KGUN-TV (ABC) Tucson

Local Disease Experts Watching, Learning from Ebola Outbreak

It is being called one of the worst outbreaks in modern times, leaving more than 700 dead and 1,300 infected. In Tucson, experts are hoping to learn more about the disease. "If someone gets contact with their bodily fluids like sweat, vomit, diarrhea or their blood. We know that's the way it's transmitted, but we still need to know more about the virus," said Mayar Al Mohajer, MD, who specializes in infectious diseases at the University of Arizona Medical Center. Read more

Yuma News Now

UA Researchers Study Increasing Lifespan and Immune Function

UA researchers are studying increasing lifespan and immune function. Researchers at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson are exploring whether dietary interventions that extend lifespan increase or decrease immune defense against infection. "Research has shown that consuming fewer calories, while maintaining sufficient nutrients, extends lifespan, and there are ongoing clinical studies in humans. However, aging also is associated with increased susceptibility to diseases," said Janko Nikolich-Zugich, MD, PhD, co-director of the UA Center on Aging and principal investigator of the "Longevity Extension and Immune Function in Aging" study. Read more
KVOA-TV (NBC) Tucson

A Warning About 'Invisible' Snake Bites

The Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center warns gardeners, hikers and others to be especially cautious about rattlesnakes in the weeks ahead.

Part of the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy, the Poison Center serves all parts of the state except Maricopa County. The specialists answering the phones receive calls from Arizonans of all ages who have suffered rattlesnake bites – without realizing they had encountered a reptile. Read more

Prevention Magazine

Ask Dr. Weil: How Important Are Vaccinations For Adults?

Part of good preventive health care is making sure you've had recommended vaccines and are keeping them current. Most experts believe that too few adults are being immunized against serious but preventable diseases such as meningococcal meningitis and pneumococcal infections. While there are legitimate questions about how we immunize, like whether we start too early and give too many vaccines at once, I firmly believe the benefits outweigh the risks. Read more

New York Post

How Science is Finding New Ways to Bring the Dead Back to Life

A significant step toward real-life suspended animation is under way at the Safar Center for Resuscitation Research at the University of Pennsylvania. The institute has devoted countless research hours to studying the effects of suspended animation, first on dogs, then on pigs and now on human gunshot-wound victims. Results from the study have not yet been released. But Peter Rhee, MD, author of “Trauma Red” and chief of the Division of Trauma, Critical Care, Burn and Emergency Service at the University of Arizona Medical Center and a researcher in this study, told
the New Scientist, “After we did those experiments, the definition of ‘dead’ changed.”

Read more

Yuma News Now

Breathing Deeply and Safely in the Midst of Flames

Every year fires rage throughout the Southwestern U.S., placing firefighters and first responders at risk as they battle flames and smoke. University of Arizona researchers are working to make their jobs a bit safer by improving the breathing equipment they rely on to stay alive.

"Firefighters and other first responders work in potentially extremely hazardous conditions," said Eric Lutz, an assistant professor and industrial hygienist in the Community, Environment and Policy Division of the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health and director of the UA's Mine Safety and Health Program. "It's important to make sure that they have adequate equipment."  Read more