

Rural and Community Health **Messenger**

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TTUHSC Names New Vice President of Rural and Community Health

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) President John C. Baldwin, M.D., named Billy Philips, Ph.D., as the new vice president for the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health. Philips



Philips

will also hold the F. Marie Hall Chair in Rural Health.

“Dr. Philips is nationally recognized and will bring great vision in his new role. His integrity and past service to the field

of health care are exceptional. His leadership and dedication to community health will serve this institution and our rural areas well,” Baldwin says.

In his new position, Philips says his career comes full circle with Ms. Hall. “In the ’70s I had the opportunity to meet Ms. Hall and received a teaching endowment which allowed young faculty to take high risk projects and compete for research seed money,” he recalls. That project was the springboard for the Cancer Teaching and Curriculum Enhancement in Undergraduate Medicine (or CATCHUM), which promotes and advances cancer prevention and control education for undergraduate medical students in all

Texas medical schools, including the Health Sciences Center.

Philips’ most recent position was as the chairman of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health at the School of Medicine at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) at Galveston, where he has served in various capacities for the past 35 years. He also served as professor and chairman in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health as well as the director of the department’s Graduate Program, director of the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and as the director for Education and Outreach at the UTMB Cancer Center.

He earned his B.A. in psychology from Oklahoma City University in 1969. He completed his M.P.H. in 1971 and Ph.D. in 1974 from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Philips completed his post-doctoral studies at the New England Epidemiology Institute at Tufts University in Medford, Mass.

Philips is now the primary investigator on the National Cancer Institute’s funded CATCHUM Project. “Ms. Hall’s continued generosity and commitment to health care have provided many opportunities for me and others in the field. I am honored and grateful to become the vice president of an institute with her name.”

Philips adds that his work in the

field of cancer served as a springboard with work in health disparities including rural health care. “As a native Texan, I experienced first hand what happens when an infrastructure fails. Whether it is awareness of screenings, lack of equipment, lack of physicians, pharmacists, nurses and allied health professionals in an area, or lack of facilities, a patient’s care suffers,” Philips said. “With a focus on rural health care, we can empower communities by improving all health issues.”

Philips is married to the former Donna Lea Smith and is father to four children.

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Borderland AHEC Opens in El Paso, Completes AHEC Coverage for the State

The West Texas AHEC Program is pleased to announce the opening of its fifth center, Borderland in El Paso, Texas. The center will serve the 6 counties of the West Texas border, including El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Jeff Davis, Presidio and Brewster. A partnership for management of the center has been established with Project Vida, a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the underserved citizens of the region.

Pam Danner, Program Director says, "The opening of the Borderland Center completes the West Texas AHEC service area. I am delighted that we are finally able to serve the entire region with these important programs." The Borderland Center is being temporarily managed by Jim Hastings, formerly of the Texas Tech University Health Science Center El Paso's Health Education Training Center (HETC) program. "The development of AHEC programming for this region is vital to work centered around health professions shortages issues. Borderland AHEC will be able to benefit from years of relationships

established through HETC work which will make for prompt program implementation and outcomes", says Hastings. The first permanent staff member, Marcelle Brooks, will begin in early spring.

There is a national movement among AHEC programs to coordinate activities with Community Health Centers. Project Vida is linked with Project Vida Health Center, one of three Community Health Centers in El Paso.

Bill Schlesinger, co-director of Project Vida, says, "The partnership with AHEC will benefit both of our programs. AHEC's mission to place health professions students in clinics which



Above: Jim Hastings, interim center director for Borderland AHEC, and Marcelle Brooks, incoming director, are working to establish the Borderland AHEC to serve the six counties of the far West Texas border area.

serve underserved clients will benefit our clinics. Exposure to the wonderful training opportunities we can provide will be invaluable for the students. AHEC programs which work with students entering the training pipeline will help to ensure that we have health professionals in the years to come. I am pleased to be a part of this new venture."

Institute Thanks Dr. Steven Berk for Leadership and Support

Members of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health recently recognized Steven Berk, MD for his 19 months of superb leadership as interim vice president of the Institute. Dr. Berk is also the TTUHSC Vice President for



Berk Medical Affairs and Dean, TTUHSC School of Medicine.

