December 29, 2004

Sound Medicine to Discuss Gender Studies and Prescribing to the Elderly

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Huntington's Disease Program Receives National Recognition

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December 23, 2004

New Test May Help Overcome Barriers to Colon Cancer Screening

INDIANAPOLIS — A new option for non-invasive colorectal cancer testing may encourage some people who avoid screening for the deadly disease to be tested.

A study published in the Dec. 23 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine reports that a non-invasive test for DNA mutations present in stool has an encouraging rate of detecting colorectal cancer compared to the standard non-invasive method -- fecal occult (hidden) blood stool testing. However, neither approached the detection rate of colonoscopy, an invasive procedure.

“A simple, non-invasive test that detects tumor-specific products with reasonable sensitivity and specificity might overcome barriers to screening among persons who are not willing to have a more invasive test, such as colonoscopy,” said Thomas Imperiale, M.D., professor of medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine and a research scientist at the Regenstrief Institute.

The study was conducted at 81 sites by Dr. Imperiale and colleagues of the Colorectal Cancer Study Group. They report that in average risk and with asymptomatic individuals the fecal occult blood test -- which tests blood in the stool -- found only 13 percent of colorectal cancers; while the new stool DNA test detected 52 percent of the cancers. Colonoscopy, which is presumed to find all colon cancers, is the “gold standard” against which all other tests are measured.

Typically, colorectal cancer develops slowly over a period of several years, usually beginning as a growth of tissue known as a polyp that develops on the lining of the colon or rectum. Most cancerous lesions bleed intermittently, however many precancerous polyps do not bleed. Absence of fecal occult blood cannot rule out cancer or precancerous lesions.

Previous studies have found that polyps as well as cancerous lesions may shed abnormal DNA. It is this DNA which the stool DNA panel analyzes. Although researchers found that the majority of precancerous polyps discovered during colonoscopy were not detected by either non-invasive test, they report that the stool DNA panel detected a greater proportion than did analysis of stool blood.

Despite national guidelines recommending screening, fewer than half of American adults aged 50 years and older have had a recent examination for colorectal cancer at the proper intervals according to Centers for Disease Control.

“There are many reasons why people don’t get screened for colon cancer,” said Dr. Imperiale. “Some individuals do not want colonoscopy because of discomfort despite conscious sedation, its inconvenience, or its risk for complications; others are unwilling to smear stool samples on a card for the occult blood test every year.”
New Test May Help Overcome Barriers to Colon Cancer Screening

The stool DNA panel test, which requires a single sample expelled from the body directly into a container, gives people who are not getting screened with any of the currently available methods, another noninvasive option.

According to the American Cancer Society, colon cancer is the third leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States.

The study was funded by grants from EXACT Sciences, Inc., manufacturer of the stool DNA panel.

# # #

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December 22, 2004

**Sound Medicine Special Airing: HIV/AIDS Symposium**

INDIANAPOLIS — Sound Medicine will air a special program on the international HIV/AIDS symposium, "HIV/AIDS Care in the Developing World: Lessons Learned and the Way Forward," hosted by the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Sound Medicine co-host, Eric Meslin, PhD, moderated a panel discussion of medical professionals from various organizations including the World Health Organization, the United Nations and People with AIDS. This weekend's Sound Medicine airs portions of that discussion.

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December 21, 2004

Genetically Targeted Therapies Take Aim at Health Care Business

INDIANAPOLIS — Pharmacogenomics, the study of how genes affect individual responses to drugs, has the potential to spark a major reform of the health care and pharmaceuticals industries, according to a commentary published in the current issue of Nature Medicine by faculty of the Indiana University Program in Pharmacogenomics, Ethics and Public Policy.

Commentary co-authors Barbara Evans, Ph.D., J.D., David Flockhart, M.D., Ph.D., and Eric Meslin, Ph.D., think pharmacogenomics will have major implications for the way health care will be delivered and financed in the future.

Pharmacogenomics has the potential to reduce trial and error in health care through tests that can identify which patients are likely to have a good response to a particular drug therapy. The goal is to target specific drugs to specific patients by using genetic information to increase treatment successes and reduce adverse reactions.

The authors note that many of the health care industry's prescription practices date to a time when prescribing was more an art than a science.

"For example, the usual practice today is that patients and insurers must pay, even if a treatment fails to work," said Dr. Evans, a senior scientist in the Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Medicine. "As well-targeted therapies become more commonplace, people may start to question that rule."

An economist and attorney, Dr. Evans has been heavily involved over the past 20 years in restructuring of regulated industries in the United States, Russia, Central Asia and the Middle East.

In the future, the authors anticipate health care providers and drug manufacturers will bear a larger share of the costs associated with drug-treatment failures that occur when therapies are not well targeted.

According to Dr. Evans, it has been estimated that only 60 percent of prescriptions produce the desired therapeutic benefits in patients. The remaining 40 percent either fail to produce a positive response or occasionally harm the patient.

"In 2002, overall prescription drug spending in the United States was approximately $162 billion," said Dr. Evans. "A quick calculation suggests that up to $65 billion (or 40 percent of this total) may have been spent on drugs that, for one reason or another, did not help the patient get well. Pharmacogenomics only addresses some of these treatment failures -- those that have genetic roots. Still, the numbers are so large that even a small improvement in targeting could save billions of dollars."

Restructuring is contentious in any industry, but it poses especially tough challenges in health care, such as
Genetically Targeted Therapies Take Aim at Health Care Business

complex ethical, social and community concerns, the authors note. Even when change is beneficial for the industry as a whole, there can be windfall gains and losses for individual stakeholders and prospective losers may have incentives to resist.

Experience in other industries shows that daunting problems of this type can be successfully resolved. Dr. Evans says this typically requires a careful exchange among industry stakeholders and skillful regulatory policy to ensure that the costs and benefits of change are shared in a fair way among all industry participants.

The co-authors are members of the Indiana University Center for Bioethics and its Program in Pharmacogenomics, Ethics and Public Policy. PEPP seeks to clarify the various effects of pharmacogenomics on clinical practice, research ethics, economic and industry structure, and legal and regulatory issues.

Dr. Evans directs PEPP. Dr. Flockhart is a physician and pharmacogeneticist who directs the IU School of Medicine Division of Clinical Pharmacology and whose current research and clinical trial activities focus on breast cancer. Dr. Meslin is director of the IU Center for Bioethics and previously served as executive director of the National Bioethics Advisory Commission.

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December 16, 2004

Caffeine Withdrawal and Reducing Holiday Stress on Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this week’s Sound Medicine will discuss caffeine withdrawal, the connection between antidepressants and bone growth, reducing holiday stress, and how acting confident can make you become so.

Roland Griffiths, PhD, professor of psychiatry and neurosciences at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, will discuss the most widely used mood-altering drug in the world – caffeine. Dr. Griffiths co-authored a recent study about caffeine withdrawal that was published in the journal Psychopharmacology.

Stuart Warden, PhD, assistant professor of physical therapy at the Indiana University School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, will discuss his recent study connecting Prozac and decreased bone growth in children and adolescents. Warden’s study was published recently in the journal Endocrinology.

Mary Dankoski, PhD, clinical assistant professor of family medicine at IU School of Medicine, will give tips on how to reduce stress during the holidays.

Not sure you can do something people ask of you? Kelly Gallagher-Kiley, a clinical social worker in Indianapolis, will discuss how "Acting as If" you can may solve the problem.

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# # #

Media Contact:

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December 9, 2004

Sound Medicine to Discuss Pertussis Outbreak and Addiction

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this week’s Sound Medicine will discuss Indiana's pertussis outbreak, treatments for addiction, and the newest tools used to educate surgery students and residents.

It's that time of year when the flu is on the minds of many. However, Indiana State Department of Health epidemiologist Wayne Staggs will give an update on a different kind of ailment. He will discuss the pertussis outbreak in Indiana and the recommendations regarding a booster vaccine.

Frank Vocci, PhD, director of the Division of Treatment Research and Development at the National Institute on Drug Abuse, will explain developments in addiction research. He will discuss how some drugs used for other conditions may be helpful in treating addictive behavior by curtailing the high that addicts experience.

David Canal, MD, director of the Indiana University Center for Surgical Education and associate professor of general surgery, will discuss virtual reality in the surgical suite and the newest tools used to train surgical residents.

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This Week on *Sound Medicine*: NPR Science Correspondent Encourages Students to Study the Sciences, Adult Genetics Clinic, Doctors Dealing with Cancer, and Patients Surveyed Dissatisfied with Their Health Care.

Read story...
December 8, 2004

Huntington's Disease Program Receives National Recognition

INDIANAPOLIS — The Huntington’s disease program at Indiana University School of Medicine has been recognized as a Center of Excellence, one of only four such designations bestowed nationally this year by the Huntington’s Disease Society of America.

The designation includes funding support of $50,000 a year for a multidisciplinary team of health-care professionals with expertise in Huntington’s disease. The team provides comprehensive medical and social services, education, outreach and research opportunities to patients.

The Huntington’s disease clinic provides patients and their families with access to multiple services including genetic testing and counseling, psychiatry, physical and occupational therapy, caregiver and patient support, and education and community outreach programs.

With the funding, the Huntington’s disease team intends to augment its social and support services for patients and families, said center director Kimberly A. Quaid, Ph.D., professor of clinical medical and molecular genetics, of clinical psychiatry and of clinical medicine.

Co-director of the center is Joanne Wojcieszek, M.D., associate professor of neurology. Other members of the IU team are Tatiana Foroud, Ph.D., associate professor of medical and molecular genetics; Julie Stout, Ph.D., adjunct associate professor of psychiatry; and Patricia Wolf, B.S.N., clinical coordinator.

