



Rural Health Messenger

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School of Pharmacy to start classes on new Abilene campus

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center's School of Pharmacy (SOP) has expanded its doctor of pharmacy program to accept 40 additional students who will begin classes in August 2007 at its new Abilene campus.

These additional students bring the annual class size from 90 to 130 students per year, a 45% increase.

"The opening of the campus in Abilene affords us the opportunity to increase our capacity to educate pharmacists," says Arthur Nelson, dean of the School of Pharmacy, "This expansion is critical to help alleviate the current and expected future shortage of pharmacists."

According to the Texas Department of State Health Services, in 2005 the ratio of pharmacists in Texas per 100,000 population was 73.7, in line with the national average. In West Texas, however, the ratio was only 50.9.

The Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that by 2012, there will be a need nationally for 25,000 additional pharmacists to what the current supply will produce. Much of this demand is a result of the new Medicare Part D outpatient drug program, as well as continued increases in the number of clients enrolled with Texas Medicaid.

The concept for placing the Pharmacy campus in Abilene first came about

through a collaborative effort of community and private organizations including the City of Abilene, the Economic Development Corporation of Abilene, Hendrick Health System, Sears Methodist Retirement Centers, the Dodge Jones Foundation, the Dian Graves Owen Foundation and the Shelton Family Foundation. This group approached the Health Sciences Center in 2004 about Abilene hosting the expansion of the School.

Since that time, a 40,000 square foot facility has been constructed, faculty recruited, and students accepted. Classes will begin in August 2007.

Currently, all first- and second-year students attend classes at the Amarillo campus. Third- and fourth-year students may choose between Amarillo, Lubbock, and Dallas-Fort Worth campuses to complete their degree.

The Abilene campus will support all four years of pharmacy education, and will be home to 160 students by the start of the 2010-2011 academic year.

Approximately 75% of student course work will be delivered by pharmacy faculty in Abilene, with the remainder taking place via multi-



Above: The new School of Pharmacy campus, a 40,000 square foot facility, in Abilene is nearing completion.

cast, web-based streaming video from instructors on all four of the SOP campus sites.

The TTUHSC School of Pharmacy is one of two pharmacy schools in the country to require a rural rotation as part of its course work. "We are looking forward to building relationships with rural communities across West Central Texas to expand opportunities for student education and to support rural pharmacy practice," adds Nelson.

Also in this issue...

	page
Rural Scholar spends summer at Mayo Clinic	2
Study examines active learning	3
Dental outreach benefits rural Panhandle residents	4
New clinic opens in Seagraves	6
AHEC summer camp highlights	6
South Plains Rural Nurse of the Year honored by AHEC of the Plains	7

A Word from Texas Tech

By Patti Patterson, MD, MPH
Vice President of Rural and Community Health

From Rural to International Health

The “Focus on Community” feature in this issue shares information about a new international health elective available for Texas Tech medical students. I’ve long had a passion for international health and see it as a natural extension of rural health. The purpose for the international health elective is to offer an opportunity for our medical students to experience first-hand the challenges of providing health care in developing areas of the world, and to share with these international communities some of the things they’ve learned right here in West Texas.



The Health Sciences Center’s service area encompasses one fourth of the U.S. Mexico border—mostly an isolated frontier region with limited access to public health services and medical care. The challenges that rural communities face in providing health care for their residents are very similar—whether you are in West Texas, or half way around the world. Figuring out how to provide adequate health care services with very limited resources to small numbers of people is the looming question.

In many parts of the world, communities that face limited medical resources rely more heavily on public health methods for finding ways to prevent the need for expensive medical care. Community health workers, or *promotoras*, often provide health information and basic health care.

So how does this fit with West Texas and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center? West Texas faces many factors that translate internationally: water resource concerns; an economy that is largely agriculture-based; poverty; shortages of health care providers and infrastructure; and concerns about emerging infectious diseases.

The F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health’s efforts to improve the health of West Texans—the work that we do in partnership with rural communities in West Texas and academic partners at Texas Tech University and other universities can be the stepping stones to finding solutions that help rural communities, not only across our own region, but across the United States and beyond.

Rural Health Scholar spends summer at Mayo Clinic researching cancer genetics

Vanessa Costilla just finished her first year of medical school at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and is spending the summer at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, conducting research on cancer genetics. This first-generation college student from Anton, Texas, is excited to learn how research can be used to improve the health of people that she will work with every day.