Berk's leadership and guidance were critically important during a very dramatic evolution for the Institute. As interim vice president, he redefined a research focus which resulted in establishing a core research program called Project FRONTIER. His work directly

led to fundamental advancements in the design of our research and public service projects and funding tools.

He was the Primary Investigator for a multi-million dollar federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant funding the West Texas Area Health Education Centers (WTAHEC). Most recently, he has provided oversight to establish the newest AHEC center now open in El Paso which will serve the largest population of the five WTAHEC centers and has the potential of being one of the most unique AHECs in the nation. Dr. Berk was instrumental in many WTAHEC mission advancements designed to increase health care provider shortages and improve health care access in West Texas through education and development of the health care workforce.

Berk's guidance was also critical to

the successful achievement for a program that will increase access to medical care for rural and underserved communities throughout West Texas by significantly expanding the technological advancements of telemedicine.

David Lefforge, the Institute's chief operating officer, says, "Dr. Berk's legacy will be the extraordinary impact he had on the future for the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health. The force of his forward-looking momentum will continue to propel our understanding of the health needs of West Texans and the development of the most effective ways to meet those needs."

Berk is replaced as Vice President for Rural and Community Health by Billy Philips, PhD, who will start in that role on April 1, 2009. Berk will continue at the Health Sciences Center in his other leadership roles.

Plan Developed by Texas Team Outlines Strategies to Meet Nursing Workforce Needs

Texas is facing workforce shortages in many health professions, but the shortage of nursing staff is one of the most concerning.

A recently published study by the Texas Nursing Education Capacity Team, a statewide collaborative of nursing workforce experts, showed that:

- Between 2005 and 2020, demand for RNs is expected to increase by 86% and supply by only 53%.
- Texas schools of nursing turned away 41% of qualified applicants in 2007, due to constraints in their capacity to accept students.
- Texas schools produced 7,031 RN graduates in 2007. For supply to meet demand, that number needs to grow significantly, so that by 2020 the schools are producing 25,000 graduates.
- Texas schools of nursing will need to educate an additional 15,199 new graduates by 2013.
- Failure to produce these additional nurses will cost the state almost \$1 billion in increased health care cost and lost productivity. Each nurse can generate over \$60,000 annually in reduced medical cost and improved productivity for Texans.

The strategic plan developed by the Texas Team outlines goals and strategies to meet nursing workforce needs by 2013. This plan requires a significant ramping up of nursing education capacity across the state, as well as changes in the way education resources are utilized. The primary recommendations made by the Team include

- educating and retaining a sufficient nursing faculty workforce; and
- developing regional academic, community and business partnerships to improve efficient use of training resources and to leverage the full potential of all partners to expand the nursing workforce.

In addition, the Team recommends further development of regional clinical simulation centers, expanding opportunities for nursing students to participate in community-based clinical rotations (in hospitals and other care settings), and pursuing innovative education modalities for increasing the number of students in nursing programs. Examples of innovative programs include utilizing the web for delivering online classes to students in rural communities; as well as creating different options for students to enter nursing training, like the 2nd degree program which allows people who want to change careers and already have a degree to obtain a degree in nursing in a reduced amount of time.



Green

The plan is highly dependent upon support from communities and partners. Dr. Alexia Green, dean and professor at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing and the Texas Team leader stresses the need “for all of our communities to take note of this critical shortage of nurses and the need for your area nursing school to produce more graduates – this plan is really dependent upon each of us to take action – our futures depend upon it.”

“Each of us can make a difference!” Green states.

To read the strategic plan, go to the Texas Department of State Health Services website at www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/cnws/. If you would like to know specifically how you can make a difference or how to endorse the plan, contact Dr. Green at alexia.green@ttuhsc.edu.

Success Hinges on Strong Relationships and Shared Use of Resources

The plan outlined by the Texas Team identifies several areas of opportunity for community-based health care organizations and businesses to get involved as partners to expand nurse training capacity.

Increasing nursing capacity will require

- Acquiring financial resources to recruit and retain additional faculty and students
- Acquiring additional clinical instruction sites
- Fostering innovative public-private partnerships
- Developing other educational modalities like simulation centers.