Huntington’s disease is an inherited degenerative disease that progressively robs patients of their thinking, control of their emotions and their ability to perform coordinated tasks. It typically begins in mid-life, between the ages of 30 and 50.

Each child of an affected parent has a 50 percent risk for inheriting the disease. There is no effective treatment or cure for this fatal illness, which affects 30,000 Americans and places another 200,000 at risk.

IU School of Medicine has long been a leader in Huntington’s disease research. In 1983, Dr. P. Michael Conneally, Ph.D., and his colleagues at IU, in collaboration with an international group of genetics researchers, located the first DNA marker for the disease on chromosome 4. In 1984, the IU Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics established the world’s first DNA bank, which was created to store individual and family DNA samples for future genetic testing for many different disorders, including Huntington’s disease.

IU, in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health, founded the National Research Roster for Huntington Disease Patients and Families, which is a nationwide registry and resource for research.
The other new HDSA Centers of Excellence are UCLA’s David Geffen Medical Center, Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, and the University of South Florida in Tampa. The Society currently supports 17 other HDSA Centers of Excellence in the United States.

The Huntington’s Disease Society of America is the only voluntary, non-profit health agency dedicated to both the care and cure of Huntington’s Disease. HDSA consists of more than 35 volunteer based chapters and affiliates, including a chapter in Indiana, and 21 Centers of Excellence. In 2003, HDSA funded more than $3.5 million in Huntington’s disease research and more than $4 million for clinical care.

For additional information on the IU program and services, call 317-274-5744. To make an appointment at the Huntington’s disease clinic, call 317-278-5450. For more information about Huntington’s disease or HDSA, call 1-800-345-HDSA, or visit the web at www.hdsa.org.

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December 6, 2004

Diabetics With Mental Disorders at Increased Risk for Diabetic Complications

INDIANAPOLIS — Diabetics with mental disorders do not have as good blood sugar control as diabetics without mental illness and are more likely to suffer one or more diabetes complication including loss of kidney function, loss of sensation in the feet, and visual problems (including blindness) than diabetics without mental illness, according to a study published in the December issue of Medical Care.

“This study provides a solid foundation for further work into understanding whether provider, patient or system factors can be modified to ensure better overall care of diabetic patients with mental disorders,” said Caroline Carney, M.D., M.Sc., associate professor of psychiatry and medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine and a research scientist at the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. Dr. Carney is the senior author of the study which looked at insurance claims data from more than 26,000 diabetic adults between the ages of 18 and 64 living in Iowa.

“Even when we controlled for utilization of healthcare services, diabetics with mental disorders did less well at controlling their diabetes and had more complications than diabetics who had no mental health complaints,” said Dr. Carney.

The researchers found that diabetics with mental disorders were more likely to be young, female, and urban residents and to make greater use of healthcare services than the diabetics without mental illness. Mental disorders presented by the diabetics in the study include mood, adjustment, anxiety, cognitive, psychotic, substance abuse and sexual disorders.

“These findings underscore the need for physicians to treat the whole patient – not simply the mental disorders or the physical complaints,” said Dr. Carney who is both an internist and a psychiatrist.

The study was supported by the National Institute of Mental Health.

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December 3, 2004

**IU Cancer Center Honored With Renewal of NCI Designation**

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University Cancer Center again has been recognized as a premier cancer center by the National Cancer Institute with the renewal of its clinical cancer center designation and a four-year, $4.9 million grant.

The IU Cancer Center first received the prestigious NCI designation in 1999. Centers must be reviewed periodically to determine if they continue to meet the strict criteria required of Clinical Cancer Centers.

“The recognition by the NCI of our cancer center grant reaffirms and supports the quality of our cancer research and treatment and means that we are one of the elite institutions in the country,” said Stephen D. Williams, MD, director of the IU Cancer Center and the H.H. Gregg Professor of Oncology at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Grant funding awarded to IU cancer researchers has continued to grow in recent years. Since the original NCI designation was awarded, research dollars have nearly doubled; total research grants expected in 2004 is $59 million, compared to $29.4 million in 1999. The membership of the IU Cancer Center has doubled since the initial NCI designation with 150 current researchers, oncologists and nursing specialists.

Only 61 institutions currently hold NCI Clinical Cancer Center designations. The IU Cancer Center is the only one in Indiana so recognized, but shares NCI honors with Purdue University, which is designated as a basic scientific research center.

“The researchers, physicians and other health care professionals who comprise the IU Cancer Center are dedicated to finding answers to the cause of cancer and to improving the quality of life of patients through their research,” said D. Craig Brater, M.D., dean of the IU School of Medicine. “This recognition is much deserved but it is the cancer patients who are the real winners because they will reap the benefits of the future research efforts stimulated by this grant funding.”

Members and collaborators of the IU Cancer Center are on the faculties of the IU schools of medicine, nursing, dentistry and allied health sciences, as well as the science departments at IU and Purdue University.

Cancer research at IU is possible through the support of organizations such as the Walther Cancer Institute, Riley Children's Foundation through the Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research, the Indiana Lions Cancer Control Fund, the Indiana Order of the Elks, Clarian Health Partners, the National Cancer Institute, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Vera Bradley Foundation and the Catherine Peachey Fund.
IU Cancer Center Honored With Renewal of NCI Designation

For additional information on the IU Cancer Center, see http://iucc.iu.edu/.

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Children and the Environment Discussed on Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Topics on this week’s Sound Medicine include the effects of the environment on children’s health, genetic counseling, and another installment about gross anatomy lab at the University of Maryland Medical School.

More than 80,000 synthetic chemicals and metals are currently used in the United States. Discussing the impact of environmental toxins on children’s health will be Ted Schettler, MD, science director of the Science and Environmental Health Network and Stephen Jay, MD, chairman of the Indiana University Department of Public Health.

Barbara Kunz, cancer genetic counselor at the Humphrey Cancer Center at North Memorial Medical Center in Minneapolis, will discuss genetic testing and the role of a genetic counselor. She will discuss the importance of knowing your family’s cancer history as well as tools to help you do so.

National Public Radio correspondent Melissa Block will bring listeners the second part of “Gross Anatomy Class” that follows the University of Maryland medical students on their first day in anatomy lab.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. Barbara Lewis is the program’s host. Co-hosts this week are David Crabb, MD, and Stephen Bogdewic, PhD.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu/.

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December 1, 2004

Zionsville Teacher Honors Doctor Who Saved His Life

INDIANAPOLIS — Cancer survivor John Cleland has been recognized as a Sagamore of the Wabash by Gov. Joe Kernan.

Cleland, who teaches science at Zionsville High School, was one of the first patients to test what has become the gold standard in testicular cancer chemotherapy treatments nearly 30 years ago. He was presented with the "Sagamore" and an Indiana University Cancer Center Cancer Survivorship Award Tuesday, Nov. 30, at the Indiana University Cancer Center Celebrating Survivorship event for his role in the landmark clinical trial.

In turn, Cleland and his wife Judy made a special presentation of their own to Lawrence H. Einhorn, M.D., IU Distinguish Professor, and Cleland's oncologist. In 2002, Cleland was one of the Hoosiers who carried an Olympic torch through the state on its way to the Salt Lake City Olympics.

On Tuesday, he presented the torch to Dr. Einhorn as a symbol of his life-long appreciation for developing the chemotherapy regime that cured Cleland of advanced testicular cancer. That same treatment protocol has been adopted world-wide as the treatment for testicular cancer, which frequently strikes young men during their prime.

The Survivorship event brought together testicular cancer survivors to discuss advances in cancer treatments. The keynote speaker was Doug Ulman, director of survivorship services with the Lance Armstrong Foundation.

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December 1, 2004

Visual Media Productions Receive International Acclaim

INDIANAPOLIS — While you won’t find these movies at local cinemas or the Cannes Film Festival, two productions of the Office of Visual Media at Indiana University School of Medicine are in the international spotlight.

Visual Media was honored with its second Crystal Award of Excellence and its fifth Award of Distinction in the 2003 Video Competition category of The Communicator Awards, an international program established by communication professionals.

The Crystal Award of Excellence was given for the video production “Tomorrow’s Medicine.” The feature peers into the future of lung cancer by proposing techniques for the diagnosis and treatment of this disease that may be available 30 years from now.

“Tomorrow’s Medicine” was produced in association with the School’s Centennial Celebration as a joint venture with the School’s Office of Public and Media Relations and the Indiana State Museum.

A CD-ROM titled “Consider Indianapolis” was honored with an Award of Distinction. Used to inform prospective medical residents about the School of Medicine and the City of Indianapolis, the feature incorporates music videos, interviews of current residents, photography and Flash animation to showcase the many qualities of both the school and the area. The Award of Distinction recognizes projects that exceed industry standards and are of exceptional quality.

Nearly 3,000 entries were submitted for this year’s contest, a prestigious competition that honors excellence across the spectrum of communication, including video, film and multimedia, advertising and public relations, broadcast and cable television, corporate communications and government agencies.

The Office of Visual Media offers a full range of professional media services to the general public in graphic design, illustration, video/multimedia, photography and print. More information can be found on the Web at http://visualmedia.iusm.iu.edu.

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Brain Remapping May Be Key to Recovery from Stroke

INDIANAPOLIS — People suffering from paralysis due to stroke or traumatic brain injury may be able to reprogram their brains to improve motor skills and to control artificial limbs, according to an Indiana University School of Medicine study being presented at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA).

Using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) and a “cyberglove” to record brain changes during motor activities, IU School of Medicine researchers demonstrated that people can learn to remap, or redirect, motor commands. This is an important step in stroke recovery and in training strategies for brain-machine interfaces—conduits between the brain and artificial limbs.