Because her life experience had centered around Anton, Costilla was looking outside of Texas for her undergraduate college experiences—places like Notre Dame and Wellesley College (a woman’s college just outside of Boston, MA). However, she chose to go to Rice University because of its excellent reputation for preparing students for medical school. Even while at Rice, Costilla knew that she wanted to return to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center for her medical training.

She spent the summer after her freshman year, back in Lubbock where she shadowed Dr. Everardo Cobos at the Southwest Cancer Center. This clinical experience drew her back to the Health Sciences Center. “It was just the way Dr. Cobos treated his patients,” Costilla describes. “He has such a passion for medicine. I knew that if I could be just like him, then I would be successful.”

“Texas Tech has a reputation for placing emphasis on developing great clinicians,” she adds, “And I am interested in rural health. There wasn’t a better place to get that exposure.”

In addition to the job shadowing experience at the Health Sciences Center, Costilla completed the TTUHSC School of Medicine’s Summer Pre-medical Academy, a six-week intensive preparatory course for the MCAT (medical school entrance exam).

Following her junior year, her preparations for medical school also led her to complete a research internship at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. She was interested in doing research related to rural health, she says, but Baltimore was not a hot-bed for rural research topics. Her research mentor suggested that she do a study on lawn mower injuries, because the nature of those injuries is similar to farm-related injuries. Costilla’s study “Lawn mower injuries in the United States: Data from 1996 to 2004” was published in the *Annals of Emergency Medicine* in June 2006 and picked up by several national media outlets for coverage. “I realized that research can have a broad impact.”

After graduating with her baccalaureate degree, Costilla spent the summer before starting medical school as a research assistant in the West Texas EXPORT Center at Texas Tech, where she assisted with various rural-focused research projects. She also entered the Rural Health Education Scholarship Program, which is designed to foster her development for rural practice not only by providing financial support but also affording opportunities to pursue some of her clinical education experiences in rural communi-



Above: Vanessa Costilla, now a second year medical student, is conducting cancer genetic research at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

How prepared is West Texas to respond to a major public health crisis like pandemic flu?

The F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health is partnering with the Texas Department of State Health Services and Health Services Region 1 (HSR1) to seek answers to that question. HSR1 covers the Panhandle and South Plains area.

Survey team members will conduct confidential interviews with residents of 20 communities within the HSR1 area, asking questions about individual and community preparedness for a potential major public health crisis. The goal is to find out what folks know about health emergencies, such as a flu pandemic, and give them the chance to tell us the kinds of information and resources they think they will need for their community if a pandemic occurs. This information will assist various agencies to help plan for the best regional responses to a pandemic flu.

Survey teams will interview residents, business owners and managers, and government officials in communities of varying population sizes

- under 1,000 residents,
- between 1,000 and 5,000 residents,
- 5,000 to 10,000 residents and
- more than 10,000 residents.

For over a year, pandemic flu updates have been presented in the *Rural Health Messenger* because all indications point



to the fact that a global disease outbreak (a pandemic) is very possible in the near future.

Should a pandemic arrive in the United States, federal and state governments will do their best to assist communities, but it is very

important to understand that those government agencies are going to be very busy during a nationwide pandemic responding to hundreds or thousands of communities requesting and demanding help – all at the same time. And that brings us back to the purpose and importance of the survey. We want to help West Texas communities be as ready as possible – not only for a pandemic, but for any public health emergency.

If you are interested in more information on pandemic flu, take a look at the following sources:

Texas Department of State Health Services: www.dshs.state.tx.us/preparedness/pandemic_flu/

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: www.pandemicflu.gov/

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/flu/avian/

Study Examines Impact of Active Learning

There is no debate that children need to be more active for good health. The challenge comes when trying to fit physical activity into an already very busy day.

Melanie Hart, PhD, and Karen Meaney, EdD, associate professors in the Department of Health, Exercise and Sports Sciences at Texas Tech University, are conducting a study on “The Impact of Active Learning Curriculum on Children’s Academic Performance, Behaviors, and Daily Physical Activity”, which was funded by an NIH-grant through the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health.

Teachers at four elementary schools have been asked to participate. At two schools, the teachers have implemented the “Take 10!” curriculum, which incorporates 10 minutes of physical activity during one academic subject through the course of the day. For example, students might get up and march in place for 10 minutes while reviewing history facts. Two other schools are serving as the control group—they have not implemented any form of active learning.

