**Kidney Transplant Milestone**

**Crimson Referral System is Live in Tucson**

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**Kidney Transplant**

**A Record-Breaking Year at Banner – UMC Tucson**

Banner UMC – Tucson completed its 100th kidney transplant of 2016 on Oct. 24, and its year-to-date total as of this week stands at 107. That’s an all-time record for this hospital and places it in the company of some of the largest transplant centers in the country.

Congratulations to transplant surgeons **Drs. Robert Harland, Marian Porubsky** and **Tun Jie**, nephrologists **Drs. Pradeep Kadambi, Lavanya Kodali**, and **Asjad Sardar** and the entire team of transplant nurse coordinators, administrative support staff, social workers, pharmacists, nutritionists, financial coordinators, nurses, OR teams, lab staff, and perfusion technicians.
Maria Villalobos had been on dialysis for six years when she received a new kidney on Oct. 24, making her the hospital’s 100th kidney transplant patient of 2016. The mother of five and grandmother of 13 was thrilled with her care at BUMCT. “We’ve been at other hospitals but we’ve never felt so welcomed,” her daughter said.
This week Banner – University Medical Group launched the automated Crimson Medical Referrals system to streamline referrals to BUMG clinic specialists in Tucson. Some of the larger community practices in Tucson, such as El Rio and ACP, are already using it to schedule appointments with our university specialists.

The Crimson referral system allows BUMG to better connect with referring physicians, track the referrals coming into our organization and manage response times to those requests. “The process will be much easier and quicker for our referring physicians and will greatly improve access to care,” said Chris Castellano, VP, Delivery Business Development and executive sponsor of the initiative.

Banner reps are visiting with community physicians to educate them about Crimson and demonstrate how to use it to easily refer patients to university specialists. There is no charge to referring providers and many community physicians already are familiar with the Crimson software, which was developed in Tucson.

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**Urgent Care**

**Banner Acquires 32 Urgent Care Centers in Arizona**

Earlier this month Banner Health completed the acquisition of Urgent Care Extra’s 32 Arizona locations in Phoenix and Tucson, and is in the process of re-branding these centers to reflect the new ownership.

“It’s exciting to be able to offer this level of care to the Phoenix and Tucson communities,” said Joan Thiel, Banner Health vice president of Ambulatory and Physician Services. “We anticipate serving thousands of people every year through Banner Urgent Care, providing them with the comprehensive services and support they have come to expect.”

As part of this acquisition, more than 400 Urgent Care Extra employees have joined Banner Health, including physicians, advance practice providers, medical assistants and administrative staff.

Banner Urgent Care is open every day of the year, and accepts most insurance plans. Banner hopes to increase its urgent care locations to as many as 50 in Arizona by the end of 2017. For more information, locations and hours of operation, please visit [www.BannerHealth.com/urgentcare](http://www.BannerHealth.com/urgentcare)

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**Welcome Thomas Ross, PhD, MBA**

**New Department Administrator of Medical Imaging, Tucson**
Banner – University Medical Group and the UA Department of Medical Imaging are pleased to introduce **Thomas B. Ross, PhD, MBA, RP**, as the new department administrator of Medical Imaging.

He comes to us with 29 years in the U.S. Army and 14 years as president and CEO of Critical Medical Solutions Inc. in Lakewood, Wash. His portfolio of skills includes strategic planning, project management, budgeting, marketing and staff development. Dr. Ross is a graduate of Walden University in Minneapolis, Minn., and Olin Business School at Washington University in St. Louis.

This week BUMG also welcomed **Alen Schulze** as a systems consultant in Tucson. He joined us Monday after a 20-year career in the U.S. Army, most recently as a telecommunications chief and master sergeant at Fort Huachuca. Schulze, who served six combat tours – three in Afghanistan and three in Iraq, plus 13 drug interdiction deployments in Central and South America -- is one of two Hiring our Heroes program graduates employed by Banner Health this fall in Arizona. This national program associated with the U.S. Chambers of Commerce assists veterans transitioning to civilian life. “I was impressed with Alen from our first introduction and our team is most excited to bring his expertise to Banner – University Medical Group,” said BUMG COO **Scott Hofferber**.

