Tucson Lifestyle Magazine

Battling Breast Cancer: The Latest Strategies

As of August, there's a new surgeon in town who very well may take Tucson-based breast cancer innovation light years beyond the "curve." Leigh A. Neumayer, MD, MS, joined the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson as head of surgery and the Margaret E. and Fenton L. Maynard Endowed Chair in Breast Cancer Research.

Although the list of Dr. Neumayer's accomplishments and awards is long and prestigious, she holds a steadfast focus on patient care. Read more

Arizona Public Media

First UAMC Heart Transplant Recipient of 2014 Leaves Hospital

After suspending its heart transplant program late last year, the University of Arizona Medical Center has re-activated its program and discharged its first heart transplant patient Oct. 8.

Randy Shepherd got his new heart from a donor at UAMC on Sept. 15. His transplant surgeon was Zain Khalpey, MD, PhD, director of the Mechanical Circulatory Support Program at UA Medical Center. As a child, Shepherd survived two bouts of rheumatic fever, but his heart was severely damaged. He received an artificial heart last year. Read more
FDA Fast-tracks UA-Developed Valley Fever Drug

A new drug soon could be on the market with the capacity to cure Valley Fever. Recently, the Food and Drug Administration gave the go-ahead to University of Arizona researchers to fast-track the anti-fungal drug, nikkomycin (NikZ).

"I think it has the potential of really changing this disease," said John Galgiani, MD, director of the UA Valley Fever Center for Excellence. "Current drugs don't cure this disease. They're valuable and we're glad to have them, but they basically put the fungus to sleep rather than eradicating it," Dr. Galgiani said. "We hope that nikkomycin Z might change that and actually cure things." Read more

NationSwell

The Mobile Health Clinic that's been Helping the Underserved for 40 Years

In 1976, Augusto Ortiz, MD, and his wife, Martha, looked to a donated school bus as a means to achieve their dream of providing free medical care to the underserved in Southern Arizona.

Today, the University of Arizona Mobile Health Program (MHP) visits communities in a big, shiny trailer stocked with all the amenities of a regular health clinic — including an EKG — but the spirit behind it remains the same 40 years later. Read more

Health IT Outcomes

Program Connects Patients And Providers Using Mobile Carts, Tablets
The Arizona Telemedicine Program (ATP), developed in 1995, has grown from eight sites to virtually the entire state of Arizona. Much of the growth has been slow and steady over the years, but thanks in part to successful grant applications, in conjunction with private vendor investments, the adoption of telemedicine is rapidly increasing. Read more.