Hart explains that not all schools

have recess time, which often creates behavioral challenges for students. Administrators feel that more time spent in academics will improve test scores. Hart and Meaney’s study aims to examine whether or not physical activity positively impacts both behavior and academic performance.

“The active learning component is in addition to any PE or recess time that the schools may have,” says Hart. “The intent behind Take 10! is two-fold: it gives students a chance to refocus and it also makes students more active.”

Through the course of the study, teachers implemented the 10 minute physical activity on a daily basis. Then, Hart, Meaney and their research assistants went out to each school three days in a row for four different visits over the course of the past year. The students wore accelerometers, which measured their motion in three different planes of movement every 15 seconds.

“The activity measures from the pilot project for this study showed that Take 10! students actually had more activity counts, especially in the vigorous range,” adds Hart. “This was a

pleasant surprise; it meant that the children were putting more effort into it than expected and were actually exercising harder than anticipated.”

In addition, observational data have been collected on students’ behavior, which are identified on a scale of minimally disruptive, disruptive, extremely disruptive and on task. Assessments were taken an hour before and an hour after the Take 10! activity. Early analysis of the behavioral aspect of the study shows that the students who participated in the physical activity were better able to stay on task.

The next phase of the study includes a more in-depth look at both activity counts and behavioral impact, and comparisons of standardized test scores between the two groups of students.

“We plan for teachers to continue implementing Take 10! over several years so that we can measure the impact over time, particularly on standardized test scores,” Hart explains.

For more information about the elementary-age curriculum Take 10!, visit www.take10.net.



AHEC Update

WEST TEXAS AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER PROGRAM

Dental outreach in Hereford brings healthy smiles

On April 27 and 28, 2007, the Texas Dental Association, the Texas Dental Association Smiles Foundation and the Panhandle District Dental Society provided charitable dentistry for almost 800 patients in the Hereford community through an event called Texas Mission of Mercy (TMOM). TMOM events are large multi-day dental missions that bring hundreds of dentists, dental professionals and other volunteers from across Texas together to donate their professional services. Their goal is to relieve immediate pain and restore smiles.

During the Hereford dental mission, 904 patients were evaluated and 792 patients received dental treatments. The remaining 112 patients received dental exams: health reasons, such as high blood pressure, prevented them from receiving more extensive treatment. The majority of services included teeth cleaning, fillings, even root canals, oral surgery, and the provision of flippers to replace lost or pulled teeth.

The estimated dollar amount for the services provided totals \$314,894. It was the fourth largest TMOM event out of the 14 held to date in terms of value of care provided.

Over 60 dentists and dental hygienists from across the state came to Hereford to donate their services during this two-day event, held in the administrative building of the Hereford Independent School District. Over 500 volunteers turned out from Hereford and surrounding communities to provide logistical support for the event.

This level of care is impossible without the tremendous support of the dental industry, including a generous



Above and Left: Over 900 dental patients in Hereford and surrounding communities, benefited from the recent Texas Mission of Mercy (TMOM) event held there. It was the first TMOM event to be held in the Panhandle—and the fourth largest TMOM event. Thirty-six counties in West Texas do not have a dentist (data from Texas Department of State Health Services, 2006 Dentists by County of Residence).

sponsorship from the Panhandle District Dental Society. Dr. Stanley A. Fry, Jr. of Hereford served as chairman of this TMOM event in coordination with the Texas Dental Association Smiles Foundation. The TDA Smiles Foundation operates the TMOM program to fulfill its mission “to educate the public and profession about oral health, enhance the public image of dentistry, and improve access to dental care for the citizens of Texas.”

“All of the prior TMOM events have centered around more urban areas in other parts of the state,” says Dr. Fry. “so we were excited to bring this out-

reach to the Panhandle and to a rural community. We made a dent in the needs here.”

The Panhandle AHEC assisted in this event by soliciting volunteers from their network of contacts. Several Double T Health Service Corps students from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Amarillo campus volunteered. Faculty and students from the Amarillo College Dental Hygiene program volunteered as well. They performed cleanings, X-rays, sterilizations, patient education, screenings, and in many cases assisted the dentists with various procedures.

Permian Basin Preceptor Consortium streamlines nursing clinical rotation process

The Permian Basin AHEC is working with area nursing schools and hospitals to develop a more streamlined process for getting nursing students into the community for clinical rotations. The effort, called the Permian Basin Preceptor Consortium, includes the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) School of Nursing, Midland College, Odessa College, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, Midland Memorial Hospital, Medical Center Hospital in Odessa, and Odessa Regional Medical Center.

