New Simulation Center Launched at Open House

A child seizes on a hospital bed shortly after arriving in the Emergency Room. Physicians quickly stabilize the infant and attempt to find out what might have caused the downward spiral. After questioning the mother and viewing radiology images of a fractured skull and ribs, along with other key indicators, the physicians begin to suspect this child has been abused and request investigation by Social Services.

Fortunately, no child was in danger this day. This was a training scenario using the life-like human patient simulator (HPS), SimNewB created by Laerdal. This particular scenario was developed by Case Western Reserve University and used as the first training scenario at the new state-of-the-art Clinical Skills and Simulation Center (CSSC) at the UTCOMC. The CSSC has two divisions. Clinical Skills is primarily utilized for surgery training, and the Medical Simulation Center provides training using HPS equipment.

On January 20, 2009, more than 200 guests watched the demonstration as residents played out the troubling scenario that they may encounter one day. Ron Buchheit, MD and Jacob Hennings, MD (pictured at left) provided visitors a glimpse of how the Simulation Center will be used to sharpen the skills of students and residents. David Seaberg, MD, UTCOMC Dean and Professor, stated, “This really does put us on the cutting edge of medical education by allowing us to practice clinical scenarios, seeing the diseases we are going to see in the hospitals as physicians. We can make errors here and we can learn from those, so we don’t make errors when we have to treat patients.”

Ben Dart, MD, Medical Director, and Rodney Westmoreland, Technical Director of the Simulation Center, introduced visitors to the innovative and progressive facility. Mr. Westmoreland commented, “We received some amazing assistance getting the Simulation Center set up by PHNS (a company that Erlanger Health System contracts for IT support), Multi-Media Solutions and Erlanger’s construction staff. They were able to take the concept of what we wanted to do without ever seeing such a setup before and design a solution for the wiring and the audio/visual equipment. The implementation of that design was flawless. We were able to set up the entire Center in one day when the human patient simulators were ready for installation. The construction crew worked diligently around the different schedules of the vendors during this complex project and was able to complete the entire project prior to the Open House.”

The facility currently has an adult (SimMan), an infant (SimBaby), a newborn (Newborn HAL), and a difficult delivery female (NOELLE) with fetus. Special thanks goes to Mike Enck, the Laerdal representative who lent us the SIM Man for the open house and helped set it up. CSSC will also receive SimMan 3G later this month, an advanced, completely wireless and mobile HPS.
Dean’s Update

The College of Medicine has had an active few months. The highlight during this period was the Open House for the new Simulation Center (see related story, page 1). This Center brings the College of Medicine to the cutting edge of medical education. Medicine is not practiced in silos such as physician or nursing treatment, but instead should be a team approach to providing quality medical care. The Simulation Center will allow us to train physicians, nurses, technicians and other healthcare providers together to develop teambuilding skills.

In addition to the opening of the Simulation Center, the Open House also highlighted the renovation of the Dean’s Office. This renovation allows more functionality which will increase productivity. Two new teleconference rooms were added within the College of Medicine.

Other educational initiatives accomplished this quarter included the submission of an Area Health Education Center grant to facilitate rural medical education in our region as well as introduce area high school students to the healthcare field. Two other initiatives that you will hear more in the next several months are the establishment of an Institute for Healthcare Improvement Open School and an Arnold Gold Humanism Society. Both of these innovative programs will help broaden our medical education platform in the quality and professionalism competencies.

In research, the National Children’s Study has begun its promotion of community engagement for Bradley County (more informational available at nationalchildrensstudy.gov). Our Principal Investigators, Marvin Hall, MD, and David Adair, MD, will be working with Emory University and Battelle Corporation research teams to implement this important study. We are also exploring the possibility of adding Morgan and Cumberland Counties to the study. Our nanomedicine project, a collaborative effort between UTCOMC, UTC and eSpin Corporation, continues to move forward with the submission of a federal appropriation and the preparation of a R41 NIH grant. The CILVR-C (Center for Independent Living Research) group also continues to work on projects related to community needs assessment, elder exercise programs, listening device research and on wheelchair cushion design.

