a report. According to the authors of a study from Phoenix, Arizona, "Previous work has shown that several nucleoporins, including Nup62 are degraded in cells infected with human rhinovirus (HRV) and poliovirus (PV) and that this contributes to the disruption of certain nuclear transport pathways. In this study, the mechanisms underlying proteolysis of Nup62 have been investigated."

"Analysis of Nup62 in lysates from HRV-infected cells revealed that Nup62 was cleaved at multiple sites during viral infection. The addition of purified HRV 2A protease (2A(pro)) to uninfected HeLa whole cell lysates resulted in the cleavage of Nup62, suggesting that 2A(pro) is a major contributor to Nup62 processing. The ability of purified 2A(pro) to cleave bacterially expressed and purified Nup62 demonstrated that 2A(pro) directly cleaves Nup62 in vitro. Site-directed mutagenesis of putative cleavage sites in Nup62 identified six different positions that are cleaved by 2A(pro) in vitro. This analysis revealed that 2A(pro) cleavage sites were located between amino acids 103 and 298 in Nup62 and suggested that the N-terminal FG-rich region of Nup62 was released from the nuclear pore complex in infected cells. Analysis of HRV- and PV-infected cells using domain-specific antibodies confirmed that this was indeed the case," wrote N. Park and colleagues, University of Arizona School of Medicine (see also ).

The researchers concluded: "These results are consistent with a model whereby PV and HRV disrupt nucleo-cytoplasmic trafficking by selectively removing FG repeat domains from a subset of nuclear pore complex proteins."

Park and colleagues published the results of their research in the Journal of Biological Chemistry (Specific cleavage of the nuclear pore complex protein Nup62 by a viral protease. Journal of Biological Chemistry, 2010;285(37):28796-805).

For additional information, contact N. Park, Dept. of Basic Medical Sciences, University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona 85004, United States.

Research from University of Arizona College of Medicine Yields New Data on Herpes Simplex Virus
10/24/2011
NewsRx.com

A report, "Association between the herpes simplex virus-1 DNA polymerase and uracil DNA glycosylase," is newly published data in Journal of Biological Chemistry. According to the authors of recent research from Phoenix, Arizona, "Herpes simplex virus-1 (HSV-1) is a large dsDNA virus that encodes its own DNA replication machinery and other enzymes involved in DNA transactions. We recently reported that the HSV-1 DNA polymerase catalytic subunit (UL30) exhibits
apurinic/apyrimidinic and 5'-deoxyribose phosphate lyase activities."

"Moreover, UL30, in conjunction with the viral uracil DNA glycosylase (UL2), cellular apurinic/apyrimidinic endonuclease, and DNA ligase IIIalpha-XRCC1, performs uracil-initiated base excision repair. Base excision repair is required to maintain genome stability as a means to counter the accumulation of unusual bases and to protect from the loss of DNA bases. Here we show that the HSV-1 UL2 associates with the viral replisome. We identified UL2 as a protein that co-purifies with the DNA polymerase through numerous chromatographic steps, an interaction that was verified by co-immunoprecipitation and direct binding studies. The interaction between UL2 and the DNA polymerase is mediated through the UL30 subunit. Moreover, UL2 co-localizes with UL30 to nuclear viral prereplicative sites. The functional consequence of this interaction is that replication of uracil-containing templates stalls at positions -1 and -2 relative to the template uracil because of the fact that these are converted into non-instructional abasic sites," wrote F. Bogani and colleagues, University of Arizona College of Medicine (see also ).

The researchers concluded: "These findings support the existence of a viral repair complex that may be capable of replication-coupled base excision repair and further highlight the role of DNA repair in the maintenance of the HSV-1 genome."


For additional information, contact F. Bogani, Dept. of Basic Medical Sciences, The University of Arizona College of Medicine, Phoenix, Arizona 85004, United States.

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