Dr. Gordon Carr Named CMO at BUMCT

Critical care intensivist Gordon Carr, MD, has been named chief medical officer for Banner – University Medical Center Tucson, succeeding Andy Theodorou, MD, who recently was appointed regional medical officer over Banner Health’s three academic medical centers in Tucson and Phoenix.

“Dr. Carr has distinguished himself as a leader dedicated to quality and improved patient outcomes,” said Tom Dickson, chief executive officer for BUMG and Banner hospitals in Tucson.

Dr. Carr is a UA assistant professor of medicine in the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine. He joined the faculty in 2011, starting off as ICU medical director at BUMCS. He was named BUMCT critical care medical director in 2014. Before coming to Tucson he worked at Resurrection Medical Center, Kindred Chicago Medical Center and the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, all in Chicago. He completed his residency in internal medicine and fellowship in pulmonary critical care medicine at the University of Chicago Medical Center.

Valley Fever Clinic Opens in Tucson

BUMG now offers a half-day Valley Fever Clinic on BUMCT 6OPC every Friday morning. The clinic will be staffed by Professor of Medicine John Galgiani, MD, director of the UA Valley Fever Center for Excellence. Clinic appointments may be made by calling 520-694-8888 and Dr. Galgiani can be reached at spherule@email.arizona.edu.

Doctors’ Day at Banner UMC, March 30

Special Thanks to our Fantastic Physicians in Phoenix and Tucson
Welcome New Providers
Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon Mary-Jane Barth, MD

Please welcome pediatric cardiac surgeon Mary-Jane Barth, MD, to Banner – University Medical Group and the UA Department of Surgery in Tucson this month. She comes to Arizona from Oklahoma State University where she was an adjunct clinical associate professor of pediatrics. Dr. Barth completed her residency in general surgery and cardiothoracic surgery at UT Southwestern and then went on to complete two fellowships in pediatric cardiac surgery, the first at the Heart Institute for Children and the second at Birmingham Children’s Hospital in England. She is board certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery in congenital cardiac surgery. Her email address is maryjanebarth@surgery.arizona.edu. We're glad to have you, Dr. Barth!

Mid-Year VOICE Survey, April 13-22
Your Opinion Counts

Watch your email next week for an invitation to participate in Banner Health’s mid-year anonymous VOICE Survey, which measures employee and physician engagement via eight questions that will take roughly five minutes to complete. The email invitation to participate will come from Avatar Solutions, a third-party survey administrator.

“Banner is deeply committed to creating a culture of engagement, where our employees not only feel valued but have an active role in shaping the future of the organization,” said Banner Chief Talent Officer Ed Oxford. “The VOICE Survey is a powerful tool we rely on to understand what employees think and feel about the organization.”

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Flu Restrictions Extended to April 30

Due to high rates of flu activity in our communities, Banner is extending visitor restrictions and employee/physician masking through April 30.

Banner’s ‘No Flu for You’ policy requires all caregivers to receive a flu shot or an exemption. Those who have an exemption must wear a mask at work through April 30. Thank you for your commitment to preventing the spread of flu.

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TUCSON: Banner Health Center to Open in 2018

Outpatient Facility at North Campus
Construction is slated to begin this summer for a $100 million outpatient facility adjacent to the University of Arizona Cancer Center / North at Campbell and Allen Avenues. The three-story, 207,000-square-foot Banner Health Center will house a variety of specialty adult clinics and radiation oncology services relocated from BUMCT. Banner Health is spending approximately $1 billion in new construction at its academic medical centers in Tucson and Phoenix.

