



TechView

Patient Care

Education

Research

Weekly News - November 20, 2009

Holiday Lighting of Campus

Jose Manuel de la Rosa, M.D., invites everyone and a guest to the Annual Holiday Lighting Celebration, Friday, Dec. 4, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Medical Education Building. RSVP at 783-5510, or email Miriam.Grijalva@ttuhsc.edu

UMC Occupational Health H1N1 and Seasonal Flu Vaccine Drive

UMC Occupational Health will conduct another H1N1 and Seasonal Flu Vaccine Drive for UMC and Texas Tech employees ONLY on Friday, November 20 from 5:30 to 10 p.m. in the auditorium located in the basement of the hospital. Dependents will not be vaccinated at this time. Employees working during that time are priority. For more information, contact Occupational Health at 521-7895.

Presentations on Active Shooter Scheduled

Two more sessions have been scheduled for TTUHSC faculty, staff and students to attend the "Active Shooter on Campus" presentation by FBI Special Agent Byron Graham.

The presentation is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 23 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., and again from 3 to 4 p.m., in Auditorium A-3500, of the Medical Center. Seating is limited. To RSVP, contact Roxanne Chacon at 783-5245, or by email, Roxanne.chacon@ttuhsc.edu

From the Desk of the Founding Dean

This year, our annual Thanks for Giving luncheon has been postponed due to our Misenhimer Auditorium going through a much needed makeover. Our plan is to begin the New Year on the right foot – and give our faculty and staff some of the tools needed to live healthier, happier lives. Look for clues of what's to come in upcoming issues of the *Tech View*. For now, I want to thank each and every one of you for dedicating your time and energy to this institution, and making it a source of pride for so many. If not for you – many in our community would not have medical services available to them – nor some of the finest students and doctors around. Each of you makes up the TTUHSC Paul L. Foster SOM family – and I'm proud to be a part of it.

If you've stopped by any of our clinics – or looked at our parking lots – it's pretty apparent that El Paso has officially joined the rest of the nation in its quest to deal with this year's flu outbreak. I encourage everyone to get your H1N1 and seasonal flu immunizations. Our campus goal is 100% - which is not only important for the health of our employees – but also the health of your families and our patients. Last Wednesday, close to 300 employees and their dependants took advantage of our campus immunization campaign – which was a great turnout. Today, from 5:30 – 10 p.m. in the UMC Auditorium, staff will be administering the H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccines to employees only! If you still haven't been immunized – I urge you to make the effort.

Since next week is a short work week and there will be no *Tech View* – I'd like to wish each and every one of you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving holiday. God bless!

- *Jose Manuel de la Rosa, M.D., Founding Dean*

Surgery Chairman Elected to American College of Surgeons Board of Governors

Alan Tyroch, M.D., FACS, professor and chairman of the Department of Surgery, TTUHSC Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, has been elected Governor-at-Large of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). He will be representing ACS Fellows in Texas for a term of three years.

Governors are the official, direct communications link between the Fellows of the College and the members of the Board of Regents.

Mass H1N1 Flu Vaccine Clinic For Target Populations

The City of El Paso Department of Public Health will resume operations to distribute the 2009 H1N1 Flu vaccine at a mass vaccination clinic on Tuesday, November 24 by appointment only.

The vaccine will be given out by appointment at the Judson F. Williams Convention Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, to individuals identified as high risk for developing complications arising from the 2009 H1N1 Flu.

The target populations are:

- Pregnant women
- Persons who live with or provide care for infants younger than six months
- Children and young adults aged 6 months to 24 years, and persons aged 25 through 64 who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for complications
- Children receiving long term aspirin therapy

New UMC Front Entrance

The new front entrance of UMC is now located where Outpatient Rehabilitation once resided. The front lobby, and everything west of it, has been closed off to make way for an expansion of the Emergency Department (ED), according to UMC officials. During construction, patients may enter and exit from this new location. When the project is complete, the ED will extend from the facility that is under construction, next to the Psychiatric Center, all the way down to where the front lobby was originally located. Construction inside the lobby will be completed in about six months.

Not too Late to Donate to SECC Campaign

It's not too late to donate to the State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC). Please contact your department SECC Coordinator or call Dottie Samaniego, 545-6840.

Thanksgiving Holiday Canned Food Drive and Raffle

TTUHSC Paul L. Foster SOM, University Medical Center and El Paso Psychiatric Center staff are invited to participate in a Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive and Raffle which runs until November 20. The drive and raffle is sponsored by UMC's Food and Nutrition Dept. and Rewards and Recognition Committee.

To participate in the raffle, employees should write their ID number on the canned item. Items may be dropped off at a bin located in the UMC's cafeteria. Raffle winners will be posted in the cafeteria on Monday, Nov. 23.

Donated items will be distributed to a local relief agency.

The vaccine will be offered free of charge. Due to the demand for the vaccine, the Department of Public Health is utilizing an appointment system to avoid having individuals wait in long lines to receive the vaccine. Walk-ins will not be accepted. Free parking at the Judson F. Williams Convention Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, will be made available only to those individuals with appointments.

"We consulted with colleagues from around the country and feel that giving the vaccine by appointment will minimize lines and help us to serve those most in need of the vaccine in the most comfortable manner," said Michael Hill, Department of Health director.

Individuals interested in making an appointment to receive the vaccine are asked to be patient when calling the Department of Public Health to make an appointment. The wait on the telephone to make an appointment may take several minutes. To make an appointment to receive the vaccine, the public may call (915) 771-5759. The call center will be available from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., today through Saturday, November 21. The call center is closed Sunday. The call center will resume operations again on Monday, November 23.

Once sufficient amounts of these high risk groups have had the opportunity to receive the vaccine, the Department of Public Health intends to make the vaccine available to the general public.

For more information about the H1N1 Flu, the public may visit the city's website, www.elpasotexas.gov/health/h1n1.asp, or call 2-1-1.

USB Policy for TTUHSC Paul L. Foster SOM Faculty, Residents, Students and Staff

Patient health information or personal information such as names and social security numbers should not be stored on portable devices. This includes USB memory sticks, data phones, PDAs, laptops and other portable media devices. If there is a justifiable business need or requirement for confidential information to be stored or transferred to a portable media device, the following measures must be taken:

1. Verify signed HIPAA forms have been secured from the information owner.
2. Confidential information must be encrypted.
3. The device must be password protected (Don't share your password!).
4. Delete the confidential information whenever it is no longer a job related need to access or store it.

For more information about storing patient health information, please see TTUHSC Information Technology Policy 1.4.14, accessible online at <http://www.ttuhsu.edu/it/policy/>.

Summary of UMC's policy on USBs:

No personal devices such as USB drives are allowed on their network without prior authorization from their IT Department Security Administrator. Like our policy, a clear business need must exist, adequate security controls must be in place to protect the information and advanced permission from the information owner must be obtained. UMC policy prohibits unauthorized downloads of information and/or screen shots of PHI or sensitive information without prior authorization.

More information about UMC's Information Management Policy available online at <http://www.ttuhsu.edu/elpaso/admin/usefullinks.aspx>, under Thomason Policies & Procedures, then Global Hospital Policies.