“For stroke patients and others who have a brain deficit, coordinating what they see with body movement is very difficult,” said the study’s lead author Kristine Mosier, D.M.D., Ph.D., IU School of Medicine assistant professor of radiology. “The brain must remap or relearn the process of matching visual input with sensory input. Our study demonstrated that individuals can learn to remap motor commands.”

When neurons—the primary cells of the nervous system that make all thought, feeling and movement possible—are damaged by a stroke or brain injury, other neurons take over for them. But until now, scientists weren’t sure which neurons compensated for damaged neurons, or how the brain cells learned their new jobs.

Dr. Mosier’s study simulated a learning problem by having 17 healthy adults wear a synthetic glove with fiber-optic cables on their dominant hand. The glove translated hand movements into signals, which were sent to the computer and transformed into the two-dimensional position of a cursor on the computer screen. The subjects were then asked to align the cursor with 50 different targets while researchers used fMRI to observe which areas of the brain controlled the intricate movements of the hand. fMRI uses radio waves and a strong magnetic field to image the body. It can identify signs that neurons in a specific area of the brain are “firing,” that is, processing information and giving commands to the body.

“Once we understand which part of the brain network does what, we will be able to tailor physical therapy approaches to an individual’s brain deficit,” Dr. Mosier explained. “Similarly, we’ll be able to work with surgical patients ahead of time, laying the groundwork for re-learning before they undergo surgery on a particular part of the brain.”

In addition to offering insight into the rehabilitation of stroke and brain injury patients, the study provides valuable information for the development of training strategies for brain-machine interfaces, which enable patients with brain injuries to operate external devices, such as artificial limbs, using only their brain signals.
Brain Remapping May Be Key to Recovery from Stroke

This new technology requires implanting electrodes in the brain to pick up movement-producing signals from neurons. A computer then translates those brain signals into commands instructing a robotic device to move.

“As we get a better understanding of what areas in the brain are involved in the remapping process, we’ll be able to determine the optimal place in the brain to place the electrodes,” Dr. Mosier said. Co-authors of the study are Yang Wang, M.D., Robert Scheidt, Ph.D., Santiago Acosta, M.S., and Ferdinando Mussa-Ivaldi, Ph.D.

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
Coping with Holiday Stress

INDIANAPOLIS — As the year ends and holiday excitement increases so does stress, according to Mary Dankoski, Ph.D., an Indiana University School of Medicine faculty member, and marriage and family therapist. Although it's impossible to totally eliminate holiday stress she advises there are ways to reduce stress and make the holidays more enjoyable.

• Examine your expectations for the season. If a perfect holiday is a 10, scale back your expectations to an eight or even a seven. Refrain from trying to achieve a story-book season, keep your sense of humor, and take a realistic approach to the holidays.

• Go into the holiday season with a sense of what's important to you as a parent or a family. Determine what your budget will allow and if necessary, convey that information to your children so their expectations are realistic. "Don't get sucked into the culture of consumerism," she cautions.

• People tend to keep traditions going that long ago stopped being fun. Discuss modifying or eliminating traditions that no longer have meaning and perhaps starting new ones which focus on family connectedness and sharing.

• Be aware of old family patterns. Reflect on our roles within the family and recognize that we have a choice in family dynamics. While we can't change how others act, we can change how we react.

• If we see aging parents once a year that annual visit carries heavy emotional baggage for both parents and adult children. The two generations should try to connect on an adult-to-adult level. The parents need to come to terms with the fact that their children are no longer children and the children should try to resist the impulse to treat their parents like children. The goal is to connect as peers.

• Exercising, eating as well as you can in spite of all that wonderful holiday fare, and keeping up with your sleep should be the first thing you do when under stress. Don't neglect your own needs.

• Focus on whatever the holiday means to you and your family.

Dr. Dankoski is assistant professor of clinical family medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine and president-elect of the Indiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

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Coping with Holiday Stress

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November 29, 2004

Men Sought For Viral Vaccine Study At IU

INDIANAPOLIS — The human papillomavirus, which can cause genital warts and cervical cancer, is one of the most common sexually transmitted disease.

Each year, millions of men and women in the United States are infected with the virus. To date, there is no known cure but researchers at Indiana University School of Medicine are working toward a way to prevent HPV infection. Male volunteers are needed for a study of an experimental vaccine that may prevent the virus.

The study at IU seeks healthy males between the ages of 16 and 23 years of age who can be available for the three-year course of the study. Men who have been diagnosed with genital warts are not eligible to participate. Volunteers will be compensated for their time and travel.

Other vaccine studies for prevention of HPV infection in women have been in the news of late as a result of the positive initial results; however this is the first HPV vaccine study open solely to men.

Nearly half a million women worldwide develop cervical cancer each year. In Third World nations, cervical cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer death in women. Men can be carriers of HPV.

Researchers are optimistic about the outcome of studies of HPV vaccines for women. Initial studies show that women given the vaccine appear to be protected against infection for at least two years. Additional studies of the vaccines in women are ongoing at IU School of Medicine to help determine if a long-term immune response is generated.

For additional information on the HPV vaccine study for men, contact an IU research nurse at 317-278-2945.

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Sound Medicine to Feature Sex Research, Alzheimer’s Disease, and Gross Anatomy Lab

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this week’s Sound Medicine will discuss the Kinsey Institute for Sex, Gender, and Reproduction, tips to make a home safe for Alzheimer’s patients, and the first day of anatomy lab for medical students.

Julia Heiman, PhD, is the director of the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction in Bloomington, Indiana. Dr. Heiman will join us to discuss new research and the resurgence of attention to the institute triggered by the recently released film, Kinsey.

Reza Ahmadi, associate professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences and program director of interior design at Ball State University, will discuss the challenges of living with and caring for an individual suffering from Alzheimer’s. Professor Ahmadi will also provide tips on how to prepare a home for an Alzheimer’s resident.

National Public Radio correspondent Melissa Block will present a look at Maryland Medical School. She’ll be joining students on their first day in gross anatomy lab and their first meeting with human cadavers.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. Barbara Lewis is the program’s host. Co-host this week is David Crabb, MD.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu/.

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Sound Medicine to Feature Sex Research, Alzheimer’s Disease, and Gross Anatomy Lab

News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
November 18, 2004

Psoriasis, Tinman Gene and More on This Week’s Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this week’s Sound Medicine will discuss cancer in Indiana, new psoriasis treatments, the Tinman gene, and addiction.

Greg Wilson, MD, Indiana State Health commissioner, will discuss Indiana cancer statistics. Cancer is the second leading cause of death for adult Hoosiers. (Heart disease is first.) Dr. Wilson also will talk about the collaboration between the Indiana State Department of Health and Indiana Cancer Consortium that created The Indiana Cancer Control Plan 2005-2008.

Stephen Wolverton, MD, Indiana University professor of clinical dermatology, will discuss psoriasis. Though persistent, this skin disorder is not life-threatening and is treatable. Dr. Wolverton will present new treatment options for those suffering from psoriasis.

Christine Seidman, MD, professor of medicine and genetics at Harvard University Medical School, will talk about the Tinman gene, which was found to control heart development in fruit flies. She will discuss how this discovery has helped humans with heart problems.

Addiction will be the focus of Kelly Gallagher-Kiley’s commentary; she is a clinical social worker in Indianapolis and new contributor to Sound Medicine.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. Barbara Lewis is the program’s host. Co-hosts this week are David Crabb, MD, and Kathy Miller, MD.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at soundmedicine.iu.edu/.

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November 18, 2004

**IU Medical Group Opens Lung Center at NIFS**

INDIANAPOLIS — Help has arrived for those looking to breathe a little easier. The IU School of Medicine’s Lung Center is now available to teach individuals about asthma and other lung diseases, or simply how to improve overall pulmonary health.

Within the lung center, health education, research and disease management come together to provide services for pulmonary diseases.

The center will educate the community about asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, the anatomy of the lungs, proper use of medications and correct breathing techniques.

In addition to its educational services, the lung center also conducts screenings for the asthma registry and current asthma studies.

Free classes, open to all ages, will be offered at the National Institute of Fitness and Sports on the IUPUI campus. Other services include nicotine cessation programs and support groups.

The lung center director is Michael F. Busk, M.D., M.P.H., associate professor of medicine and medical director at NIFS, and is supported by the American Lung Association. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact Janet Hutchins, R.N., center coordinator at (317) 274-7397.

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Women's Center takes its Message to Hoosier 'Heart' Land

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University National Center of Excellence in Women's Health has set its sights on educating Hoosier women about the dangers of heart disease and will do so in collaboration with similar groups in other states.

The center has contracted with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health to provide educational programs for women and health-care providers. The plan includes launching an outreach program in rural areas about heart disease in women and use presentations developed by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute’s Heart Truth campaign.

The center, based at the IU School of Medicine, will collaborate with similar centers at the University of Minnesota Medical School and non-academic medical centers based in Delaware and Vermont.

Cardiovascular disease kills 500,000 American women annually and is a leading cause of death, according to the American Heart Association.

"We greatly appreciate the support of the Office on Women's Health for this program," says Rose S. Fife, M.D., director of the IU CoE program. "This support, coupled with our partnerships with others dedicated to women's health issues, will provide us with a wonderful opportunity to increase communities' awareness about heart disease in women."

For more information about the IU National Center of Excellence in Women's Health, call 317-630-2243 or email program coordinator Tina Darling at tdarling@iupui.edu.

