That Human Connection

National Solidarity Week for Compassionate Patient Care was established by the Gold Humanism Honors Society in 2011 as a way to encourage medical schools and hospitals around the country to show their support for the importance of kindness to patients.

Typically held on or near Valentine’s Day, the event now is observed annually at both our medical schools and all over the country to promote provider-patient relationships based on caring, personalization and mutual respect. This 2-minute video by the Gold Humanism Honors Society chapter at the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix gives a good overview of Solidarity Week and its importance.

At Tucson’s Solidarity Day observance last Friday, I was so pleased to see Kathy Bollinger, executive vice president of the Banner – University Medical Division, and Chuck Cairns, MD, interim dean of the UA College of Medicine – Tucson, among our honored guests and speakers. They were among dozens of people who formed a human chain around the plaza outside the College to underscore our human connection.

Solidarity Day has a particular significance for us in Tucson because the impetus for this national observance was the special kindness shown by BUMCT trauma surgeon Randall Friese, MD, during the tragic mass shootings that shook our community that year.

Respect. Compassion. Empathy. Solidarity Week reminds us that it takes just a moment to make that human connection with our patients!

Andreas Theodorou, MD
Regional Medical Officer,
Banner – University Medical Division
Faculty Advisor,
Gold Humanism Honor Society, COM-T

Come Celebrate Banner – University Medicine's 1st birthday!

Over the past year, you’ve helped build a great foundation of endless possibilities, and to celebrate that milestone, anniversary observances will be held in Phoenix and Tucson with cake,
gifts and speakers including Banner Health President Peter Fine and UA President Ann Weaver Hart. Be a part of it!

Phoenix
Noon to 1 p.m.
Wednesday, March 2
Sandstones North & South, BUMCP

Tucson
11 a.m. to noon atBUMCT
Monday, March 7
DuVal Auditorium

1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at BUMCS
Monday, March 7
La Galeria

BUMG Docs Selected for Advanced Leadership Program

Congratulations to the following 24 physicians selected to participate in Banner Health’s Advanced Leadership Program for Physicians in spring, 2016. The two-year program is designed to identify and cultivate physicians to become the next generation of Banner leaders.

From Phoenix
Steve Chung, MD, Neurology
Robert Djergaian, MD, Physical Medicine
Sathya Jyothinagaram, MD, Endocrinology
Mark Villanueva, MD, Internal Medicine

From Tucson
Ilana Addis, MD, OB-GYN
Josh Appel, MD, Emergency Medicine
Erika Bracamonte, MD, Pathology
Bethany Bruzzi, DO, Family & Community Medicine
Lisa Chan, MD, Emergency Medicine
Cori Daines, MD, Pediatrics
Kendra Drake, MD, Neurology
Seth Durby, MD, Health Plan
Emad Elquza, MD, Medicine
Joel Funk, MD, Surgery
Charles Hennemeyer, MD, Medical Imaging
Melody Jordahl-Iafrato, MD, Family & Community Medicine
Pradeep Kadambi, MD, Nephrology
Esther Kim, MD, Anesthesiology
Kwan Lee, MD, Cardiology
Matthew Malone, DO, Psychiatry
Terence O’Keeffe, MD, Surgery
Kai Schoenhage, MD, Anesthesiology
Andrew Tang, MD, Surgery
Tejo Vemulapalli, MD, Medicine

These physicians were among 60 nominated for participation in the program starting in April. They follow in the footsteps of BUMG colleagues Drs. Matthew Berkman, Gordon Carr, Isabel Oliva and Maria Proytcheva who participated in the 2015 Advanced Leadership Program for Physicians.
‘A Team Approach to Preventing Diagnostic Errors’

**Carolyn Clancy, MD, MACP**, Veterans Health Administration deputy undersecretary for Health Organizational Excellence, will discuss the 2015 Institute of Medicine report, *Improving Diagnosis in Healthcare*, in both Phoenix and Tucson as part of the **Donald K. Buffmire Visiting Lectureship in Medicine**.