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**New Clinicians this Fall**

Banner – University Medical Group extends a warm welcome to the following clinicians who have joined the practice plan in October and November in Tucson:

- **Ibrahim Abdullah, MD**, Surgery / cardiothoracic surgery
- **Carl Allred, MD**, Orthopaedic Surgery / sports medicine
- **Chyi Chyi Chong, MD**, Medicine / nephrology
- **Shariq Iqbal Chudri, DO**, Medicine / rheumatology
- **Sima Ehsani Chimeh, MD**, Medicine / hem-onc
- **Prathab Devaraj, MD**, Medicine / gastroenterology
- **Eric Espensen, DPM**, Orthopaedic Surgery / podiatry
- **George Fantry, MD**, Medicine / gastroenterology
- **Andrew Gardner, PhD**, Psychiatry / psychology
- **Sankalp Gokhale, MD**, Neurology
- **Claire Herrick, MD**, OB/GYN
- **Rorak Hooten, MD**, Medicine / internal medicine
- **Neha Jaswal, MD**, Medicine / hospitalist
- **Leslie Ledbetter, AGPCNP**, Surgery / cardiothoracic surgery
- **Lesa Mitchell, CRNA**, Anesthesiology
- **Marilyn Mora, FNP**, Medicine / rheumatology
- **Juan Sandoval Gonzalez, MD**, Medicine / internal medicine
- **Elle Ross, DO**, Medicine / internal medicine
- **Carole Rudman, PNP**, Pediatrics / pediatric gastroenterology
- **Simran Sindhu, DO**, Medicine / hem-onc
- **Berndt Schmit, MD**, Radiology / diagnostic radiology
Jennifer Segar, MD, Medicine / internal medicine
Melissa Spanggaard, DO, Psychiatry
Charisse Hanne Te, MD, Medicine / endocrinology
Jaclyn Webber, CNIM, Neurology / neuromonitoring tech
Sophia Ytuarte, PNP, Pediatrics / pediatric pulmonology
Agnieszka Witkiewicz, MD, Pathology

Flu Shot Deadline is Monday, Dec. 5

Only two weeks left before Banner’s Dec. 5 deadline for getting a flu shot or having an approved exemption on file. Many physicians still have not been vaccinated. Some upcoming clinics:

Banner – UMC Phoenix
2-9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21, Surgery Classroom
6:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, West Tower 6

Banner – UMC Tucson
3-8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, Dining Room C
Note: You may also drop by or make an appointment to receive a flu shot at the Employee Health office, which is offering extended hours through Dec. 4.

Banner – UMC South
8 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, La Galeria
1-9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21, Employee Health clinic

If you are filing a religious or medical exemption, please do so as soon as possible. Exemptions may take several days to process. Email questions to NoFluForYou@BannerHealth.com.

First Impressions Count

BUMCT Lobby, Labor & Delivery, Gets a Much-Needed Upgrade
Banner — UMC Tucson’s new hospital tower will open in 2018, but some things just can’t wait. This fall the hospital’s main lobby and central public corridor are getting a facelift with new paint, carpets and artwork, while the 2nd floor public restrooms and hospital administration offices have been completely refurbished to present a more welcoming first impression.

Meanwhile, the eighth floor Labor and Delivery unit also has undergone a cosmetic upgrade. Physicians and staff celebrated the renovations with a baby shower last week. Stop by and take a look!

2nd Chance to View These Presentations

Too busy on Monday to attend the University of Arizona Health Sciences State of the State presentation by Joe G.N. “Skip” Garcia, MD, UA senior vice president for health sciences? You can view his slides or a video of the presentation here.

You may also want to catch up on this Nov. 7 presentation in DuVal Auditorium by the Advisory Board titled “The New Era of Academic Delivery.”

BUMCT’s Organ Donation Program is No. 1

House Supervisor Kimberlee Hilty, RN, who heads the Donor Collaboration Committee at Banner – University Medical Center Tucson, accepted the Donor Network of Arizona’s top award for outstanding donor programs from DNA CEO Tim Brown at a gala last week.