Lastly, the College of Medicine continues to collaborate with Erlanger Health System to establish a Faculty Practice Plan. The Plan will allow us to build a primary care network to facilitate our clinical, educational, research and community service missions. The Practice Plan will facilitate, for the first time, an alignment of the clinical and academic strategic visions. The Plan will be set up to give more management responsibility of the clinical practice of medicine to the physicians. It is hoped that through this management structure, efficiencies in registration, scheduling, customer service, billing and collections will be achieved. Additionally, a new faculty compensation plan will be instituted that will recognize and reward the faculty for their work in a missions-based paradigm to include clinical productivity, scholarly activities, and administrative assignments. This new Faculty Practice Plan will allow the UTCOMC to continue to grow and develop as a first-class medical center.
Alan Kohrt, MD, FAAP New Chairman of Pediatrics

Alan Kohrt, MD, FAAP is the new Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Chattanooga and Medical Director at T.C. Thompson Children’s Hospital. Dr. Kohrt is a Professor of Pediatrics and a general pediatrician with special interest in children with chronic conditions, care coordination and quality improvement.

Prior to taking his new role, Dr. Kohrt was the Chief Quality Officer, Vice President at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and Associate Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at Emory University School of Medicine.

After completing his pediatric residency at Children’s Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Dr. Kohrt served with the National Health Service Corps in Northeastern Pennsylvania and then in private practice for 21 years. From 2000 to 2005 Dr. Kohrt was a Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine where he served as attending physician in the Division of General Pediatrics.

While in Pennsylvania, Dr. Kohrt developed several education and quality improvement programs for physicians and their practice staff, including Educating Physicians In Their Communities (EPIC) and served as co-chair for the National Initiative for Children’s Healthcare Quality (NICHQ) National Medical Home Learning Collaboratives.

Dr. Kohrt was elected to and served on the American Academy of Pediatrics Board of Directors from 2000-2005. He was the Pennsylvania Chapter’s Pediatrician of the Year in 1991 and a co-author of the original AAP Medical Home Statement.

Dr. Kohrt is married and he and his wife, Lois, have seven children.

Special Thanks

Marvin Hall, MD was presented with a plaque of appreciation from UTCOMC Dean David Seaberg, MD to thank him for serving as Interim Chair of the Department of Pediatrics since October 2002. His leadership during that time was instrumental in establishing clinical initiatives between T.C.Thompson Children’s Hospital, the Department of Pediatrics, and the community.

Welcome

Riddhi Doshi, MPH has recently joined the UTCOMC staff as technical writer. In addition to her Masters Degree in Public Health, Dr. Doshi holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery from the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences in India. Her experience with The Foundation for Medical Research in Mumbai includes raising research funds (writing grant proposals), developing study protocols, analyzing large data sets, and use of statistical packages (SPSS, Epi Info). She has several publications (included in this issue’s Publications, see page 5). Dr. Doshi has already started work on several projects with our faculty and looks forward to meeting more of the UTCOMC community soon.

Rodney Westmoreland has also joined the UTCOMC as technical director of the Clinical Skills and Simulations Center. He has background in IT support and experience with modeling and simulation in the U.S. Naval Reserve. See pages 1 and 2 for related stories.
Congratulations

UT Faculty Honored as Distinguished Physicians

David P. McCallie, MD, and Winston P. Caine, Jr., MD, were honored February 7, 2009 during the sixth annual Baroness Erlanger Foundation Distinguished Physician Brunch. The two physicians were chosen to be honored for their unquestionable character, as well as their commitment and excellence in medicine to the region’s medical community.

Dr. McCallie, a retired internal medicine physician and UTComC Professor of Internal Medicine, joined the Erlanger medical staff in 1952 and played a large role in the formation of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Hospital Authority Board. He was later named Chairman of Erlanger’s Board in 1975 and advocated the formation of a governmental and hospital authority.

Dr. Caine, a member of Erlanger’s medical staff for the past 30 years, specializes in internal medicine and hematology with Beacon Health Alliance. Dr. Caine is a Professor of Internal Medicine and Chief of the Division of Hematology with the UTComC.

Best wishes to these outstanding faculty for their exceptional achievements.

Mukta Panda, MD was recently nominated as the Deputy Editor for the Journal of Internal Medicine (JIM), the premier journal for Internal Medicine with international recognition. JIM publishes original clinical work with the broad field of general and internal medicine and its sub-specialties. It features original articles, reviews, and case reports. JIM also supports and organizes scientific meetings in the form of symposia within the scope of the journal.

Roger Deversa received the 2008 Humanitarian of the Year Award from Jackson State Community College. This is awarded in recognition of his humanitarian service to the college.

