Hispanic Executive Magazine

**Building the Medical Professional Pipeline**

As the debate over how to close the STEM and Latino achievement gaps continues, Joe G.N. “Skip” Garcia, MD, UA senior vice president for health sciences and interim dean of the UA College of Medicine – Tucson, discusses some potential solutions.

This nation has staggering health-care disparities, and the gap is widening. Studies clearly show that patients prefer to be cared for by health-care professionals of the same ethnic background. And when they do receive that care, their outcomes are better. Confidence in your provider is a big part of wellness. Folks who are taken care of by people of the same ethnicity tend to be more compliant, take their medication more precisely and show up for appointments. [Read more]

Arizona Republic

**Groundbreaking for $136M Phoenix Biosciences Site**

A groundbreaking for a $136 million project took place Thursday in downtown Phoenix. The event signals the start of construction of the Biosciences Partnership Building near Seventh and Fillmore streets. Officials expect to complete the 10-story building, on the Phoenix Biomedical Campus, by fall 2016.

"Research in this building, in collaboration with our partners, will advance health care for all and expand our role as an economic driver for the city, valley and state," said Stuart D. Flynn, MD, dean of University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix. [Read more]
KTAR (Phoenix)

**University of Arizona Opens Children's Neurology Center**

Thanks to the fundraising efforts of the UA Steele Children's Research Center women's board in Phoenix, Tucson is now home to the PANDA Children's Neurological Center. A $1 million donation from the group allowed the PANDA (People Acting Now Discover Answers) center to open. This new center is located at the University of Arizona Medical Center Children's Multi-Specialty Center, 535 N. Wilmot. The funds raised allowed the center to open, recruit neurological specialists and provide funds for research. Read more

KGUN-TV (ABC Tucson)

**Study Shows Pilates Aids in Aging**

A recent study in the *Journal of Physical Therapy Science* indicates Pilates can help balance ability in senior citizens. Bijan Najafi, PhD, MSc, an associate professor of surgery and member of the University of Arizona Center on Aging, said, "the science between aging and exercise is simple: As people age, they lose muscle mass and sensory feedback. Exercises, like Pilates, allow the brain to correct motor errors, and in layman's terms, retrain the brain to move correctly." Read more

KVOA Tucson News

**The Dangerous Side of Laundry Detergent**

Laundry detergent pods are so colorful and "squishy," they look like something kids can play with, warns the Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center at the UA College of Pharmacy. Swallowing one of these pods, because they're highly concentrated, can cause excessive vomiting in children and they lose their ability to breathe – and that's what makes these pods so life-threatening, said Keith Boesen
PharmD, Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center. This year, 31 cases of exposure to laundry detergent pods have been reported in Pima County. Read more

Tucson News Now

UA Cancer Center Receives Grant for Native American Cancer Research

The University of Arizona Cancer Center has received a large grant to help in Native American cancer research. Scientists say they want to find out why cancer rates are on the upswing in Native American communities. The UA Cancer Center will get part of a $13 million grant for tribal-approved research. The grant also will serve to keep recruiting Native American students to work in the biomedical field. Read more

KGUN-TV (ABC Tucson)

UA Researcher Receives Grant for Breast Cancer Study

Jessica Miller, PhD, University of Arizona Cancer Center, recently received a $450,000 grant from Susan G. Komen to complete a three-year study to find out why some women battling breast cancer, who take drugs to block estrogen, often end up with terrible joint pain. Dr. Miller is looking at the cause of this chronic pain, to find ways to reduce the side effect. The study will look at women already enrolled in a clinical trial at the UA Cancer Center. Dr. Miller says about 24 women are enrolled, but they hope to enroll 100. She is one of 50 breast cancer researchers to receive a Komen award this year and she says she is thankful for the opportunity. Read more

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