“The role of community-based training for clinical rotations is becoming a significant component to preparing the future health care workforce,” says Pam Danner, director of the West Texas AHEC Program at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

As outlined in the plan, there is a need to extend training capacity by utilizing community sites, as well as to regionally coordinate the use of these resources by training programs in the same geographic vicinity.

“The expansion of regional training programs—not only in nursing, but also medicine, pharmacy and allied health—with more health professionals graduated each year, produce opportunities for West Texas rural communities to build their health care workforce,” says Danner.

“The success of these opportunities is depending on linking students to communities during the educational process. Because of AHEC’s extensive network of relationships, they can serve as a liaison between training programs and community partners to connect students to communities through clinical rotations, service projects, or even AHEC’s HealthMATCH recruiting events.”

Rural Family Practice Collaboration: Highlighting Dr. Adrian Billings of Alpine

The TTUHSC Rural Family Practice Collaboration is a new program sponsored by the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health and the TTUHSC School of Medicine to establish and strengthen community collaborations, partnerships and outreach with family practice physicians working in rural and frontier West Texas communities. The project's overall goal is enhancing health provider relationships in which the Health Sciences Center works together with rural family practice physicians to determine effective strategies – strategies that, if not worked together, might otherwise not occur.

“We believe that reciprocal relationships can work well in many endeavors. We can make assumptions here at TTUHSC as to what those endeavors can be, but we don't want to work independently of the rural physicians to pursue those endeavors, especially if our assumptions really aren't going to enhance medical care in rural commu-

Why did you choose to practice Family Medicine in Alpine?

I was born and raised in Del Rio, Texas and went to medical school with the idea of returning to West Texas to practice medicine close to my hometown along the U.S.-Mexico border. I was awarded a National Health Service Corps Scholarship while in medical school. During my residency, several doctors left Alpine and Alpine became available for me to repay my scholarship to the government. As a medical student and resident, I rotated in Alpine with Dr. Jim Luecke. He and I kept in touch and he became my unofficial mentor. I really enjoyed my time and experiences as a medical student and resident in Alpine and I knew that there was a significant need for a full spectrum family medicine physician in Alpine. More importantly, my wife was willing to begin this adventure with our two children.

What is the most appealing aspect of Family Medicine in a rural community?

On a daily basis I feel that I have filled a need in this community by delivering babies, performing endos-

copies,” says David Lefforge, chief operating officer for the Institute.

The collaborative began with 28 physicians in communities from Alpine to Muleshoe, Cisco to Lockney and beyond. The program is in the final stages of development, which is being completed based on feedback received during one-on-one visits made to these physicians' clinics.

The Institute hopes to expand the project to another 28 physicians in the coming twelve months. As part of the program, we are initiating the Rural Family Practice Collaboration Profile highlighting a physician working with us to make life better in West Texas.



Above: Dr. Billings and Dr. Steven Berk, dean for the TTUHSC School of Medicine.

Physician: Adrian Billings, MD

Practice Location: Alpine, Texas

Current Positions: Family Medicine/Obstetrics Physician with the Pearce Clinic and Big Bend Regional Medical Center; Medical Director of Health Services with Sul Ross State University; Clinical Faculty, Department of Family and Community Medicine, TTUHSC School of Medicine Lubbock campus

Favorite Quote: From my grandfather, “One may give without loving, but in order to love one must give of themselves.”

copy, caring for my own patients in the hospital and nursing home and working in our emergency room. It is rare for a day to go by that I do not get thanked for practicing out here by someone in the community. It is very humbling and flattering. I really appreciate my absence of anonymity in the community. I worship with my patients at church, am served by my patients at local restaurants, and buy groceries from my patients at the grocery store. Being able to perform cradle to grave service is incredibly rewarding.

What is your #1 challenge practicing in a rural West Texas community?

The number one challenge of practicing in a rural West Texas community is getting patients to specialists when necessary. A significant portion of my patients are either underinsured or

uninsured. Many specialists in private practice outside of Alpine refuse to accept indigent or Medicaid patients. These are the sickest patients and the ones that really need both primary and specialty care by physicians.