Research Coordinator Forum
Fourth Tuesdays
Brown Bag Lunch Series

Ethics in Research:
Questions from the Trenches
Don Klinefelter, PhD
UTC Faculty Emeritus

Tuesday, March 24, 2009
UTComC Conference Room 100
Suite 100 Whitehall Building

Pediatric Residents and Attending Physicians Selected for National Scholarship

Erlanger is making moves to becoming a smoke free campus, and some of our very own residents and attendings from T.C. Thompson Children’s Hospital are taking that one step further by becoming “Smoke Free Champions.” Pediatric residents Jennifer Williams and Sandy Varghese along with faculty members Jeannette Martin and Annamaria Church were selected from a national pool of applicants to attend “The Disseminated Best Practices to Promote Smoke Free Homes” conference in Anaheim, California hosted by the American Academy of Pediatrics. These physicians submitted proposals for policy and clinical changes for our hospital and our state and will be trained on how to be advocates for making smoke free homes a reality for our pediatric population. Their attendance will be supported via a generous grant from the Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute (FAMRI). The conference will be held February 25-27th and will be attended by pediatricians from across the country.
Publications


Presentations

Makdsi F. Transitions in care--communication is key. Poster presentation at the 9th Annual Meeting Southern Hospital Medicine. Atlanta, GA, 2008 Nov.

Makdsi F. Leaving against medical advice in a cocaine abuser. Poster presentation at the 9th Annual Meeting Southern Hospital Medicine, Atlanta, GA, 2008 Nov.
On 1/15/09 the FDA released a final guidance document on clinical trial adverse event reporting that limits the types of unanticipated problems that must be reported to the institutional review board, and for multi-site studies allows the sponsor (instead of the investigator) to take charge of assessing whether an adverse event is an unanticipated problem. The full guidance is available at http://www.fda.gov/cder/guidance/OC2008150fnl.pdf.

The following article is an excerpt from Medical Research Law & Policy Report 8 MRLR39, 1/21/09.

The FDA recommends that there be careful consideration of whether an adverse event (AE) is an unanticipated problem that must be reported to IRBs. FDA believes that only the following AEs should be considered as unanticipated problems that must be reported to the IRB.

- A single occurrence of a serious, unexpected event that is uncommon and strongly associated with drug exposure (such as angiodema, agranulocytosis, hepatic injury, or Stevens-Johnson syndrome);
- A single occurrence or more often a small number of occurrences, of a serious, unexpected event that is not commonly associated with drug exposure, but uncommon in the study population;
- Multiple occurrences of an AE that, based on an aggregate analysis, is determined to be an unanticipated problem; there should be a determination that the series of AEs represents a signal that they were not just isolated occurrences and involve risk to human subjects;
- An AE that is described or addressed in the investigator’s brochure, protocol, or informed consent documents, but occurs at a specificity or severity that is inconsistent with prior observations;
- A serious AE that is described or addressed in the investigator’s brochure, protocol, or informed consent documents, but for which the rate of occurrence in the study represents a clinically significant increase in the expected rate of occurrence; and
- Any other AE or safety finding that would cause the sponsor to modify the investigator’s brochure, study protocol, or informed consent documents, or would prompt other action by the IRB to ensure the protection of human subjects.

An investigator participating in a multi-site study may rely on the sponsor’s assessment and provide to the IRB a report of the unanticipated problem prepared by the sponsor. If the investigator knows that the sponsor reported directly to the IRB (by prior agreement) the investigator is not expected to provide the IRB with a duplicate copy of the report.

The guidance also described when an investigator should report an “unanticipated adverse device effect” (UADE) to the sponsor and IRB. UADE is “a serious adverse effect on health or safety or any life-threatening problem or death caused by, associated with, a device, if that effect, problem or death was not previously identified in nature, severity, or degree of incidence in the investigational plan or application, or any other unanticipated serious problem associated with a device that relates to the rights, safety, or welfare of subjects.”

The guidance states investigators must report UADEs to the sponsor as soon as possible, but no later than ten working days after the investigators learn of the event. [NOTE: UTCOMC IRB policy requires internal events to be reported with five days.] The device regulations require sponsors to submit reports to IRBs in a manner consistent with the reporting of IND (drug) regulations.

