Arizona Business Magazine

**UA Medical Center Recognized for Transplant Care**

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona has recognized **University of Arizona Medical Center – University Campus (UAMC)** with a Blue Distinction Center® designation for delivering quality transplant care as part of the Blue Distinction Centers for Specialty Care® program. These centers are hospitals shown to deliver quality specialty care based on objective, transparent measures for patient safety and health outcomes that were developed with input from the medical community. [Read more](#)

Arizona Republic

**New Name, New Future for Health Care**

Written by Peter S. Fine, president and CEO of Banner Health and Ann Weaver Hart, president of the University of Arizona

On Feb. 27, the **UA Health Network** will become part of Banner, and the long-term partnership with the University of Arizona Colleges of Medicine in Phoenix and Tucson will be reflected in a new name for this statewide academic enterprise: **Banner – University Medicine**.

Banner – University Medicine will be anchored by academic medical centers in
Tucson and Phoenix that will serve as catalysts for a significant gathering of physicians, researchers and professionals who support them. Read more

Yahoo Health

The ‘Germiest’ Winter Accessory You Never Wash

When’s the last time you washed your gloves or mittens? If you’re like most people, your answer is probably, “Huh?” But consider this: Unless you’ve just washed your hands, your paws are probably teeming with germs. Stick them in your mittens, and those germs can rub off on the fabric, where they can last for days to months, says microbiologist Kelly Reynolds, PhD, of the University of Arizona’s Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health.

Mittens and gloves can provide the ideal breeding ground for bacteria. “Moisture, sweat and dead skin cells provide a cozy environment for germs, where they can rapidly grow,” Dr. Reynolds said. “Increased numbers of germs means increased risk for infection.” Dark, damp environments — like the inside of wet gloves — help germs survive since they are protected from ultraviolet light, Dr. Reynolds added.

Washington Times

2 Arizona Hospitals Among 55 US Treatment Centers for Ebola

Hospital systems in Phoenix and Tucson are among 55 across the United States designated as Ebola treatment centers. The two Arizona hospital systems designated by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are Maricopa Integrated Health Systems in Phoenix and the University of Arizona Health Network. There are no confirmed or suspected cases of Ebola in Arizona. Public health officials said the designation is precautionary and that the likelihood of an Ebola patient arriving in Arizona is remote.
A "superbug" outbreak was discovered at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center after two patients died and seven others were diagnosed. The infections were traced back to two contaminated endoscopes.

Tucson is ahead of the game when dealing with the possible contamination of endoscopes, said Sean Elliott, MD, at the University of Arizona Health Network. "At this institution, we went there many months ago, in response not to an outbreak, but in response to reading the literature and knowing what needed to happen," Dr. Elliott said. "So, we are already at super-high level of sterilization and disinfection of our scopes and have been there for a very long time." Read more