InScope-2017-02-09: : Issues: InScope: Indiana University



Weekly news for faculty, staff and students from Indiana University School of Medicine

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February 9, 2017

Top News

Mock Site Visit 3 concludes today

Recent trip advances radiology in Sudan

Software improves quality of care for pediatric patients

IU trustees pass resolution in wake of executive orders on immigration

Research News

Increased access to long-acting contraception helps decrease unintended pregnancy rate

Faculty and Staff News

"How to Two-Step" video promotes mobile Duo app

Receive 20 percent day camp discount until Feb. 15

Free health screenings plus incentive for full-time faculty, staff

Student News

Evening of the Arts call-out meeting scheduled for Feb. 14

Opportunities

Feb. 24 is last day to register for RESPECT Center conference

Research equipment funding available from Indiana CTSI

Pediatric GI conference is March 17

HANDS in Autism hosts workshop series

Partner News

IU Health Physicians names Hough as service line administrator, kidney diseases

Events

2/13/2017

Seminar: Lung Cancer Chemo Prevention Targeting the Eicosanoid Axis

2/15/2017

Paul Helft, MD, presents "Prognosis Related Communication and End of Life Care Outcomes in Advanced Cancer".

2/16/2017

IU Simon Cancer Special Seminar presented by Martin

Fernandez-Zapico, MD

2/16/2017

Dean Hess Office Hours

View more events »

Top News

Mock Site Visit 3 concludes today

The final mock site visit to prepare for IU School of Medicine's April reaccreditation survey visit wraps up today. Faculty and staff scheduled to participate in the April site visit by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) engaged in a "dress rehearsal," following an itinerary similar to the actual survey visit. Mock evaluators visited three IU School of Medicine regional campuses--Fort Wayne, Muncie and West Lafayette--on Wednesday. These are the three campuses the LCME survey team will visit in April. The mock evaluators will issue a summary report to Dean Jay Hess today.

Look for more information about Mock Site Visit 3 in the coming days. The Road to Accreditation continues with these upcoming dates:

Update to LCME: Feb. 23

Update to LCME: March 24

LCME Survey Visit: April 23-27

BACK TO TOP

Recent trip advances radiology in Sudan

IU School of Medicine faculty member Richard Gunderman, MD, professor of radiology and imaging sciences, and second-year radiology resident Radya Osman, MD, recently traveled to Sudan to visit University of Khartoum where Dr. Osman completed her medical degree. Dr. Gunderman's lectures and books on professionalism and ethics inspired Dr. Osman to invite him to Khartoum. She found his use of history to provide insight and inspiration for the next generation of radiologists helpful and believed many students at University of Khartoum who come from "humble backgrounds" would appreciate his encouragement and insight.

"University of Khartoum is the largest and oldest university in Sudan and is considered one of the high ranked academic institutions in Africa. Some students are from rural areas and may be the first in their village to go to high school or university," Dr. Osman said. She estimates that up to 40 percent of the students at the medical school come from such backgrounds.

While in Sudan, Dr. Gunderman met university and medical school leadership and taught a two-day intensive course in pediatric radiology to residents and attending physicians in radiology and pediatrics. Approximately 450 physicians attended the course; some physicians came from as far away as Saudi Arabia. He also delivered public lectures with turnouts of approximately 1,500 attendees.

Dr. Gunderman expressed hope that this trip might be a first step in future collaboration between Indiana University and the University of Khartoum.

"We can provide valuable educational opportunities in Sudan, while our students, residents and faculty can learn a great deal about tropical medicine by visiting there," Dr. Gunderman said. "There are differences between the cultures but an underlying common humanity to which we can become better attuned."

BACK TO TOP

Software improves quality of care for pediatric patients

Two members of Indiana University School of Medicine have launched a startup to commercialize software targeting improvement in pediatric patient care.

The promise of information technology has been to improve quality, cut costs and increase patient satisfaction. By themselves, electronic health records, or EHRs, have failed to achieve those aims. Software that adds functionality to EHRs can assess patient risks, help physicians identify problems earlier and better document care quality. The result is earlier detection and treatment of problems and better health outcomes for children.