What has been your most significant accomplishment during your practice in Alpine?

My most significant accomplishment in Alpine is caring for whoever walks through my clinic door, regardless of their ability to pay for my services. I have never turned away a patient because of their inability to pay me. I also have not fired a patient from my practice. Also, through the Hard Helmets for Healthy Kids Program through the Texas Medical Association, we have given away 400 bicycle helmets to children in Alpine since August 2007.

Telemedicine Report

Advanced Health Care Through Advanced Technology

Development Underway for a Pediatric Speciality Telemedicine Network

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and its F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health are taking preliminary steps in preparation for a potential state medical initiative to expand access to pediatric primary and specialty care for Medicaid-eligible children in rural communities. The initiative is being developed to use the technological advantages of telemedicine equipment which will be installed at no charge to selected West Texas communities. The initiative will be a very positive program for communities that lack adequate connection to pediatric care for Medicaid eligible children.

“Resources such as equipment will be limited and we want to ensure that they will be placed in communities that indicate a need,” says David Lefforge, chief operating officer for the Institute. He and the Telemedicine team are seeking the assistance of community advisors to assess whether their community has a need and

would be interested in discussing the medical initiative and have mailed over 500 letters to communities throughout West Texas.

Many rural and underserved West Texas communities face significant challenges when seeking pediatric health care services. A severe shortage of general pediatricians and pediatric specialists exists in our rural and underserved communities. Over half the counties in Texas don't have a general pediatrician and in many cases, gaining access to pediatric care involves lengthy travel to locations where health care specialists are available. Sometimes, that travel can be very expensive in money and lost work/school time – expenses that many families simply can't afford.

“Programs are available today that can significantly reduce the need for travel in many cases,” adds Lefforge. Telemedicine is such a program, and the medical initiative may become a means by which com-

munities can increase access to medical specialty care while reducing the demands on individuals and families.

If you or a member of your community is interested in more information or would like to discuss an assessment, please contact David Lefforge at david.lefforge@ttuhsc.edu, 806-743-1338, or Debbie Voyles at debbie.voyles@ttuhsc.edu, 806-743-4440.

Billings, cont'd from page 4

What would you like to accomplish in the next 12 months? Why?

I would like to recruit a partner to join me. We are short several more physicians here in the Big Bend area. It is my hope to bring more medical help to our area in the form of more physicians and services. I am also hopeful that we will be able to bring mobile mammography back to our area. Currently, our nearest mammography facilities are in Odessa which is 160 miles one way from Alpine. However, for our patients that live down on the Mexican border in the Big Bend National Park, Terlingua, and Presidio, it is a 500-mile round trip to get an annual mammogram. Needless to say, few of our women actually get annual mammograms.

What are your interests and activities outside your practice?

My interests lie primarily in my family. I love being a husband and father. I have a beautiful wife and two wonderful boys. Most of my free time is spent with them. I am an avid bicyclist and I bike commute to work. Last year I commuted 1,100 miles on my bicycle. I occasionally cycle some long distance rides as well.

Telepharmacy Project to Receive Statewide Award

In late January 2009, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) School of Pharmacy, Dr. Sidney Ontai and the F. Marie Hall Institute of Rural and Community Health learned they had been selected to receive the Texas Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists Collaborative Practice Award for 2009.

One award is given each year to an organization for providing patient care in a creative, interdisciplinary fashion and whose team leader

or director of pharmacy services is a TSHP member. The Telepharmacy program at TTUHSC includes two sites, one in Turkey and one in Earth. It is a collaborative effort by TTUHSC School of Pharmacy, TTUHSC F. Marie Hall Institute of Rural and Community Health's Center for Telemedicine and Dr. Sidney Ontai of Plainview.

The presentation of the award will be given at the TSHP annual Seminar to be held in Austin in April 2009.



AHEC Update

WEST TEXAS AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER PROGRAM

West Texas AHEC – Distinctly Serving West Texans

The West Texas Area Health Education Center (AHEC) program is unique in and for West Texas. Yes, it shares a few similarities with its sister programs in East Texas and South Texas, but as the saying goes in the AHEC world, “When you’ve seen one AHEC, you’ve seen one AHEC.”

