



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™
at El Paso

Viewbox

State Employee Charitable Campaign

The State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) runs until October 31. "When you give to SECC, you do not help an organization, you help people. Your gifts put hot meals on the tables of the frail elderly, give troubled families a place to turn through spouse and child abuse prevention programs, provide a safe harbor for unsupervised children, and build enriching programs for youth," said Dottie Samaniego, TTUHSC El Paso Director of Volunteer Services and Chair of the State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC).

For more information on contributing to SECC, employees should contact their department SECC representative. For more information, contact 545-6840.

Residency Program Coordinators Workshop

The 2006 Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center's Program Coordinators Workshop was held September 15-17 at the Tamaya Resort in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This annual event aims to improve the skills and knowledge of the residency program coordinators from all TTUHSC campuses.

GME designated institutional officials, directors and program coordinators from Lubbock, Amarillo, Odessa and El Paso attended the workshop summit.

Two of the five designated presenters and speakers were from the TTUHSC at El Paso Pediatric Department.

Ralitsa Akins, M.D., Ph.D., presented a 1 ½ hour workshop on quality improvement principles and their application in graduate medical education.

Coordinators from all campuses were introduced to basic quality improvement tools, understanding of variation in medical care and outcomes, utilization of affinity diagrams in problem identification, usefulness of root-cause analysis, and plan/do/study/act rapid change cycles in healthcare.

Terri Brashear presented a practical approach to organizing the orientation for incoming residents. She described step-by-step the process of resident orientation and the usefulness of early introduction of the new residents to program's policies, procedures, evaluations and curriculum.

"We are proud of Dr. Akins and Ms. Brashear's participation in this workshop. These presentations allowed us to improve the visibility of our department among TTUHSC GME programs and to assume a leadership role among the Texas Tech campuses in implementing modern approaches to resident program administration," said Gloria Pinney, department administrator.

Pedi Resident Presents to High School Students

Oscar Ingaramo, M.D., a third-year resident in the Department of Pediatrics, recently gave a one-hour presentation on self-esteem and recognizing signs of depression to students of Socorro Independent School District's El Dorado High School.

Sept. 25 - 29

28 SERVICEplus Session II
 1 - 5 p.m.
 Faculty Lounge

UBCC Luncheon is October 4

The University Breast Care Center Celebrate Life Luncheon will be held Wednesday, October 4, at 11:30 a.m. at the El Paso Convention Center.

Individual tickets are \$50 and a table of ten is \$500.

The UBCC is also selling pink rhinestone pins, charm bracelets, and pink baseball caps with the pink survivor ribbon on it as fundraisers. The pins and bracelets are \$12 each or two items for \$20. The caps are \$15. The items are on sale through the day of the luncheon. For more information, contact the UBCC, 545-6400.

ACLS Provider Course

Healthcare professionals may call and sign up now for the October 16 and 18 Advanced Cardiac Life Support Course. This is a two-day course from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The optional ACLS Provider Prep Course will be offered Tuesday, October 10 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Contact Terry Velez or Christine Merrow, Department of Emergency Medicine, 545-7333. Seating is limited.

October Blood Drive

A blood drive is scheduled for Friday, October 20, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge of the HSC building.

To schedule an appointment, call volunteer services, 545-6840.

Pain in the Belly

People experiencing chronic abdominal pain or discomfort accompanied by a change in bowel movements might have a medical condition known as Irritable Bowel Syndrome or IBS.

The Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology is looking for men and women with IBS to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of the abdominal pain or discomfort associated with IBS. To qualify:

- * A person must be between the ages of 18 and 80 years
- * Diagnosed or have been diagnosed with IBS as a result of having at least 6 months, not necessarily consecutive in the preceding 12 months, of recurrent symptoms of abdominal discomfort or pain
- * Experiencing at least moderate abdominal pain or discomfort
- * Have undergone a flexible sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy with normal results in the past three years, or are willing to undergo these procedures.

All participants in this study will receive study medication, office visits, and study-related medical procedures at no cost.

For more information, please contact Nancy Casner or Yvette Quezada-Gomez at 545-6514.

Golf for Diabetes Awareness

The 2006 Golf for Diabetes Awareness is set for 1 p.m., October 28, at Painted Dunes Golf Course. The tournament benefits the El Paso Diabetes Association whose mission is diabetes prevention, education, and awareness.

An individual entry fee is \$95 for meal, beverages, goody bag and 2 raffle tickets. Team registration is \$380 for a team of four. For more information, call 771-0303.

Health Tip

Trouble Inside and Out

People with a large waist have a higher risk of colon cancer, says a study of more than 360,000 men and women in nine European countries, adding weight to the evidence from similar studies in the United States.

Women with a waist measuring at least 35 inches had a 48 percent higher risk of colon cancer than those with a waist of at least 28 inches.

Men with a waist of at least 40 inches had a 39 percent higher risk than those with a waist less than 34 inches.

What to do: Fortunately, belly fat is the easiest to lose. Send it packing. (Source: J. Natl. Cancer Inst. 98:920, 2006.)