Dr. Stephen Downs, president, and Tammy Dugan, chief technology officer, founded Digital Health Solutions LLC. The company's first software product is CHICA, or Child Health Improvement through Computer Automation. Dugan said the mission behind starting Digital Health Solutions was to make the software available beyond Indianapolis to improve the quality of care of children nationwide.

"It's a population that doesn't get as much attention because of the reimbursement structures in hospitals," Dugan said. "We have a great piece of software, and we have had a lot of interest from people over the years. We want to get it out there so kids can benefit from it.

"CHICA has been in use at Eskenazi Hospital clinics for over a dozen years for more than 50,000 visits," she said. "It is mature, production-level software."

Downs said health care providers, including pediatricians, struggle with managing the thousands of primary care guidelines and recommendations for each patient visit.

"CHICA addresses this challenge by screening families in the waiting room," he said. "Families receive an electronic tablet upon arrival that asks 20 questions. Based on the family's responses, the software uses its prioritization process to select the most important issues for the physician to address during the visit. The family can provide information on a wide range of topics, including general preventive counseling, asthma, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism, domestic violence, iron deficiency, lead exposure, maternal depression, tuberculosis and more. It also allows physicians to alert patients to problems that may otherwise be overlooked."

For more, visit IU School of Medicine Newsroom.

BACK TO TOP

IU trustees pass resolution in wake of executive orders on immigration

The Indiana University Board of Trustees passed a resolution late last week in response to the uncertainty surrounding President Donald Trump's recent executive orders on immigration. The board passed the Feb. 3 resolution, as stated by board chair James T. Morris, to "reaffirm its commitment to Indiana University and what it stands for."

The trustees' resolution pledges support for the university's "strong commitment to its traditions of international engagement and to supporting IU students, faculty and staff affected by changes in immigration policy."

BACK TO TOP

Research News

Increased access to long-acting contraception helps decrease unintended pregnancy rate

Although rates of unintended pregnancy in the United States have declined, studies still show that nearly half of all pregnancies nationwide are unintended, which can have negative outcomes for both mothers and infants.

Jeffrey Peipert, MD, PhD, Clarence E. Ehrlich Professor and Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, says a key strategy to curb the rate of unintended pregnancies in the U.S. should include increasing access to and use of long-acting reversible contraception, such as intra-uterine devices (IUDs) and hormonal implants.

In an article published Feb. 2 in the New England Journal of Medicine, Dr. Peipert and first author Kathryn Curtis, PhD, of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, write that IUDs and hormonal implants are the most highly effective reversible methods of contraception, yet, a 2011-2013 study found that only a small proportion of women ages 15 to 44 who reported using contraceptives were using long-acting reversible contraception.

"What clinicians and patients do not recognize is that IUDs and hormonal implants are 20 times more effective than the pill, patches and rings," said Dr. Peipert, whose research includes studies on the effectiveness of long-acting reversible contraception

and programs that provide access to these methods.

For more details on the study, visit IU School of Medicine Newsroom.

BACK TO TOP

Faculty and Staff News

"How to Two-Step" video promotes mobile Duo app

Beginning Feb. 2, CAS logins for all IU faculty, staff, student employees, retirees and affiliates started requiring Two-Step Login (Duo). UITs recommends registering a smartphone or tablet with Two-Step Login (Duo) if possible, as these devices allow you to use Duo's mobile application, Duo Mobile. It runs on a smartphone or tablet, helping you authenticate quickly and easily. View this Duo Two-Step video for more information.

BACK TO TOP

Receive 20 percent day camp discount until Feb. 15

IUPUI Day Camps offer a variety of program options for children ages 5-12, including spring break camps, summer day camps and individual sports camps. The program's mission is to create a safe and encouraging environment where children develop healthy habits while engaged in activities designed to support success at any age, skill and ability level.