The three Texas AHEC programs are similar only in that they were established by a federal grant program which requires the funding be given to a medical school to serve a designated service territory. The three AHECs are distinctly different, however, in that they are community-based and their programs reflect the specific needs of the regions they serve.

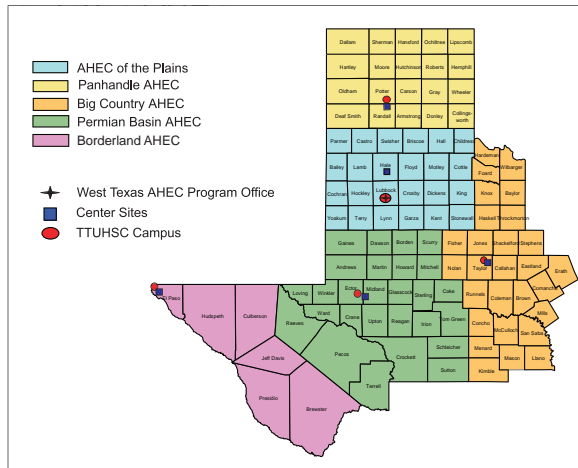
The uniqueness of West Texas AHEC has much to do with the area and people it serves

- The 105 counties of West Texas make up one of the most rural and medically underserved regions in the United States.
- The West Texas service area covers 49% of the state and is home to 2.6 million people.
- 97 counties are rural; 53 of those are considered frontier.
- 22 counties have no physician.
- 13 counties have no physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner.
- 31 counties do not have a hospital.
- 75% of the region is more than 90 miles from a comprehensive, Level 1 trauma hospital (and the only comprehensive burn center, which is the only burn center between Dallas and Phoenix, for the region is located in Lubbock).
- The West Texas area presents

many unique challenges for health care delivery and economic development, which include addressing demographic trends of aging populations, growing ethnic diversity and shrinking rural populations as well as border health issues.

The distinctiveness of West Texas AHEC’s programs can be seen in how it serves West Texans

- Developing collegiate Health Service Corps programs in partnership with colleges across the region to bridge the gap between high school and health professions training programs. The college-based programs are geared to support early undergraduate college students in their career development, retention to graduation, and entry into health professions training programs. This program was declared a “best practice” during a recent federal program performance review and recommended for replication by other AHECs nationally.



regional HealthMATCH events which bring together resident physicians and mid-level practitioners with communities that are seeking to hire health professionals. Successful matches have been made as a result of these events.

- Working with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to develop an interactive website (www.texas-hotjobs.org) to assist students, parents, educators and other career seekers in gain-

Timeline

- April 2002 – Opened AHEC of the Plains in Plainview
- May 2004 – Opened Panhandle AHEC in Amarillo
- June 2004 – Opened Permian Basin AHEC in Midland
- March 2005 – Opened Big Country AHEC in Abilene
- December 2008 – Opened Borderland AHEC in El Paso

- ing knowledge about the many health careers available in Texas.
- Provides community-based health professional educators free access to the full resources of the TTUHSC electronic medical library.
- Implemented the CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Children’s Health) curriculum and training program in 64 rural school districts, impacting over 26,000 elementary students.
- Developed the Junior Volunteer Program, a hands-on educational and volunteer program hosted jointly in local communities with the hospital and high school. The JV program (now expanded to Youth Health Service Corps) exposes high school students to the health career opportunities in their own rural community.

2008 Highlights

- Provided health careers promotion presentations to more than 40,000 young people, parents and educators
- Facilitated community-based clinical rotations for more than 400 health professions students in West Texas communities (more than 50,000 hours of training)
- Facilitated continuing education for 4,308 health care professionals for more than 30,290 hours of CE credit

West Texas AHEC to Host Statewide HealthFind 2009 in Lubbock

The West Texas AHEC Program is pleased to announce that it will host the Office of Rural and Community Affairs (ORCA) annual health professional recruiting event, Health Find 2009 in Lubbock on October 17th. The planning process is already underway with facility negotiations and agenda preparation.