SAVE THE DATE: THURSDAY, 2/26/09, Jane Jordan, Deputy General Counsel at Emory University will be speaking at the UTCOMC Research Challenges 2009 Conference, Probasco Auditorium. Lunch is provided. There is no charge, but registration is required.
### Addiction Medicine Conference
**Thursday-Friday, February 19-20, 2009**
UTC University Center
Chattanooga, Tennessee

This one and a half day interdisciplinary conference is designed to increase the awareness of healthcare providers regarding the high prevalence of substance abuse disorders, to improve the ability to access and treat patients for substance abuse disorders and to assist healthcare providers to integrate treatment regimens designed to improve patient care outcomes.

### Research Challenges 2009
**UT COMC Office of Research Compliance**
**Thursday, February 26, 2009**
8:15 AM - 1:00 PM
Probasco Auditorium

The purpose of this educational session is designed to provide investigators and key personnel with federal and local policy as well as current research regarding:

- Responsible authorship
- Childhood comprehension and assent
- Health care literacy in Tennessee
- Disclosing physician-industry relations

### Faculty and Resident Development Series
**Monday, March 9, 2009**
Noon
Carol A. Schwab, JD, LLM,
Director of Medical/Legal Education
Probasco Auditorium

The objectives of this educational session is to teach participants how to:

- List the role of the medical record
- Describe how to make appropriate entries, corrections, additions, and deletions
- Identify abbreviations and symbols on JCAHO’s do not use list
- Describe the basic rules of confidentiality demanded by HIPAA
- Identify who owns the original medical records and describe the patient’s rights to his/her own records
- Identify how long patient medical records must be retained

### Fifth Annual Diabetes Regional Conference: Reducing Cardiometabolic Risk for the Diabetic
**Saturday, March 14, 2009**
UT Conference Center, Knoxville

This conference will provide the medical community with evidence-based interventions to improve health outcomes and quality of life for patients at increased risk. Thomas Giles, MD, Tulane University School of Medicine and regional experts will examine the challenges of coping with diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Participants will also learn how to optimize drug therapy for these patients without resulting in negative drug interactions. [www.tennessee.edu/cme/Diabetes2009](http://www.tennessee.edu/cme/Diabetes2009) or call 865-305-9190 for more information.

### Alper Humanitarian Lecture
**Friday, April 17, 2009**
Time to be determined
Probasco Auditorium

*Please see the UTCOMC Continuing Medical Education website (link below) for updated information*

### Family Medicine Update
**Wednesday - Saturday**
**June 10 - June 13, 2009**
The Chattanoogan
Chattanooga, Tennessee

www.UTCOMChatt.org/CME
2009 Annual Research Week Deadlines

The 2009 Annual Research Week will be held April 20-24, 2009. Abstracts selected for poster judging and oral presentations will be displayed all week in the Erlanger Medical Mall Lobby. Research and case report posters will be judged at Poster Rounds on Friday, April 24. Oral presentations will be held in the Probasco Auditorium. An awards dinner will be held at Pier 2 at the Landing. Deadlines are as follows:

Fri, 2/13/09: All abstract forms will be electronically submitted from the IRB office, given approval or exemption, to GME@erlanger.org.

Fri, 2/20/09: Blinded abstracts and score sheets will be distributed to the Scientific Review Committee for scoring.

Wed, 3/2/09: Scientific Review Committee members return scored abstract spreadsheet to the GME Office for tabulation.

Fri, 3/6/09: Scientific Review Committee meets at 12:00 to make final selections for posters and oral presentations (meeting may run until 2 PM).

Mon, 3/16/09: Departments and presenters notified of the Scientific Review Committee’s decisions.

Wed, 3/18/09: Poster presenters meet in the Probasco Auditorium at 8:00 AM for review of poster design guidelines and appointment scheduling with Mr. Stroud.

Wed, 3/18/09 through Wed, 3/25/09: Presenters meet by appointment with Mr. Stroud to submit a PowerPoint file with all text and graphic images for layout of posters, proofing, etc. Note: The presenter must submit a Computer Graphics Request form http://www.utcomchatt.org/docs/GraphicsRequest.pdf denoting the IRB exemption or approval # and signed by the program director or designee.

Mon, 3/30/09: Final proof approvals from authors/departments so printing can begin.

Fri, 4/17/09: All poster authors and/or residency staff or research coordinators will take their posters and presentation boards to the Medical Mall at 1:30 PM to assist Mr. Stroud, Research Office, and GME Office in setting up the poster displays.

Mon, 4/20 through Fri, 4/24/09: Posters on display in the Medical Mall.

Fri, 4/24/09: Case study poster and oral presentations are in the morning. Research poster and oral presentations are in the afternoon. Awards dinner in the evening at Pier 2 at the Landing.