Camp listings and information are available at camps.iupui.edu. Receive a 20 percent discount on camp fees when you register by Wednesday, Feb. 15.

BACK TO TOP

Free health screenings plus incentive for full-time faculty, staff

All full-time IU faculty and staff and spouses on an IU medical plan are eligible for one free on-campus health screening per fiscal year--July 1 to June 9--that includes an incentive to participate.

Those completing the annual health screening are eligible for a \$100 (before tax) incentive. The offer also extends to spouses on an IU medical plan. Participants are administered a standard health screening to measure vital biometrics such as blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose levels and body mass index. If the screening is performed at your campus health center, there is no cost.

Visit the Healthy IU page for more details.

BACK TO TOP

Student News

Evening of the Arts call-out meeting scheduled for Feb. 14

Learn how you can get involved in this spring's Evening of the Arts event at a call-out meeting from noon-1 pm, Tuesday, Feb. 14, in MSB 26. Performers, artists and volunteers are needed for this annual event showcasing the creative talents of IU School of Medicine students, faculty and staff. Evening of the Arts 2017 will be held on Saturday, April 8, at Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet School.

BACK TO TOP

Opportunities

Feb. 24 is last day to register for RESPECT Center conference

Registration for this year's RESPECT Center palliative care conference closes Friday, Feb. 24. Participants may register online for this year's conference, "Let's Talk Palliative Care: Challenges, Controversies, and the Cutting Edge," which will be held Friday, March 3, at The Ritz Charles in Carmel, Indiana.

The all-day conference features keynote speaker Angelo Volandes, MD, Harvard Medical School. For more information, visit the **RESPECT Center website** or contact Laura Holtz, RESPECT Center project manager, at (317) 274-9114 or holtzl@iupui.edu.

BACK TO TOP

Research equipment funding available from Indiana CTSI

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTS) is accepting proposals from CTSI-designated, IU School of Medicine-based cores requesting support for the purchase of equipment to enhance the research environment and contribute to the research mission of the school and the CTSI. Up to \$100,000 is available, and proposals requesting \$5,000-\$100,000 will be accepted. Requests for equipment costing more than \$100,000 will be entertained if matching funds to cover the balance are identified.

Deadline to submit proposals is Friday, March 24. For more information, view Core Equipment Grant Program guidelines.

BACK TO TOP

Pediatric GI conference is March 17

Plan now to attend next month's Pediatric GI for the Primary Care Clinician conference. Hosted by the IU School of Medicine Department of Pediatric Gastroenterology, the event will be held from 7:30 am-noon, Friday, March 17, at The Ritz Charles in Carmel, Indiana.

Designed for physicians and allied health care providers specializing in family medicine and pediatrics, the program will provide learners with updates in the clinical management of important and commonly seen pediatric disorders of gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition.

Download the flyer to learn more about the conference its course objectives. To register, visit the Division of Continuing Medical Education webpage.

BACK TO TOP

HANDS in Autism hosts workshop series

From now through June, HANDS in Autism is conducting a series of three-day workshops focused on providing hands-on experience and coaching in a simulated work environment. HANDS Model in Practice: Intensive Transition and Vocational Programming Workshops are designed for employment service providers, job coaches and employment service managers who provide services through vocational rehabilitation. Individuals with disabilities participate in the training, facilitating a rich learning environment for all.

The HANDS in Autism Interdisciplinary Training and Resource Center extends the outreach and training offered by the Christian Sarkine Autism Treatment Center at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health and Indiana University School of Medicine.

For more information about the workshops, view this informational flyer.

BACK TO TOP

Partner News

IU Health Physicians names Hough as service line administrator, kidney diseases

Jeremy Hough will join IU Health Physicians Monday, Feb. 13, as service line administrator for kidney diseases. Hough most recently served as operations director in the Franciscan Physician Network. His previous management experience includes director of informatics for the St. Francis Medical Group, director of IT for Indiana Heart Physicians and chief information officer for Northwest Radiology Network. Hough earned a Master of Health Administration degree from Indiana University and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Indianapolis.

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