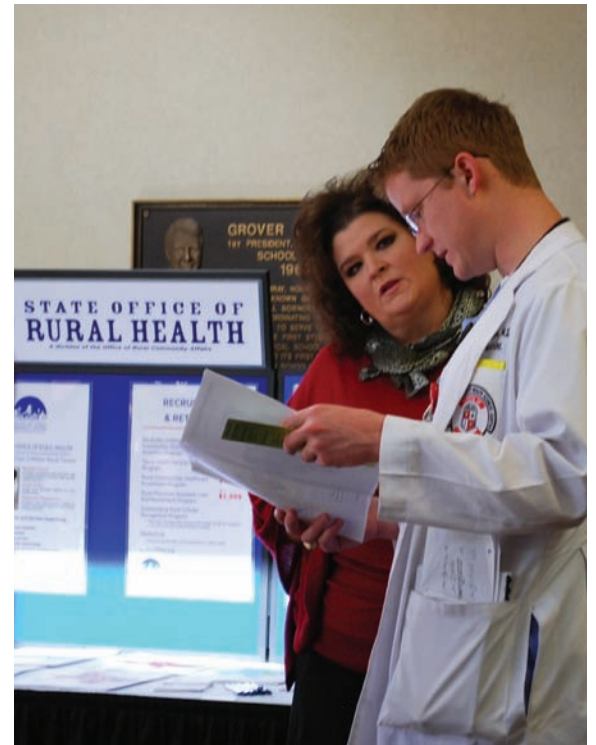
“Recruiting healthcare professionals to serve in the rural and underserved areas of Texas is one of our primary goals,” says Theresa Cruz, director of the Texas State Office of Rural Health, a division of the Office of Rural Community Affairs. “ORCA is excited and pleased to partner with the West Texas AHEC to host HealthFind 2009 in Lubbock. We hope to show both resident and practicing physicians the best opportunities rural Texas has

to offer.”

“We are looking to showcase these rural opportunities to as many resident physicians and physician assistant students as possible. We hope to increase healthcare provider attendance this year along with continuation of the wonderful community participation the event has enjoyed in years past,” adds Loni Flores, West Texas AHEC coordinator for Community Programs.

The day-long event will include educational programming in rural practice issues and a general session which will allow for communities to spend time with prospective employees.

For more information about HealthFind 2009, contact Loni Flores at 806.743.1338.



Above: Brenda Copas, with ORCA, chats with a resident about loan repayment opportunities available in rural Texas.

Summer Camp Attendee Enters Pharmacy School

In the summer of 2006, Lora McCullough, a Senior from Ranger High School, attended the Big Country Area Health Education Center’s first Health Matters Summer Camp in Abilene. At the time, all Lora knew was that after high school she wanted to go to medical school. The goal of the Health Matters Summer Camp is to give students an in-depth look into many different aspects of health related careers, as it did Lora, who decided another career was in her future.



McCullough

After graduating from Ranger High School in 2006, Lora attended Angelo State University, where she majored in Biology. As an undergraduate at Angelo State University, she shadowed a local pediatrician, which helped broaden her experience in the medical profession. She was also fortunate to shadow a pharmacist in Eastland not far from her hometown of Ranger in Eastland County. This opportunity showed her how fulfilling and personal working in a rural setting can be.

In 2008, she was accepted to the Texas Tech University School of Pharmacy located in Abilene after completing her prerequisites at Angelo State University. Lora’s decision to pursue Pharmacy School was driven by her desire to one day being employed in West Texas where she can remain close to her family.

“My experience attending the summer camp helped reinforce for me the wide variety of opportunities available in health care and what an impact health professionals can have to improve people’s lives,” she says. “I’d recommend the camp to any high school student who thinks they may be interested in health careers.”

The West Texas AHEC centers are developing plans for 2009 health careers summer camps now. Campers benefit from participating in job shadowing experiences, CPR certification, as well as tours of hospitals and health professions training programs and other activities to prepare them for college or other training after high school.