**Wednesday, March 2, Phoenix**

5-6 p.m. Reception and viewing of fourth-year medical students’ scholarly project posters

6-7 p.m. Lecture

Health Sciences Education Building Lecture Hall C104, UA COM-P

Registration is encouraged. Register [online](#).

**Thursday, March 3, Tucson**

Noon-1 p.m. DuVal Auditorium, BUMCT

RSVP by emailing glinda@email.arizona.edu.

**Going Up in Tucson**

*BUMCT’s new main entrance*

Construction crews are already prepping the site for the new, $400 million tower at Banner – UMC Tucson that will open in 2019. Watch for announcements of a public ground-breaking ceremony later this spring.

Also, please note that Warren Avenue west of the hospital will be closed permanently to traffic at the end of March. Keep an eye on the construction via this [webcam](#).

**Update from the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix**

More than 640 family physicians, medical students and other health professionals gathered in Phoenix at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine winter meeting in January to learn about new approaches and training that are revolutionizing family medicine education. The College had significant representation with faculty and students delivering 19 presentations. Participants attended sessions on strategies to recruit students to family medicine, mentorships, creating excellence in electives offered to medical students, the use of new digital technology for student assessment and innovations in curriculum development.
Georgia Hall, PhD, MPH, associate professor of Family, Community and Preventive Medicine, and director of Gerontology and Geriatrics, said the conference provided an opportunity to showcase the campus and the extraordinary work being done by students, faculty and the College’s community partners.

Update from the UA College of Medicine – Tucson

Early discoveries in genetics and genetic testing eventually led Rick Kittles, PhD, to co-found African Ancestry Inc., which scientifically determines a person’s African descent with unparalleled detail and accuracy. Oprah Winfrey, Morgan Freeman and Maya Angelou are just a few of the more than 150,000 people who have consulted African Ancestry to discover their families’ country of origin.

Dr. Kittles is the director of the Division of Population Genetics at UA Health Sciences and professor in the Department of Surgery Division of Urology in COM-T with a joint appointment in the Division of Health Promotion Sciences at the UA Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. Read more.

BUMCT Surgical Weight Loss Program Accreditation

The Arizona Surgical Weight Loss program at Banner University Medical Center, Tucson has been designated as a Center of Excellence by the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP) of the American Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) and American College of Surgeons (ACS).

The accreditation formally acknowledges a commitment to providing and supporting quality improvement and patient safety efforts for metabolic and bariatric surgery patients in a multidisciplinary setting.

Central to these efforts is the Bariatric Surgery core team consisting of director Carlos Galvani, MD (pictured at left), Iman Ghaderi, MD, program coordinator Barbara Fleshman, bariatric navigator Sheryl Cohen, insurance coordinator Antonia Cervantes and fellowship program coordinator Melissa Carton. The team works closely with the Nutrition Center to manage the serious health threat of obesity.

UAHS VP Garcia Honored by American Thoracic Society

Joe G.N. “Skip” Garcia, MD, senior vice president for health sciences at the University of Arizona Health Sciences, has been selected to receive the prestigious 2016 Trudeau Medal from the American Thoracic Society.

The Trudeau Medal will be presented to Dr. Garcia, a leading authority on the genetic basis of lung disease and the prevention and treatment of inflammatory lung injury, on May 15 at the ATS 2016 International Conference in San Francisco. Read more.
BUMG Docs in the News

The Hardest Test: Alzheimer’s Afflicts Generations of Tucson Family
BUMCT neurologist Geoff Ahern, MD and Pierre Tariot, MD, of Banner Alzheimer’s Institute

7 Signs to Stop Exercising Immediately
Martha Gulati, MD, COM-P cardiologist & executive director of Banner Cardiovascular Institute

Flu Season Drive Tucson Hospitals to Capacity
BUMCT CMO Andreas Theodorou, MD

Ex-Marine Battles H1-N1 Virus at Banner UMC
BUMCT ECMO specialist Joshua Malo, MD

Flu Widespread in Arizona
Sean Elliott, MD, BUMCT infection prevention medical director