“Our purpose is to make it easier for nurses in hospitals and other community-based health care settings to participate as preceptors for all the schools of nursing in the region,” explains MaryAnne Hanley, RN, PhD, assistant professor and site coordinator for the 2nd degree BSN program at TTUHSC.

Currently, each nursing program has its own process for accepting nurses

as preceptors, including individual paperwork and orientations. (A preceptor is a professional who serves as a community-based educator in partnership with school faculty to facilitate students’ completion of clinical rotations.)

“For nurses in the community serving as preceptors, it could mean that they and their host organizations had to complete as many as three or more sets of paperwork and orientation programs—depending on how many nursing schools they work with. This created quite a burden,” says Elisa Williford, center director for the Permian Basin AHEC.

The region’s nursing schools and hospitals came together in Spring 2007 to form the consortium, which is currently working on a streamlined process for a single system to register and orient preceptors for the region. The new process will be coordinated by the Permian

Basin AHEC.

“The initial intent was to consolidate the orientation process, but we also found that our partner hospitals also needed a mechanism for maintaining information on nursing students’ competency to assist with patient care to meet the hospitals’ accreditation requirements. So we are also working to address this need,” adds Carmen Edwards, RN, MSN, dean of Nursing and Allied Health at Odessa College.

Not only will the new process ease the burden for community nurses and hospitals that support nursing education, it also has the potential to enhance nursing programs’ resources for maintaining clinical rotation sites.

“We’re looking forward to seeing all the ways that a centralized, streamlined process for preceptors and clinical rotations can benefit nursing education in the region,” says Dr. Hanley.

Focus On

COMMUNITY HEALTH

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center’s School of Medicine has established a new international health rotation. “We have students committed to meeting the mounting challenges for global humanitarian health care. We are excited to offer four international health scholarships in the first year of our official school program. The F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health, Dr. Joehassin Cordero, and an additional faculty donor have generously provided funding for each of these \$1,500 scholarships. We especially commend Mary Sullivan, president of the International Health Club at the School of Medicine this past year, for her long hours organizing these opportunities. There were many health, legal, and curricular hurdles to jump,” says Lynn Bickley, associate dean for Curriculum at the School of Medicine.

“In the past, students could go on international rotations but only if they acted on their own to find funding and sites where they could work. The process was really time consuming and labor intensive, and most students didn’t have the time to organize these experiences,” says Joseph Magley, a fourth-year medical student. “Our goal was to establish a rotation site and develop a standardized application process so that more students could participate.” Scholarship recipients this year are Joe Magley, Cheruvu Silaju, Steve Burgess, and Dhava Sebatu. Other students who are doing international electives include Jennifer Pick, Stephanie Baker, and Kelsey Kelso who recently went to Nicaragua.

Following two years of research, Magley, Sullivan and the International Health Club also worked with Ambassador Tibor Nagy, vice provost of International Affairs at Texas Tech University and former U.S. Ambassador, to develop a counterpart relationship and organize a month-long clinical rotation at Mekelle University Medical School in Mekelle, Ethiopia, 470 miles north of the Ethiopian capital city Addis Ababa. Mekelle, which is the capital of the northern-most Tigray region, has a population of 175,000. The Tigray region is home to more than 4 million people—and more than 81% of those live in rural areas. Magley and three other fourth-year medical students will be going to Mekelle in October. “We’ll be doing three weeks at the hospital in Mekelle, focusing on internal medicine and general surgery,” says Magley. “And then spending one week at a hospital in an outlying rural area.”

To learn more about this program go to www.ttuhsoc.edu/som/curriculum/international_health_elective.aspx.

Seagraves, surrounding area benefit with opening of new health care clinic

Like many rural communities across Texas, residents in Seagraves have struggled to maintain local access to health care.

In March 2007, the community celebrated the grand opening of Seagraves Family Clinic. The clinic, which is housed in a local hotel and historic landmark, is operated by Dane Smith, a physician assistant (PA) who grew up in nearby Loop, Texas.

Smith, who recently graduated from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Physician Assistant Program, returned to his longtime home to open his practice. “I took a roundabout route to becoming a PA,” Smith says, “I started as a pre-med major when I first began my college career in 1978. After two years of college, circumstances landed me back in Loop where I spent several years farming with my dad and brother.”

Smith’s interest in medicine continued, and even while farming, he became an emergency care attendant and began working with the local EMS. “As a volunteer, working with patients in an emergency situation, I always felt like I needed to know more to better care for them,” he adds, “so I advanced through EMT and paramedic training.”