2009 Health Careers Camp Info

Hosted by	Location	Date
AHEC of the Plains (806.291.0101)	Plainview, TX	June 29-July 2
Big Country AHEC (325.793.8484)	Abilene, TX	June 8-12
	Stephenville, TX	June 23-25
Panhandle AHEC (806.651.3480)	Canyon, TX	June 1-4
		June 8-11
		(Advanced Camp) June 15-18
Permian Basin AHEC (432.685.8306)	Stanton, TX	July 7-10
	Snyder, TX	August 3-7

Cold and Cough Medication Safety



With the cold and flu season fully upon us, many of us will take multiple over-the-counter (OTC) cold and cough relief medica-

tions. In the haste to relieve cold symptoms, some individuals may take an OTC medication without taking into consideration other medications/products being taken or may even take multiple OTC medications that contain the same active ingredients. This can have harmful effects on your health.

Types of ingredients commonly found in OTC cold & cough medications include:

- Antihistamines - relieve runny nose, itching and sneezing (ex: brompheniramine, chlorpheniramine, clemastine, diphenhydramine, loratadine, cetirizine (Zyrtec®))
- Decongestants - relieve nasal congestion (ex: ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, phenylephrine)
- Cough suppressants - reduce or relieve cough (ex: dextromethorphan, guaifenesin)
- Analgesics - reduce pain and fever (ex: acetaminophen, ibuprofen, naproxen, aspirin). Non-aspirin pain relief-labeled products generally contain acetaminophen, but must be confirmed.

Many OTC meds may have negative interactions with other medications being taken and some may also have interactions with herbal products. Be sure to check with your pharmacist, doctor or local poison control center about possible interactions with any medications that you take.

Many popular OTC medications may contain the same active ingredients. This may present the possibility of double dose of the same active ingredient. For example, Tylenol Sinus Congestion & Pain Nighttime Cool Burst Caplet®, Coricidin 'D' Cold, Flu, & Sinus Tablet®, and Alka-Seltzer Plus Cold Effer- vescent Tablets® all contain the same active ingredients.

REMEMBER – Always read the label before taking any medication and follow the directions carefully. If you or a loved one experiences a known or suspected adverse reaction to a medication, or have any other poison emergency or question, call the West Texas Regional Poison Center's 24-hour/365-day Bilingual Hotline at 1-800-222-1222.

Upcoming Events

Mar 17, Apr 14, May 19	Physical Therapy Lunch & Learn Series	Abilene, TX Contact: Kelly Cheek, Big Country
Mar 18	Neonatal Resuscitation Program (Full)	San Angelo, TX Contact: Patty Murphy, Permian
Mar 19	Wound Care	Comanche, TX Contact: Kelly Cheek, Big Country
Mar 19-20	ACLS	Amarillo, TX Contact: Karen Russell, Panhandle
Mar 21-22	ACLS Provider	San Angelo, TX Contact: Patty Murphy, Permian
Mar 26	Child Abuse Prevention Conference	Amarillo, TX Contact: Karen Russell, Panhandle
Mar 27	Champions for Children (Child Abuse Prevention)	Abilene, TX Contact: Kelly Cheek, Big Country
Mar 27-28	ACLS	Midland, TX Contact: Patty Murphy, Permian
Apr 1	Legal Issues	Brownwood, TX Contact: Kelly Cheek, Big Country
Apr 1-4	Parish Nursing & Health Advocate Basic Preparation Course	Amarillo, TX Contact: Karen Russell, Panhandle
April -May	Matter of Balance Training (for Seniors, open to the public) (Dates: Apr 2, 9, 16, 23 May 7, 14, 21)	Amarillo, TX Contact: Karen Russell, Panhandle
Apr 3	Nursing and the Law Conference	Amarillo, TX Contact: Karen Russell, Panhandle
Apr 7	Critical Care Class-Neuro	Midland, TX Contact: Patty Murphy, Permian
April -May	Trauma Nurse Core Curriculum (Apr 7-9, Apr 29-May 1, May 27-29)	Lubbock, TX Contact: Camy Brunson, Plains
Apr 24	Nursing Home Activity Director Update	Amarillo, TX Contact: Karen Russell, Panhandle
Apr 25	Annual Nurse Practitioner Symposium	Amarillo, TX Contact: Karen Russell, Panhandle

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



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