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Computer Assisted Standing Orders Improve Adult Immunization Rates

INDIANAPOLIS — Computer-assisted standing orders for nurses significantly improve influenza and pneumonia immunization rates for adult hospital patients. According to the authors of a new study, this approach should have broad application to a wide range of preventive care interventions such as cancer and osteoporosis screening in non-hospital settings.

In the study published in the Nov.17 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association, Paul Dexter, M.D., and Clement McDonald, M.D., and their Indiana University School of Medicine and Regenstrief Institute, Inc. colleagues report that computer-assisted standing orders for nurses achieve even higher rates of adult inpatient immunization than computerized physician reminders.

In a previous study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, the same researchers demonstrated that computerized reminders delivered to physicians increased inpatient ordering rates of influenza and pneumonia vaccine dramatically (approximately 50 fold) over non-reminded rates, but fell far short of national vaccination goals.

“Computerized physician reminders would be the preferable approach when physician judgment is required, but decisions about many safe interventions like the administration of flu and pneumonia shots and cancer screening that are based largely on simple criteria such as patient age and diagnoses can be done better by nurses following computer based standing orders,” said Dr. Dexter, associate professor of clinical medicine.

The computer can do all the work of scrutinizing the medical record to find the patients who need the preventive care intervention and then signal the nurse about them. The nurse can then verify the criteria with the patient and deliver the intervention. This improves the delivery of care and frees physicians to concentrate on more complex and severe patient problems explained Dr. Dexter.

“For many vulnerable populations who are outside the medical mainstream, the inpatient service may be the best or only opportunity for delivery of such vaccines,” said study senior author Clement McDonald, M. D., Regenstrief Professor of Medical Informatics, Distinguished Professor of Medicine, and director of the Regenstrief Institute, Inc.

The new study took place at an urban public teaching hospital over a 14-month period and overlapped two influenza seasons. Participants were randomized into two groups. In both groups, the computer identified patients who were appropriate candidates for the vaccinations -- they were over 65, or had one of the chronic diseases that require vaccinations and also had not already received the vaccine in the required time frame. For patients in the first group, the computer generated a standing order for a required vaccine and a nurse administered that vaccine without direct involvement of the patient’s physician. For patients in the second group the computer used the same logic to find patients needing one of the vaccines and the computer reminded the physicians to order such vaccines, but physicians had to accept that reminder.
before an order would flow to nursing staff for administration. Physicians did not accept 42 percent of the influenza and 51 percent of the pneumonia reminders.

For both groups, a nurse asked the patient a short list of questions to verify that the patient was an appropriate candidate and wanted the vaccine, before delivering the vaccine. The immunization rate among patients eligible for the vaccines was significantly better in the computer-assisted nursing standard orders group than in the physician reminder group; 42 percent of patients in the standing order group received influenza vaccine compared with only 30 percent in the physician reminder group. Similarly, 51 percent of patients in the standing order group received a pneumonia shot compared to only 31 percent in the physician reminder group.

“When we adjust for the fact that some of the patients had received a vaccine unbeknownst to the computer, delivering the computer's "suggestions" about influenza and pneumonia vaccine administration to nurses as standing orders, the percent of eligible patients who get their influenza vaccine goes up to 52 percent in the standing orders group and to 36 percent in the physician reminders group,” said Dr. McDonald. “Moreover, standing orders for nurses could be much easier to carry out than physician reminders because the former can be implemented within nurse order management systems which are used widely in U.S. hospitals, while physician reminders require physician order entry systems -- which are deployed in very few US hospitals -- as their basis.”

A surprisingly large number of eligible patients from both groups refused the shots.

“Overall nearly a quarter of eligible patients refused a vaccine when it was offered by a nurse and this refusal accounted for about two-thirds of the patients who did not get their vaccination despite standing nurse orders,” said Dr. Dexter. “To get closer to 100 percent immunization rates, the medical community will have to work, especially within the older urban population, to change negative beliefs about these vaccinations.”

This study was funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the National Library of Medicine, the Regenstrief Foundation, and the Indiana Genomics Initiative (INGEN) of Indiana University.

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
November 15, 2004

Determining Which Pancreatic Cancers Are Treatable

INDIANAPOLIS — A high-quality computed tomography (CT) scan is just as successful in predicting whether pancreatic cancer is treatable surgically as a more invasive diagnostic tool, according to an Indiana University School of Medicine study published in the Annals of Internal Medicine.

Approximately 30,700 cases of pancreatic cancer are diagnosed annually in the United States. Each year approximately 30,000 people in this country die of the disease making this cancer one of the deadliest and one of the few whose incidence rate equals its death rate. The only cure for the disease, which is difficult to diagnose, is successful surgical removal of the entire tumor.

“This is the first study to compare state of art CT imaging with what many physicians assumed would be better -- the more invasive endoscopic ultrasound procedure which requires the use of sedation and the insertion of a miniature camera into the patient’s body,” said John DeWitt, M.D., assistant professor of medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine and first author of the study. "We have shown that a state-of-the-art CT scan can do as accurate a job at letting us know which patients have tumors which can be successfully surgically removed as the more invasive endoscopic ultrasound. If a person has a high quality CT scan which shows a mass that appears to be completely removable, endoscopic ultrasound does not appear to be necessary to confirm that a tumor is removable."

While CT scans were as accurate in determining whether tumors could be successfully removed, the study found that endoscopic ultrasound was more accurate in detecting new cancers and determining the stage of the disease. Pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States.

This study was funded by the American Society of Gastroenterological Endoscopy and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

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November 15, 2004

Riley Hospital Cardiology Lab First in Indiana to be Accredited

INDIANAPOLIS — Pediatric cardiology at Riley Hospital for Children became the first in Indiana to have a pediatric ECHO lab accredited by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories.

Echocardiography (ECHO) is a noninvasive imaging technique that provides structural and blood flow information about the heart and surrounding areas. The images contribute to the detection and management of cardiovascular disease, the number one cause of death in the United States.

ECHO testing has become a standard diagnostic tool in cardiology, with approximately 10 million evaluations performed annually across the nation. At Riley Hospital, 8,000 pediatric echocardiograms are performed each year, including more than 800 fetal ECHOs.

Additionally, the cardiologists at Riley review and interpret over 2,000 ECHOs performed at other institutions across the Midwest.

Randall L. Caldwell, M.D., Peter Lawrence Phillips Professor of Pediatrics at Indiana University School of Medicine and director of pediatric cardiology at Riley, directs the newly accredited pediatric ECHO laboratory. Associate director of the lab is Timothy M. Cordes, M.D., associate professor of clinical pediatrics.

The accreditation was awarded at the November meeting of the ICAEL Board of Directors. ICAEL, a non-profit organization, was established to provide a peer review mechanism to encourage and recognize quality echocardiographic evaluation. The accreditation process is voluntary, but acceptance as an accredited program signifies that the facility has been reviewed by an independent agency and shown to be committed to quality diagnosis of heart disease.

The accreditation of Riley’s pediatric ECHO lab means an Indiana institution is now included in the first 1,000 echocardiography laboratories in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico to be recognized by ICAEL for commitment to high quality patient care and diagnostic testing for heart disease.

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Physician’s Outreach Efforts to Latinos Lauded

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indiana University physician has been recognized for bringing more health-care services to the city’s Hispanic community.

Javier F. Sevilla Martir, M.D., assistant professor in the IU Department of Family Medicine, is the recipient of the Provider of the Year Award from the Hispanic/Latino Health Summit.

Dr. Sevilla was recognized for his extensive efforts to promote health care and increase access to it for Hispanics, and providing more accurate interpretation services to patients in the Indianapolis area. He has been on faculty at the IU School of Medicine since 2002 and is an advisor to the Society of Latinos, a medical student interest group.

The physician also has led efforts to establish a medical partnership between his native country, Honduras, and the School. The program provides physicians and students with the opportunity to work in clinics and underserved areas throughout Honduras.

The Nov. 12 summit was sponsored by Clarian Health Partners

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November 11, 2004

**Flu Vaccine, adult ADHD, SAD, and Gennesaret Free Clinic on this week’s Sound Medicine**

INDIANAPOLIS — This week on *Sound Medicine*, guests will discuss flu vaccine manufacturing, adult ADHD, seasonal affective disorder (SAD), and the Gennesaret Free Clinic, which helps meet the medical needs of the non-insured in Indianapolis.

Amy Peak, PhD, director of drug information services for Butler University’s College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences, will explain the manufacturing process of the flu vaccine. She will also discuss how the current crisis is being dealt with and the prevention of future shortages.

Craig Surman, MD, scientific coordinator for the Adult Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Research Program at Massachusetts General Hospital, will discuss the diagnosis and treatment of adult ADD/ADHD. Joining Dr. Surman will be Ken Patterson, an ADHD patient and author of *ADD and Me: Forty Years in a Fog*.

Kelly Gallagher-Kiley, clinical social worker with Southside Counseling Associates in Indianapolis, will discuss seasonal affective disorder, the tiredness that may result from the shorter days in winter. She will explain the causes, symptoms, and treatments of SAD.

The program also features a segment by *Sound Medicine* Producer Nora Hiatt on the Gennesaret Free Clinic, an Indianapolis not-for-profit agency assisting people without health insurance to get much-needed health care from volunteer physicians and nurses who provide free medical care.

*Sound Medicine* is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. Barbara Lewis is the program’s host. Co-hosts this week are Steve Bogdewic, PhD, and Kathy Miller, MD.

Archived editions of *Sound Medicine*, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at [http://soundmedicine.iu.edu](http://soundmedicine.iu.edu).

