Arizona Daily Star

University of Arizona Expands Footprint in Downtown Phoenix

The University of Arizona has a large and expanding health and science presence worth nearly $1 billion per year on prime property in downtown Phoenix. The Phoenix Biomedical Campus land is owned by the City of Phoenix and all three state-funded Arizona universities have programs there. But the UA dominates the 30-acre property, having invested nearly $450 million in campus building projects. The campus anchor is the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix, which opened in 2007. Read more

Modern Healthcare

UA Public Health Professor Testifies Before House Subcommittee

The “96-hour rule” and a possible direct-supervision policy are a danger to critical-access hospitals, rural health leaders said at a congressional hearing Tuesday. The rule requires physicians at critical-access hospitals to certify that Medicare and Medicaid patients may reasonably expect to be discharged or transferred to another hospital within 96 hours of admission. Members of the House Ways and Means Committee's Health Subcommittee also were told that graduate medical education slots need to be more fairly allocated to help rural areas recruit providers.
Daniel Derksen, MD, professor of public health policy and management and director of the Arizona Center for Rural Health at the University of Arizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, said doctors may need to change a patient's treatment after lab testing and that can change the patient's estimated length of stay. "It's unreasonable and unfair to make it a condition of payment," he said. Read more

CBS News

Rattlesnake 'Selfie' Results in a $153K Medical Bill

A San Diego man ended up with a $153,000 medical bill after trying to take a "selfie" with a rattlesnake earlier this month. The snake bit Todd Fassler, who required two hospitals' stock of the antivenom CroFab, the only drug available to treat people bit by poisonous snakes, CBS News reported. The bill for the antivenom alone came to more than $83,000.

"The only effective treatment is antivenom," Keith Boesen, PharmD, director of the Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center, told CBS News. "There's blood tests we can do to determine the effect of the venom. Hospital bills can always be worked out or negotiated, but you can't really negotiate, other than using prosthetics, the loss of part of your hand or arm." Read more

Arizona Public Media

UA Doctors Join Collaboration to Fight Heart Disease in India

Heart disease kills four people every minute in India, and many of these deaths are preventable, said Ben Bobrow, MD, professor of emergency medicine at the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix and medical director of the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System for the Arizona Department of Health Services. Emergency medical systems are new in India, and there’s an added challenge: Streets in many of the nation’s densely populated cities are choked with traffic, which prevents ambulances and medical professionals from reaching people suffering from heart attacks. The UA Emergency Medicine Research Center, in collaboration with the University of Illinois, Chicago; the M.S. Ramaiah Medical
College; M.S. Ramaiah Memorial Hospital; MSR Advanced Learning Centre; and Medtronic, have launched “Heart Rescue” to improve access to life-saving care for people in India suffering from a heart attack or cardiac arrest. Read more

BizTucson Magazine

Building a New Health-Care Model

Every day is a “Banner” day at two Tucson hospitals affiliated with the University of Arizona. Formerly known as the University of Arizona Medical Center – University Campus and the UA Medical Center – South Campus, the academic hospitals were renamed Banner – University Medical Center Tucson and Banner – University Medical Center South, respectively. Banner Health’s $1.2 billion acquisition of the UA Health Network reverses a once dreary financial outlook for the two hospitals. It also brings vastly ramped-up resources for medical education and research at the UA Colleges of Medicine in Tucson and Phoenix. Read more

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