Two dozen donors have contributed 83 organs at the hospital so far this year, and DNA estimates those organ donations saved 64 lives. The Donor Network of Arizona praised the collaboration of dozens of health-care professionals across the hospital for making such a tremendous Gift of Life possible.
“On behalf of the transplant team, we extend a heartfelt ‘thank you’ to our colleagues who are amazing ambassadors of the donation program,” said Deborah Mauer, statewide transplant administrator for Banner – University Medicine. “Our transplant programs don’t exist without their efforts and the true heroes of the process: the organ donors and their family members. We see the benefits of organ donation every time we care for our transplant patients.”

Update from UA College of Medicine – Phoenix

Michael B. Fallon, MD, FACP: Man on a Mission

As the inaugural chair of the Department of Medicine at the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix, Michael B. Fallon, MD, FACP, has a clean slate and a clear vision.

The Banner-UA partnership established the building blocks for the academic medical center in Phoenix. Now Dr. Fallon (pictured far left) is in charge of the next phase: linking clinical programs, medical education and research in a structured, focused way.

He considers the opportunity to join the College as well as Banner – UMC Phoenix a great “experiment in the future of academic medicine.”

“In the Department of Medicine, we have to have an excellent set of clinical activities, we have to be very good at medical education – which is already a legacy for this college – and we must develop and expand our research infrastructure,” Dr. Fallon said. “We have to do this by leveraging our vital relationships with clinical and community partners.”

He said College of Medicine – Phoenix students will be an integral part of his experiment in the future of academic medicine. “We want to engage our students so not only will they be exposed to this new kind of medicine, but they will be a part of it and they can develop their careers along those lines,” Dr. Fallon said. “We want them to go into a practice thinking, ‘How can we optimize care, reduce costs and collaborate.’ If they see the vision, they will become invested.”

Dr. Fallon said he hopes to partner with independent physicians and partner institutions to build something “that’s greater than the individual parts.” As chief of medicine at Banner – University Medical Group Phoenix, he is in a unique position to do just that.

Banner is building specialty institutes which are multi-disciplinary and designed for patients to see physicians who are part of a team. The institutes specialize in an area such as endocrinology, heart, lung, gastroenterology or transplants, but the innovative framework allows physicians in each institute to work together.
“Institutes provide great structure and open the door for unique delivery models,” Dr. Fallon said. “People work in multi-disciplinary teams, not silos.”

Update from UA College of Medicine – Tucson

Recognizing Teaching Excellence

Congratulations to this year’s COM-T Faculty Teaching Award and Vernon and Virginia Furrow Award winners! These awards recognize everything from excellence and innovation in teaching to medical education research and outstanding achievements by education support staff. The awards are presented by the Academy of Medical Education Scholars (AMES), which mentors and supports outstanding educators, and promotes excellence in teaching and educational scholarship at all College of Medicine teaching sites. Thank you to everyone who supports our educational mission!
BUMG in the News

After Hiatus, Banner UMC is Doing Lung Transplants in Tucson
Dr. Scott Lick, transplant surgeon

UA Cancer Center Joins National Clinical Trial Research Group
Dr. Dino Stea, chair, UA Department of Radiation Oncology

The Gut Check
Dr. John Cunningham, BUMCT gastroenterologist

Banner Children’s Adds Food Allergies Expert
Dr. Christopher Justinich, Diamond Children’s pediatric gastroenterologist

Banner Physicians, Staff donate $66,000 to Jan. 8 Memorial

Holiday Happenings

Tuesday, Dec. 6
Banner Health invites physicians and staff to celebrate the season with a special holiday meal at Banner – UMC Tucson. Watch for announcements of exact meal times for each shift.

Thursday, Dec. 8
Holiday meals at Banner – UMC South

Saturday, Dec. 10
The Banner Health Foundation hosts the Bon Santé Ball benefiting academic medicine at The Phoenician resort in Scottsdale. Tickets are $500 or $5,000 per table. For information or to purchase tickets, please email BonSante@bannerhealth.com or call 602-747-4654.

Thursday, Dec. 15
Holiday meals at Banner – UMC Phoenix

Banner – University Medical Group wishes all its members a happy and healthy Thanksgiving and joyful holiday season!