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Flu Vaccine, adult ADHD, SAD, and Gennesaret Free Clinic on this week’s Sound Medicine

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Common Antidepressant May Affect Youth’s Bone Development

INDIANAPOLIS — A common class of drugs prescribed to children with depression may have an adverse effect on bone growth, according to a study published online in the journal Endocrinology by researchers at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Researchers looked at the effect of selective serotonin-reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) on bone accrual in growing mice. The findings showed a reduction in bone mass and size in the mice administered an SSRI.

“These findings indicate a potential negative impact of SSRIs on the skeleton and point to a need for further research into the prescribing of these drugs to children and adolescents,” said lead author Stuart J. Warden, P.T., Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Physical Therapy, IU School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

The study investigated the effects of fluoxetine, more commonly known as Prozac®, on bone growth in young mice. Dr. Warden and his colleagues selected fluoxetine because it is the only prescription antidepressant currently approved by the FDA for children and adolescents.

IU researchers began their investigation after preliminary clinical evidence released in other studies showed that SSRI use has been associated with increased bone loss at the hip in elderly women, decreased bone density among men and decreased skeletal growth in children.

It is estimated that as many as 10 percent of children and adolescents suffer from depression.

“Bone development early in life is believed to determine lifelong skeletal health,” said Dr. Warden. “Anything that affects normal bone development may have far-reaching consequences later in life when the skeleton is more prone to fracture.”

This study was funded by a National Institutes of Health grant.

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November 4, 2004

NIH Recognizes IU as Leader in STD Research

INDIANAPOLIS — The National Institutes of Health has again recognized researchers at Indiana University School of Medicine with a major award, which bolsters IU's prominent position as one of only six sexually transmitted disease research centers in the United States.

The NIH awarded $7 million to establish the Midwest Sexually Transmitted Infections and Topical Microbicides Cooperative Research Center. The IU-based center focuses on research in both adults and adolescents, and includes researchers at IU and Northwestern University through a consortium agreement. The overarching theme of the center is to study the epidemiology, acquisition, prevention and pathogenesis of sexually transmitted infections in young women. Specific projects include:

• studies of sexual behaviors among adolescents that influence the transmission of infections and adolescents’ acceptance of topical microbicides that could prevent STIs
• research on the bacteria and viruses responsible for the genital ulcer diseases herpes and chancroid to determine how they cause ulcers and on interactions between these agents of STI and the human immunodeficiency virus
• research on how human papilloma virus causes cervical cancer

The grant also helps fund the center’s administrative, biostatistics, clinical and laboratory cores. The newly formed center represents the collaborative strength of infectious diseases, adolescent medicine, biostatistics and microbiology and immunology.

The center director is Stanley Spinola, M.D., director of the Division of Infectious Diseases and David H. Jacobs Professor of Infectious Diseases; and Donald Orr, M.D., director of the Division of Adolescent Medicine and professor of pediatrics, is co-director.

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November 4, 2004

IU to Host Midwest Forum to Benefit Organ Transplantation

INDIANAPOLIS — William M. Baldwin, M.D., Ph.D., associate director of diagnostic immunology and professor of pathology at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, will deliver the keynote address at the Nov. 5-6 Great Lakes Transplant Immunology Forum.

Dr. Baldwin will join physicians and researchers from throughout the Midwest to discuss transplant immunology, autoimmunity, innate and acquired immunity and other factors affecting the success of organ transplantation.

The forum was made possible by the IU Center for Immunobiology and the Department of Surgery at the Indiana University School of Medicine and the Indiana Genomics Initiative (INGEN). The Center is the newest of the research institutes and centers located on the Indianapolis campus. It is directed by David S. Wilkes, M.D., Dr. Calvin H. English Professor and professor of medicine and of microbiology and immunology.

“Chronic rejection is a major impediment to the longevity of transplant patients,” said Dr. Wilkes. “Forums like the one IU is hosting are of great benefit because they held researchers in an isolated field share knowledge and promote ideas that can greatly enhance transplant patient care and treatment.”

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November 3, 2004

AIDS Conference Weighed Failures, Successes, Road Ahead

INDIANAPOLIS — Nearly 30 million people around the globe have died in the 22 years since AIDS was given its name. Virtually no corner of the world has escaped the disease and its reach has been particularly hard-felt in small, poorer countries, where conditions ranging from helter-skelter bureaucracies to weak infrastructure often stymie the most basic relief efforts.

These and other issues came into focus at a special conference convened by the IU School of Medicine Oct. 31, which brought together some of the world’s leading experts from organizations such as the World Bank, United Nations, and World Health Organization to participate in the HIV/AIDS Care in the Developing World: Lessons Learned and the Way Forward. While their topic was global, it was Africa – a continent with many nations blighted not only by the disease but social, political and economic maladies – that was the focus of most discussion.

U.S. funding to fight AIDS has increased in recent years. The government committed $15 billion to international relief efforts and programs; in July 2003, President George Bush appointed Randall Tobias to an ambassadorship as the U.S. global AIDS coordinator. Tobias said the world’s responsibility in combating AIDS, “to put it bluntly – has not been enough.” But there have been success stories.

“There are many organizations who are engaged in this fight around the world, but I don’t know of any that is doing a better job than the IU School of Medicine,” said Tobias, former CEO of the Indianapolis-based pharmaceutical firm, Eli Lilly and Company.

Tobias was referring to the School’s partnership with Moi University in Kenya. Last year the partnership received $15 million from the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, which allows IU physicians to boost the number of HIV patients they treat from 2,000 to 30,000. To do this, the team is building treatment and prevention programs in six rural Kenyan communities.

“AIDS in Africa is overwhelming,” said Joseph Mamlin, M.D., co-founder of the IU-Moi partnership who returned to Indianapolis for the conference. “We can’t do it all, but we will handle a significant chunk of patients in Kenya.” Still, he added, doctors in Kenya often cannot treat patients because of the difficulty in obtaining drugs.

But the AIDS crisis in Africa is not confined to the sub-Saharan region nor do the statistics paint the full picture of the disease and its effects grip much of Africa. James Morris, executive director of the UN World Food Programme, said that for every person who has HIV or AIDS, there are countless spouses, children, parents, neighbors and even local authorities in who are affected.

“The lives of women and children are hit the hardest,” said Morris. “In many places, if a husband dies, the
wife is left destitute – without a home or food to feed her children."

Supply meeting demand does not always guarantee success. The internal bureaucracies and unique regulations of nations giving and relief organizations often are stumbling blocks, noted Debrework Zewdie, Ph.D., director of The World Bank’s Global HIV/AIDS Program. She cited Ethiopia, for example, which was designated to receive more than $60 million in assistance since 2001 but that only a fourth of the amount actually has been spent because of bureaucratic red tape.

A panel discussion led by Eric Meslin, Ph.D., director of the IU Center for Bioethics, tackled a range of issues related to the HIV/AIDS pandemic and concluded the half-day symposium.

The idea for the international conference was spawned last summer when IU School of Medicine Dean D. Craig Brater, M.D., visited Kenya to get a first-hand look at how the IU-Kenya partnership, particularly the HIV/AIDS program, was working. The dean was so inspired by what he witnessed, he felt compelled to organize an international gathering to discuss what’s been done and the challenges looming in the worldwide response to AIDS.

As Dr. Brater noted at the conference’s conclusion, perhaps one of the most daunting enemies in the war on AIDS is the one no drug can treat nor cure. During his visit to Africa he met a patient named Irene who questioned what she and others with the disease ever did to have “God inflict this upon us?”

“The absence of hope can be devastating,” Dr. Brater said.

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November 3, 2004

Sound Medicine to Feature Spinal Cord Research, Ben Vereen on Stroke Recovery

INDIANAPOLIS — This weekend on Sound Medicine, guests will discuss spinal cord research, winter allergies, and survey results about drug use among Hoosier youth. Also, Ben Vereen will discuss his recovery from an accident and stroke.

Michael Groff, M.D., director of spinal surgery at the Indiana University Medical Center, will join us to discuss new spinal cord research at IU School of Medicine. The recent death of Christopher Reeve has renewed attention to the promising new research into spinal cord injuries and treatments.

Allergist Eric Schenkel, MD, clinical assistant professor of medicine at Drexel College of Medicine and director of the Valley Clinical Research Center in Philadelphia, will give listeners information on fighting indoor and winter allergies.

Lisako Jones-Mckyer, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Applied Health Science at IU and survey director for the Indiana Prevention Resource Center, will discuss the results of the 14th annual “Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use by Indiana Children and Adolescents” survey.

Additionally, actor, dancer and singer Ben Vereen will talk about his recovery from a near-fatal accident and stroke in 1992. His injuries were so severe that several doctors said he would never walk again. He proved them wrong and less than a year later, he was back on Broadway.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. Barbara Lewis is the program's host. Co-hosts this week are David Crabb, MD, and Kathy Miller, MD.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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October 28, 2004

Ben Vereen Takes Center Stage with IU Medical Students

INDIANAPOLIS — Ben Vereen is known the world over as a top-notch singer, dancer and actor, but perhaps his most grueling performance occurred in the aftermath of a June day in 1992.

After being involved in a car crash in which he was walking away to get help, he suffered a stroke, brought on by a head injury he sustained in the accident. Confused and debilitated, he stumbled into the roadway and was hit by truck. But the curtain didn't lower on Vereen; he underwent tortuous rehabilitation and returned to the Broadway stage to star in "Jelly's Last Jam" less than one year after the mishaps.

The Tony Award-winning entertainer will take an intermission from his nationwide musical tour to meet with Indiana University School of Medicine students and others from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 5. The gathering, which is open to the public as space allows, is in the VanNuys Medical Sciences Building, room B-26.

Vereen will talk about his experiences and rehabilitation from his near-fatal stroke and injuries in a presentation dubbed, A Multicultural Interactive Conversation - Overcoming Obstacles.