Updates from the UA Colleges of Medicine

Important Leadership Announcements

Congratulations to Charles ‘Chuck’ Cairns, MD, who has been appointed dean of the UA College of Medicine - Tucson following a national search and after serving 14 months as interim dean. “His leadership skills and academic excellence have been recognized by the faculty, trainees and staff across the College and by our colleagues within from Banner Health,” said Joe G.N. ‘Skip’ Garcia, MD, UA senior vice president for health sciences, in making the announcement this week.
Meanwhile, Kenneth Ramos, MD, PhD, has been appointed interim dean of the UA College of Medicine - Phoenix effective April 18, replacing Stuart Flynn, MD, whose last day as dean is April 15. Dr. Ramos is associate vice president for precision health sciences and director of the Center for Applied Genetics and Genomic Medicine at the UA Health Sciences. He also has served as director of the MD/PhD program at COM-T. A committee to lead a national search for a permanent dean will be announced shortly. Congratulations to Dr. Ramos and best wishes to Dr. Flynn in his new endeavors!

COM-T Residents Become Banner Employees July 1

Did you know residents and fellows currently enrolled in University of Arizona programs at the College of Medicine – Tucson will become employees of Banner Health on July 1, 2016? The Banner Human Resources Team and the College’s Graduate Medical Education Offices are working together to facilitate a smooth onboarding experience.

Please Support Medicaid Coverage for Podiatry

Budget shortfalls during the recent recession led state lawmakers in 2010 to cut AHCCCS coverage for podiatry services. HB 2357 was introduced this year to restore this coverage. The estimated state cost to restore podiatric services is $214,000. This legislation passed out of the Arizona House of Representatives on a 55-4 vote and has unanimously passed out of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee and Appropriations Committee. However, HB 2357 has stopped moving through the legislative process and now appears to be part of the state budget negotiations.

Banner Health supports the restoration of this coverage to ensure continuity of care for AHCCCS patients who need podiatric care. Despite the small cost to the state, this coverage is expected to improve patient outcomes and result in greater savings to the AHCCCS program. The Arizona Podiatric Medical Association is making a strong push to restore this coverage as lawmakers continue working toward a budget agreement. The APMA is asking for additional help in contacting lawmakers. Please send an email supporting this effort to your lawmaker by clicking here. We have set up a webpage to make it as simple as possible to send a message to your
lawmakers – even if you don’t know who they are. Just click here. (Reminder: UA employees should not use their UA email address, computer or worktime for legislative advocacy.)

BUMG Gets New Chief HR Officer in Tucson

Tamera Bhatti has been hired as chief human resources officer/senior HR business partner for Banner – University Medical Group in Tucson, effective April 11. Bhatti will work with BUMG leaders, UA department chairs and COM-T Dean Chuck Cairns, MD, to focus on faculty and staff engagement, retention and HR initiatives. She joins us with more than 20 years of experience in training, development and HR leadership in a variety of industries, including telecommunications, banking and health care.

Desert Lung Disease Conference, April 15-16

Presented by UA COM-T and Banner UMC

The inaugural Desert Lung Disease Conference will be held at Tucson’s J.W. Marriott Starr Pass Resort this month, and BUMG physicians, APPs and nurses are cordially invited to attend. Cost is $200 for physicians, $100 for mid-levels and nurses, and residents and fellows are free. CME credits available. Speakers include:

- **Rajeev Saggar, MD**, executive director of advanced lung disease at BUMCP and BUMG interim chair of clinical medicine
- **Linda L. Garland, MD**, UA associate professor of medicine and director of the UA Cancer Center’s Clinical Lung Cancer Program
- **Sam Kim, MD**, UA assistant professor of surgery, interim chief for the Division of Thoracic Surgery
- **James Knepler, MD**, UA associate professor of medicine and director for interventional pulmonology at BUMCT
- **Steve Knoper, MD**, UA associate professor of medicine and director for lung transplantation at BUMCT
- **Scott Lick, MD**, UA professor of medicine, interim chief for the UA Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery and director for thoracic organ transplantation at BUMCT

For more information and to register: [desertlungconference.medicine.arizona.edu](http://desertlungconference.medicine.arizona.edu)
In the News

Arizona Republic: Banner Invests $1 Billion in Facilities in Tucson, Phoenix

Good Morning Arizona: Your Job Can Hurt Your Heart
Martha Gulati, MD, Banner – University Medicine Cardiovascular Institute

Arizona Daily Wildcat: New Initiative Wages War on Opiates
Susan Hadley, MD, BUMCS family medicine physician