In 2000, Smith became the director for the Northeast Gaines County

Emergency Service District. His passion for medicine and the need that he had to know more to better care for his patients drove him to pursue physician assistant studies at Texas Tech.

While at Texas Tech, Smith had opportunity to complete clinical rotations in several communities, including Morton where he worked with Dr. George Manning. Manning, also the medical director for the TTUHSC PA Program, encouraged Smith to consider returning to Seagraves to practice.

“I hadn’t considered Seagraves as an option because the clinic had been closed for a few years,” Smith says, “But I was immediately excited about the idea.”

Smith adds, “Utilizing the services of a physician assistant is a great option for many rural communities.” Physician assistants are skilled health professionals who work under the supervision of a physician and who can take medical histories, perform physical examinations, order lab and imaging tests, assist in surgery, make diagnosis, direct treatments and prescribe medications.

Smith oversees the day-to-day patient care and operation of the Seagraves Family Clinic, under the supervision of Dr. Manning.

“Opening a practice from scratch has been more difficult than I had thought it would be,” Smith says, “and it wouldn’t have been possible without Dr. Manning’s vision for expanding access to health care across this region.”

“We were fortunate to be able to set up our clinic in the Simpson Hotel. The clinic is on the first floor, and the hotel still rents out rooms on the second floor. It’s a unique set up, but it works well for us.” The Simpson Hotel, which was built in 1917 the year Seagraves was platted as a town, is a recognized Texas Historic Landmark.

“The community has been very receptive to the clinic and local access to these health care services. But just the process of completing all the paperwork required to get established as a provider with Medicare, Medicaid, and various health insurance companies can take months. Until you have that set up, you can’t be reimbursed for your services. Once that is in place, the clinic should be well-established.”

Eventually, Smith’s goal is for Seagraves Family Clinic to become designated as a rural health clinic—and to provide care to Seagraves and the surrounding area for a long time to come.

West Texas AHECs Host Health Career Summer Camps

The regional West Texas Area Health Education Centers hosted summer camps in Abilene, Canyon, Plainview, Midland, and Stanton.

Sixty-eight high school students participated in hands-on job shadowing experiences, tours of hospitals and health professions training programs to help them decide which health careers they are interested in as well as help them to prepare for education beyond high school. Campers also completed CPR/first aid training and certification.



Above Left: Miranda Mendez, from Ralls, checks vital signs on an infant in the TTUHSC Clinical Simulation Center, which is the lab where medical and nursing students at TTUHSC practice various medical scenarios. **Above Right:** Haylie Hills, from Roby, demonstrates using a body blade, which is an instrument physical therapists use to help people improve their balance. This activity was part of a tour of the Hardin-Simmons University Physical Therapy School.

Rural nurses honored for service to communities



Left: Beverly Mills, administrative assistant at Yoakum County Hospital (left) and Brandi McKinney, center director for AHEC of the Plains (right) present Gail Coe with the 2007 AHEC of the Plains Rural Nurse of the Year Award. Mills explains how Coe regularly goes beyond the call of duty, by describing one particularly memorable service. “One of her patients, who was terminally ill, loved dancing, but due to the circumstances of life he had not danced in over fifty years. Gail gave him his wish to dance one last time.”

Right: Permian Basin AHEC recognized Ada Castilleja from Sonora, during National Nurses’ Week (May 6-12). Castilleja serves as the school nurse for Sonora ISD and health occupations instructor at Sonora High School. She was nominated by Susan Bilano, clinic manager of Family Health Center of Ozona. “Ada has supported our community as a nurse for almost 20 years. She has helped us out many, many times with staffing shortage situations, working many long hours without complaint.” Pictured from left: Elisa Williford, center director; Pam Cotte, (Permian Basin AHEC); Ada Castilleja (Sonoro ISD); Cleveland Phelps and Robin Ruiz (Permian Basin AHEC).



Rural Scholar at Mayo Clinic

cont'd from page 2

ties.

Costilla’s hands-on experiences through job shadowing, the Summer Pre-medical Academy, the Rural Health Education Scholarship Program and her research endeavors have helped to shape her understanding of how the physician as a clinician and as a researcher can make a difference in patients’ lives.