"We're fortunate to have Mr. Vereen take the time to meet with us," says Robert D. Patterson, a fourth-year medical student who is helping coordinate the event. "He has a rare blend of talent and social consciousness that cuts across all cultural barriers."

His presentation at the IU School of Medicine is a prelude to an appearance he will make from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Nov. 6 at the Madame Walker Theater, 617 Indiana Ave.

Vereen's visit to Indianapolis is part of the 2004 Spirit & Place Festival, an annual citywide celebration of the arts, religion and humanities. The festival is managed by The Polis Center at the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

For more information about the Spirit & Place Festival, go to www.spiritandplace.org.

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Eczema Link to Asthma Explored in Study

INDIANAPOLIS — Young children with an inherited form of eczema are needed for a study of a topical medication at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The study is for children 18 months old or younger who recently have been diagnosed with eczema. Statistics show that half of all children diagnosed with an inherited form of eczema develop asthma within five or six years. Pediatric dermatologists are hopeful that early treatment may reduce the incidence of asthma resulting from the condition.

Participation in the study would require 20 trips to the IU Medical Center over a six-year period.

The medication under study, Elidel, already is FDA approved for children over the age of two years.

For additional information or to enroll in the study, contact Sandy Guingrich, LPN, at 317-278-3166.

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October 27, 2004

**Childhood Diabetes, Breast Cancer, and History of Surgery on Sound Medicine**

INDIANAPOLIS — Childhood Diabetes, Breast Cancer, and History of Surgery on Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS - This weekend on *Sound Medicine*, guests will discuss a new health tool for children with diabetes, environmental risks for breast cancer, and the history of surgical medicine.

Patti Geil, a registered dietitian, diabetes educator and author of "Cooking Up Fun for Kids with Diabetes" will discuss maintaining the health of children with diabetes at home and school through diet and a new health tool-the Students-with-Diabetes Care Kit.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Robert Hiatt, MD, director of the Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Center at the University of California, San Francisco, joins us to talk about the environmental risk factors for developing breast cancer. Hiatt is also the director of population science and deputy director of the UCSF Comprehensive Cancer Center.

An historic glimpse at medicine will be provided by Scotty Iseri, a *Sound Medicine* contributor in Chicago, who will guide listeners through a collection at the International Museum of Surgical Science located in Chicago.

*Sound Medicine* is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. Barbara Lewis is the program's host. Co-hosts this week are Stephen Bogdewic, PhD, and David Crabb, MD.

Archived editions of *Sound Medicine*, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at [http://soundmedicine.iu.edu](http://soundmedicine.iu.edu).

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Women's Health Center Holds Health Fairs for Hispanics

INDIANAPOLIS — In Spanish, "buena salud" means "good health" - and that's what is being promoted for the city's Hispanic population at two health fairs sponsored by the Indiana University National Center of Excellence in Women's Health.

The first event is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 30, at St. Monica Catholic Church Emmaus Center, 6131 N. Michigan Road. The second fair is noon to 4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 14, at St. Mary Catholic Church, 311 N. New Jersey St.

Both fairs offer free screenings for vision, osteoporosis, respiratory problems, blood pressure, dental health and sickle cell anemia. Information about breast self-exams, child health and safety issues, diabetes, heart health, elder care, health insurance, sexual assault, nutrition, obesity prevention, domestic violence and legal services also will be available.

"The fairs are being held in connection with Binational Health Week, a joint U.S.-Mexico initiative promoting health awareness and education among Hispanics, particularly immigrants of Mexican descent, in the United States," says Center Director Rose S. Fife, M.D., associate dean for research at the IU School of Medicine.

The School's Society of Latino Medical Students has recruited fellow students to assist at both fairs, where they will work under the supervision of Javier F. Sevilla Martir, M.D., assistant professor of clinical medicine, and Sarah Stelzner, M.D., associate clinical professor of pediatrics.

Besides the Center and School, other sponsoring organizations include Wishard Health Services/Wishard Hispanic Health Project, Riley Hospital for Children, the IU schools of dentistry and law, and other local community assistance groups.

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Women's Health Center Holds Health Fairs for Hispanics
October 25, 2004

**IU Medical School Poised to Host Global HIV/AIDS Conference**

INDIANAPOLIS — Registration continues for the *HIV/AIDS Care in the Developing World: Lessons Learned and the Way Forward* conference, Sunday, Oct. 31. The conference, organized by the Indiana University School of Medicine, will convene some of the world’s top experts on the myriad issues related to HIV/AIDS.

The conference will be from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown Hotel, 350 W. Maryland Street. The conference will be in Ballroom 5.

Registration for both the public and health care professionals is possible through the School’s Division of Continuing Medical Education at 317-274-8353 or (888) 615-8013, or online at [http://cme.medicine.iu.edu/registration/default.asp?course=05-191](http://cme.medicine.iu.edu/registration/default.asp?course=05-191).

Among the keynote speakers are Ambassador Randall Tobias, U.S. Global HIV/AIDS coordinator; James Morris, executive director of the U.N. World Food Programme; and Debrework Zewdie, Ph.D., director of the Global HIV/AIDS Program, The World Bank; Greg Behrman, author of *The Invisible People*; Ezekiel Emanuel, M.D., Ph.D., chairman of the Department of Clinical Bioethics at the National Institutes of Health; and Winnie Mpanju-Shumbusho, director of the HIV/AIDS/STI Initiative of the World Health Organization.


**NEWS MEDIA:** Speakers and other key participants will be available for interviews from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Austin/Boston room at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown Hotel. Although not required, notification of attendance is requested. Call 317-274-7722 or email jstutevi@iupui.edu or mhardin@iupui.edu. On the day of the conference, call 317-695-4090 or 317-946-9930.

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October 21, 2004

Indiana a National Leader in New Federal Funding for Health Information Technology

INDIANAPOLIS — Over the next 5 years, Indiana will receive $10.8 million, of which $9.3 million was awarded to the Indiana University School of Medicine, from a new federal program to promote the use of information technology in health care. It is the second largest amount awarded to any of the 38 states that received the recently announced awards.

The funding is part of a new $139 million initiative by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality aimed to improve the quality of health care, increase communication among health care providers, and cut costs by funding computing and information systems.

Indiana is one of only five states in the country to receive funding to support a statewide health information network. $6.5 million of the award will support the development, implementation, and assessment of health information exchange in Indiana.

"These awards will help evolve and evaluate regional health information exchange in Indiana. We expect that health information exchange will improve the quality, safety and efficiency of care that patients throughout the state will receive," said J. Marc Overhage, M.D., Ph.D., Indiana University School of Medicine associate professor of medicine and Regenstrief Institute, Inc. research scientist. Dr. Overhage is president and chief executive officer of the Indiana Health Information Exchange (www.ihie.org), a not-for-profit corporation created to improve healthcare in central Indiana by allowing physicians quick access to complete and accurate patient information through an innovative electronic network.

"The technologies and protocols being developed through health information exchange will have applications statewide and nationally, providing economic opportunities in the growing field of health information," Dr. Overhage said.

William Tierney, M.D., an IUPUI Chancellor's Professor and professor of medicine and director of the Division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics at the IU School of Medicine and research scientist with the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. received $1.5 million in funding to establish one of five institutions comprising the Health Information Technology Resource Center, created to provide assistance to the 166 new grantees nationwide.

"That the Indiana University School of Medicine/Regenstrief Institute has received this impressive amount of funding recognizes our national leadership in using health information technology as a tool to implement innovation and improve the practice of everyday medicine," said Dr. Tierney.

Gunther Schadow, M.D., also of the Regenstrief Institute and the IU School of Medicine, received a grant of

$1.3 million to study how electronic prescribing can easily be integrated into a provider's practice.

The only grant to an Indiana recipient other than the IU School of Medicine was to Morgan County Hospital and Medical Center, Martinsville, IN which received $1.5 million to improve healthcare though health information technology in a rural setting including working with the Indiana Health Information Exchange to provide clinical messaging services.

The HHS news release regarding the new program and these awards can be found at http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2004pres/20041013.html. A complete list of the award recipients by state is located at http://www.ahrq.gov/research/hitfact.htm

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October 20, 2004

Multidisciplinary Life Sciences Project Targets Ovarian, Breast Cancers

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Researchers at Indiana University, Ohio State University and the University of Missouri have begun a five-year, $8 million project that will help doctors better understand the damage caused by breast and ovarian cancers.

Funded by the National Cancer Institute, the project will bring together clinical and basic science cancer researchers at the IU School of Medicine and the IU Cancer Center in Indianapolis and the Medical Sciences Program in Bloomington, as well as IU biostatisticians and biomedical informaticians who specialize in organizing biological and medical information.

"The purpose of this project is to capitalize on all the human genome data and powerful bioinformatics approaches out there," said IU cancer biologist Kenneth Nephew, who is leading one of the cancer project's four parts. "In the end, we believe our work will lead to better therapies for ovarian and breast cancer patients."

The researchers will study the genetic and molecular consequences of DNA modifications for the purpose of developing better predictive models for ovarian and breast cancer.

Ovarian cancer, despite its relative rarity, is the fifth leading cause of cancer death in women. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

To speak with Kenneth Nephew or other IU project researchers, please contact Mary Hardin, IU School of Medicine Public & Media Relations, at 317-274-7722 or mhardin@iupui.edu.

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October 19, 2004

**Sound Medicine to Discuss Conflict of Interest**

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this week’s *Sound Medicine* will discuss conflict of interest in the medical field in a special edition called Sound Ethics.

Host Barbara Lewis will be joined this week by co-host Eric Meslin, PhD, director of the IU Center for Bioethics. Conflicts of interest to be discussed on Sound Ethics will include the relationship between the medical community and the pharmaceutical industry as well as the ethics of physician-owned medical facilities and medical devices.

Discussing these issues will be David Crabb, MD, chairman of the Department of Medicine at Indiana University School of Medicine, David Orentlicher, JD, MD, a physician and lawyer on faculty at the IU schools of law and medicine and a member of the IU Center for Bioethics, and Scott Lassman, assistant general counsel of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at [http://soundmedicine.iu.edu](http://soundmedicine.iu.edu).

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October 19, 2004

**IU Epilepsy Surgery Marks 20 Years of Service**

INDIANAPOLIS — Innovations developed at the Indiana University Epilepsy Surgery Program have vastly improved the quality of life for many epilepsy patients in Indiana.

With that in mind, former patients, physicians and staff will gather Oct. 22 to observe the program’s 20th anniversary celebration, hosted by the IU departments of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Epilepsy Clinic. They will gather 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in room 1012 at the Indiana Cancer Pavilion on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus.

The epilepsy program is the only one in Indiana providing comprehensive diagnostics, treatment and management of epilepsy, pre-surgical diagnostics, and social, psychiatric and psychological evaluation of patients.

It is estimated that up to 1 percent of the U.S. population - 2.5 million people - have epilepsy and that 20 percent of those patients have the type of epilepsy that may benefit from surgery.

About 300 patients have been treated surgically for epilepsy through the IU epilepsy program. As many as 90 percent are said to have become seizure-free or have few seizures.

The epilepsy surgery team is led by Omkar N. Markand, M.D.; Vicenta Salanova, M.D.; and Robert M. Worth, M.D., Ph.D.

Several techniques and clinical trials have been developed at IU to treat epilepsy. Highlights include:

- This summer, neurologists began a clinical trial testing an implantable electrical stimulator which seeks to disrupt circuits in the brain thought to cause epileptic seizures. Another trial got under way to determine if early surgery is a better alternative to antiepileptic medications in patients who have just developed epilepsy.

- In 2002, the IU School of Medicine was one of only a few institutions nationwide to begin testing the effectiveness of a Gamma Knife to treat epilepsy patients. The non-invasive procedure aims 201 radiation beams at the precise location in the brain where seizures begin.

- In 1999, the epilepsy surgery team created a computer model of groups of abnormal neurons in an area of the brain called the hippocampus where it is known that most complex partial seizures originate.

The IU epilepsy program has a four-bed monitoring unit at Indiana University Hospital, and a pediatric epilepsy monitoring unit opened at Riley Hospital for Children in 2000.
Each year, more than 180,000 Americans develop seizures and epilepsy for the first time, according to the Epilepsy Foundation, based in Landover, Md. The disorder can develop at any time of life, especially in childhood and old age.

For more information about the IU Epilepsy Program, call 317-274-4974.

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October 18, 2004

**Insulin Pumps Effective for Children with Diabetes**

INDIANAPOLIS — Pre-school youngsters with type I diabetes can be treated as successfully with insulin pumps as with daily injections, researchers at the Indiana University School of Medicine report.

A clinical trial at the Riley Hospital for Children studied 20 patients 5 years old or younger receiving treatment with continuous insulin infusion by pump and 17 who were receiving injection therapy. Physicians compared control of blood sugar levels, parents' satisfaction and safety in both groups.

"Pump therapy was safe and well tolerated," says endocrinologist Linda A. DiMeglio, M.D., who led the study. "This therapy in preschool-aged children was not associated with clinically significantly differences in glycemic control compared to intensive injection therapy."

Parents were satisfied with the pumps; 95 percent of families continued use of the device after the six-month study was completed.

"It remains to be seen whether the benefit of insulin pump therapy in terms of flexibility and convenience justify the increased costs for very young children with diabetes," Dr. DiMeglio says. "Studies of long-term outcomes of children started on pump therapy at very young ages also are needed."

Type 1 diabetes, also called juvenile diabetes, is usually diagnosed in children and young adults. With type I diabetes, the body does not produce the insulin which is necessary for the body to be able to metabolize sugar.

The IU study's findings appeared in the *Journal of Pediatrics.*

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October 18, 2004

Errors in Medicine: The Patient's Perspective

INDIANAPOLIS — The first study of the patient's perspective on errors in medicine may have health care professional rethinking what is important to their patients.

The study, published in the *Annals of Family Medicine*, suggests that patients are more disturbed with lack of access to and relationships with their physicians than technical errors in diagnosis and treatment.

Although much has been written about medical errors since the controversial *To Err is Human: Building A Safer Health System* was presented by the Institute of Medicine in 2000, a new study by Richard Frankel, Ph.D., research scientist at the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. and professor of medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine and colleagues expands the dialogue to include the patient's perspective.

"Much of the research on medical errors and patient safety has come from professionals speaking on behalf of patients. This study is unique because it focuses on learning from patients themselves what counts as an error. Importantly, many of the things patients consider as threats to safety, such things as racism, and discrimination based on age haven't been part of the dialog in the research community about what increases or decreases risk. With this study we have the first steps toward a more comprehensive view of this territory."

The study found that patients were more likely to report being harmed psychologically and emotionally than physically, suggesting that the current preoccupation of the patient safety movement with adverse drug events and surgical mishaps could overlook patient priorities.

The researchers led by Dr. Frankel, who is a medical sociologist focusing on health care communication studied the perspectives of adults living in urban, suburban and rural settings who had recent outpatient contact with physicians.

Among the preventable problems in the process of care identified by the patients were:

- Difficulty contacting their physician's office and excessive time on hold.
- Intermediary or 3rd party imposed on communication with clinician
- Disrespect or insensitivity evident in interpersonal communication, rude behavior
- Patient opinion ignored
- Patient preferences not respected

The study found there was no apparent pattern with respect to the sex or specialty of the doctor, duration of physician-patient relationship, community type, state, form of health insurance, or the age, sex, or social
economic status of the patient. However, African-American patients surveyed indicated a perception of apparent racism.

The study was funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

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October 14, 2004

**Surgical First Corrects Sisters' Disfiguring Disorder**

INDIANAPOLIS — Two teenage sisters with an extremely rare genetic disorder that grossly deforms the jaw and face are recovering after reconstructive surgery - the first of its kind in Indiana and one of the few ever performed in the world - by Indiana University School of Medicine surgeons.

Alexandria and Kelly Cantello of Princeton, Ind., underwent the procedures on Oct. 13 at Riley Hospital for Children. Alexandria, 12, and Kelly, 14, have craniofacial "cherubism," a bone disorder typically affecting children starting at about age 3 or 4 that eventually goes away on its own. In the sisters, however, it did not and the disease continued to grow, creating gross distortion of the face.

Significant swelling of the face results due to the unchecked bone growth causing the eyeballs to tilt upwards, the cheeks and nose to stick way out from the face, and the lower jaw to increase nearly three times its normal size.

No two family members with this disorder have ever undergone surgery before, let alone on the same day as the Cantello sisters.

"Surgery for cherubism is very rarely ever performed as the diseased bone normally regresses on its own and a normal face returns during the teenage years," says Barry Eppley, M.D., D.M.D., a plastic surgeon who led the IU surgical team. "In these girls' cases, the exact opposite has occurred."

Surgeons cut away excessive bone and tissue growth near the patients' eyes, noses and upper jaws and used a special bone coating to prevent future bone growth and facial disfigurement.

"We treated the nose, cheeks, and upper jaw," Dr. Eppley says. "We wanted to treat a smaller area and gauge the response before deciding if we should go on to reconstruct the lower jaw, a larger and more complex challenge."

"The promising results from today's surgery indicate that we can move forward with lower jaw reconstruction later this year," Dr. Eppley says. "Our goal is to have them more normal looking by next summer."

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Mentally Ill at High Risk of Developing Cancers

INDIANAPOLIS — Adults with mental disorders have higher odds of being diagnosed with brain tumors and lung cancer and develop these cancers at younger ages than individuals without mental illness, according to a study published in the current issue of *Psychosomatic Medicine*.

“This work is a piece in the larger puzzle of understanding the relationships between mental and physical health,” said Caroline Carney, M.D., M.Sc., associate professor of psychiatry and medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine and a research scientist at the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. Dr. Carney is the first author of the study which looked at insurance claims data from over 700,000 adults between the ages of 18 and 64 living in Iowa and South Dakota.

“It is known that people with mental illness smoke more than the general population, so the higher incidence of lung cancer was not surprising,” said Dr. Carney. “The association between mental health problems and brain tumors was less expected, but is explained by the likelihood that brain tumors cause mental symptoms prior to other symptoms like neurological symptoms. Our data showed the new diagnosis of mental symptoms up to one year prior to brain tumor diagnosis.”

The researchers also found the incidence of lymphoma and leukemia higher in women with mental health problems than those in the control group; however, the odds of developing breast cancer was the same in both groups.

“These findings underscore the need for smoking cessation counseling and physical work-ups for new psychiatric symptoms occurring with physical symptoms in instances where unusual patterns exist, or for new psychiatric symptoms occurring at ages atypical in the mentally ill,” said Dr. Carney.

The study was supported by the American Cancer Society and the National Institute of Mental Health.

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October 11, 2004

Med Students Learn to Lead Through Mentor Program

INDIANAPOLIS — Physicians are expected to be leaders in their profession and are often called to do so in their communities. The Indiana University School of Medicine offers students a unique opportunity to prepare themselves for the responsibilities of leadership through its Community Leadership Mentor Program.

Nonprofit agencies such as United Way seek the expertise of physicians, but students often graduate from medical school unfamiliar with the roles they are expected to play.