But, Costilla says it is her experience in community service that brings it all home. “When I found out about the Double T Health Service Corps, one of the student organizations on campus that is focused on working with underserved communities, I was very excited about it,” she explains. “It is easy to get caught up in the studying, and sometimes you need to step back and get involved in the community to see why you are doing all this. It is energizing to communicate with people and help them understand how to better take care of their health. That’s what all the training and research comes down to—helping people take care of their health.”



Above: Group photo of the campers and facilitators for Panhandle AHEC’s “Camp MASH” (Medical Avenues to Service in Health) held June 3-6, 2007.

Above Right: Doug Rhodes, instructor with the Sports & Exercise Department at West Texas A&M University (at right), shows students how to position an injured person on a backboard.

Right: Sammy Lopez of Crosbyton learns how to start an IV at TTUHSC’s Clinical Simulation Center.



Keep Cholesterol in Check

The news is full of information about good versus bad cholesterol—HDL versus LDL—but what does it all mean?



Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance that is found in cells in all parts of the body. Our bodies make all of the cholesterol that it needs. Cholesterol travels through the blood through two main kinds of lipoproteins (“packages” that have fat on the inside and protein on the outside):

- LDL (low density lipoprotein), which is the bad kind because it carries cholesterol to tissues. The higher the level of LDL cholesterol in the blood, the higher a person’s risk for heart disease is.

- HDL (high density lipoprotein), which is the good kind because it carries cholesterol away from tissues and takes it to the liver, which removes it from the body. A low level of HDL increases the risk for heart disease.

Too much cholesterol in the blood also causes plaque to build up on artery walls, causing them to harden (a condition called atherosclerosis).

High blood cholesterol is a risk factor for heart disease that you can do something about. While some of the factors that affect cholesterol are beyond your control—your heredity, age and sex—there are things you can do to lower your risk. Pay attention to diet, weight, and physical inactivity.

You are what you eat. There are three nutrients in your diet that make LDL levels rise: saturated fat (mostly in foods from animals); trans fat (foods made with hydrogenated oils and fats like stick margarine, crackers and french fries); and cholesterol, which comes from animal products. Saturated fat causes LDL cholesterol to go up more than anything else in the diet.

Most people who have high cholesterol do not have any symptoms. The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute recommends that everyone over age 20 have their cholesterol checked at least every five years. For more information about how to lower cholesterol, go to the West Texas AHEC website at www.westtexasahec.org and click on the Communities link for resources for healthy living.

Upcoming Events

Jul 27	Critical Care - GI, Renal	Midland, TX Contact: Cleveland Phelps, Permian
Jul 27, Aug 27	ABG, Fluid & Electrolytes (one day)	San Angelo, TX Contact: Cleveland Phelps, Permian
Jul 30	Critical Care - Neuro	Midland, TX Contact: Cleveland Phelps, Permian
Jul 31-Aug 2	Texas Rural Health Association Annual Conference	Austin, TX www.trha.org
Aug 1	Understanding Infant Adoption	Amarillo, TX Contact: Kelly Fouts, Panhandle
Aug 4-5	Pediatric Advanced Life Support Full Course	San Angelo, TX Contact: Cleveland Phelps, Permian
Aug 15-17	Emergency Nursing Pediatric Course	Lubbock, TX Contact: Danielle Askins, Plains
Aug 18	Annual Forum on Advances and Challenges of Aging: Osteoporosis and Osteonecrosis of the Jaw	Amarillo, TX www.ttuhsoc.edu/som/cme/ *
Aug 18	Stephens County Health Fair	Breckenridge, TX Contact: Christie Koch, Big Country
Aug 24-25	31st Annual Pediatric Post-Graduate Conference	Lubbock, TX www.ttuhsoc.edu/som/cme/
Aug 29	HealthMATCH at TTUHSC Amarillo	Amarillo, TX Contact: Kelly Fouts, Panhandle
Sept 7	2nd Annual Orthopaedic Conference	Lubbock, TX www.ttuhsoc.edu/som/cme/
Sept 8	Dental CE: Creating Your Patient’s Comfort Zone	Amarillo, TX Contact: Kelly Fouts, Panhandle
Sept 13	National Association of Social Workers Workshop	Abilene, TX Contact: Lynn Hogan, Big Country

The TTUHSC CME website is updated regularly. Also check out the TTUHSC CNE website at www.ttuhsoc.edu/son/cne/.

AHEC of the Plains 806.291.0101 Big Country AHEC 325.793.8484
Panhandle AHEC 806.651.3480 Permian Basin AHEC 432.685.8306

Visit the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health website at www.ttuhsoc.edu/ruralhealth for more.



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