“IU medical students who choose to participate in this program are among a very few in the country who graduate having had the opportunity to be mentored in this important area.” says Steve Kirchhoff, M.H.A., administrator of the School’s Office of Medical Service-Learning, which administers the leadership program.

The program began in 1999 when Patricia A. Keener, M.D., OMSL director and assistant dean for medical service-learning, had a serendipitous conversation about her experiences on community boards with then-sophomore medical student Sara (Palecek) Ross, M.D. Like many physicians, Dr. Keener had experience serving on several boards. Physicians and other professionals who are well-thought of in the community are typically considered valuable additions to the boards for community groups such as the United Way.

“Early on, I felt uncomfortable when participating on boards of organizations that weren’t directly involved with health care. I felt I had little to contribute other than my medical expertise,” Dr. Keener recalls telling Ross.

Anticipating that she might find herself in a similar situation, Ross volunteered to take on the task of developing a program to mentor future community leaders. Working in partnership with the United Way, Ross and the OMSL staff had a program ready to pilot in the fall of 1999. That program, CLMP, is now in its sixth year and about 60 students are involved at various stages of the program.

In their first year, participating students attend a series of five training sessions covering issues such as trustee responsibility, leadership skills and fiscal oversight. Stephanie Cohen, a second-year IU medical student, cites the leadership skills session as particularly interesting.

“It’s an interactive session,” says Cohen, who co-chairs the program with fellow second-year student Susan McDowell. “It had all of us thinking about what makes a good leader — it isn’t just always taking charge.”

During the second year, students make site visits to three nonprofit partner agencies of the United Way of Central Indiana. The students meet with executive director or a board member who provides them with an overview of that particular organization.
In their last two years, students choose one of the agencies they visited and become more involved by attending their board and committee meetings. Kirchhoff says the students are asked to use active observation to test what they learned in their training sessions and see how it applies to their chosen agency.

In their final year of medical school, students reflect what they have learned and its relevance to their professional and personal futures. Dr. Keener encourages the graduates of the program to notify her when they are ready to become involved in their communities. She then writes a letter to the local United Way to notify them of the presence of a potential community leader.

"Through this program I can actually get involved with the community," says McDowell. “For me, that is far more satisfying than just writing a check.”

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October 11, 2004

Grant Establishes National Child Safety Center at IU, Riley

INDIANAPOLIS — A federal grant will establish a national child-passenger safety center at the Indiana University School of Medicine’s Automotive Safety Program for Children.

The program, which is based at Riley Hospital for Children, received a $350,000 grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. It creates the National Center for Safe Transportation of Children with Special Health Care Needs.

The center will expand the program’s resources to assist families, health-care providers and child-passenger safety advocates throughout the country. An occupational therapist will be hired to conduct national consultations and respond to transportation issues and questions through the program’s special needs Web page and a soon-to-be established toll-free hotline.

“This is the first time the NHTSA has designated and funded a center for this purpose and we’re honored to have been selected,” says Marilyn Bull, M.D., director of developmental pediatrics at Riley.

The Automotive Safety Program for Children was launched in 1981 under the guidance of Dr. Bull, the Morris Green Professor of Pediatrics at the IU School of Medicine. The nationally-recognized program today offers low-cost car seat distribution, child safety-seat fitting stations, Project SEAT (a program with local and state law-enforcement agencies to distribute vouchers to for safety seats during routine traffic stops) and various resources for youngsters, parents, teachers and child advocates.

Awarding of the grant comes on the heels of Dr. Bull being honored nationally for her work on behalf of child safety issues. In September, the pediatrician received the National Governors Highway Safety Association’s James J. Howard Highway Safety Trailblazer Award.

For more information about the Automotive Safety Program for Children, go to www.preventinjury.org.

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October 7, 2004

New ‘Frontier’: IU Medical Faculty Mentor High School Teachers

INDIANAPOLIS — Two Arsenal Technical High School science teachers are reversing roles – they will be the students and Indiana University School of Medicine faculty will be their teachers.

The teachers, Rachel Pearce and William White will participate in a year-long Frontiers in Physiology Professional Development Fellowship sponsored by the American Physiological Society.

The fellowship is made possible with a $277,350 Science Education Partnership Awards grant. Indianapolis is one of two sites in the nation chosen to pilot the year-long program. IU faculty, who have a long history of participating as American Physiological Society Frontiers in Physiology teachers, are the mentors. The other pilot program site is San Antonio, Texas.

Leading the Indianapolis team is C. Subah Packer, Ph.D., associate professor of cellular and integrative physiology. Assisting with the program are David A. Suzuki, Ph.D., professor of ophthalmology and of anatomy and cell biology; Edward T. Mannix, Ph.D., associate scientist in medicine and associate scientist and associate professor of cellular and integrative physiology; Sandi Mahl, Cortland Elementary School, Seymour, Ind., and a 1996 Research Teacher; and Linda Dearth-Monroe, Warren Central High School, Indianapolis, and a 2003 Research Teacher.

As part of the program, the high school teachers are required to share their experience by conducting workshops in partnership with physiologists for other local teachers. They are to remain affiliated with the program for at least three years and assist in identifying new teachers to be Frontiers fellows.

The program is designed to help high school teachers increase their understanding of scientific research methods and the importance of biomedical research.

A summer-long Frontiers program was developed about 15 years ago to support kindergarten through 12-grade science education by involving middle- and high-school teachers in laboratory research. By learning research techniques and following the scientific process from start to finish, the teachers gained a greater understand of science that they could take back to their classrooms.

As a testament to the Frontiers in Physiology’s success, the National Institutes of Health’s Nation Center for Research Resources awarded the APS grant to allow the existing program to be developed into a locally-based, self-sustaining one that will allow the teachers and their students to be involved long after the summer ends.

Also sponsoring the Frontiers in Physiology Program are the APS, the Science Education Partnership
New ‘Frontier’: IU Medical Faculty Mentor High School Teachers

Awards, and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases at the National Institutes of Health.

For additional information about APS education programs, see www.the-aps.org/education.htm.

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Arthritis Drug Vioxx, Live-Donor Kidney Transplant, and Lead Poisoning on this Week's Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — On this week’s edition of Sound Medicine, guests will discuss the withdrawal of the arthritis drug Vioxx from the market, live-donor kidney transplant, and lead poisoning.

David Flockhart, MD, professor of medicine, medical genetics and pharmacology, and chief of the Division of Clinical Pharmacology at the Indiana University School of Medicine will discuss the withdrawal of the arthritis drug Vioxx from the market. He will also talk about current options for pain relief.

In addition, guests include transplant recipient Brian Eckstein and his kidney donor LeeAnn. They will chronicle Mr. Eckstein’s journey to find a kidney donor and the life-saving decision made by his donor.

David McSwane, HSD, will discuss one of the most common preventable pediatric health problems in the United States today…lead poisoning. Dr. McSwane is the director of undergraduate programs at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs and associate professor of public and environmental affairs at IUPUI and adjunct associate professor of public health at IUSM.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program airs at 4 p.m. Sundays. Barbara Lewis is the program’s host. Co-hosts this week are Stephen Bogdewic, PhD, Kathy Miller, MD, and David Crabb, MD.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at soundmedicine.iu.edu/.

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October 5, 2004

Med Students’ Health Fair Serves Indy’s Underserved

INDIANAPOLIS — Awareness and education can go a long way to prevent many health-care problems and that is the message Indiana University School of Medicine students want to convey to inner-city residents needing medical attention.

The future physicians are organizing a health fair at the Westside Community Health Center from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 23. The event coincides with National Primary Care Week, which advocates the importance of health care and brings health professionals together to serve those with limited or no access to care.

This is the sixth year the medical students have sponsored the health fair at the center in the Haughville area, just west of the IU Medical Center campus. Students will work under the supervision of IU physicians and faculty.

This year’s event, which is organized by the Internal Medicine Student Interest Group, includes immunizations for adults, information on pediatric immunizations, and blood pressure, diabetes and cholesterol checks. Also, information about colorectal cancer, prostate health, osteoporosis, smoking cessation, breast cancer, poison control, consumer safety and nutrition will be available.

IU School of Medicine education centers in Terre Haute and South Bend also are organizing events to coincide with National Primary Care Week, Oct. 17-23.

The Indianapolis medical students will be joined by their counterparts at the IU schools of nursing, dentistry, health and rehabilitation sciences and social work.

“More than 60 percent of Indiana counties have been identified as having health professional shortages,” says Shannon Gearhart, a fourth-year medical student who is helping coordinate the health fair. “While our focus is on the local level, we want to emphasize the need for primary care throughout Indiana and the nation.”

During National Primary Care Week, the students are sponsoring a daily lecture series at Wishard Memorial Hospital (Oct. 18-22) on issues such as health professions needs and opportunities, programs for the indigent and the state government’s role in health care. Gregory Wilson, M.D., commissioner of the Indiana State Department of Health also will discuss the Indiana Chronic Disease Management Programs.

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Med Students’ Health Fair Serves Indy’s Underserved

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Child Health Improvement Through Computer Automation

INDIANAPOLIS — The latest innovation in medical care for children marries the high tech manufacturing “just-in-time” concept with increased parental participation in the health care process to produce care guidelines for pediatricians individualized for each patient and delivered when they can do the most good -- at the time of the office visit.

A newly developed computer-based decision support system targeted to medicine’s youngest patients utilizes hand-written information acquired from a child’s parents within the waiting room, along with preexisting data from the nation’s oldest continually operational electronic medical record to provide critical information and clinical reminders to pediatricians.

In a presentation of their work at the recent MedInfo 2004, the premier international meeting of the medical informatics community, researchers from the Indiana University School of Medicine and the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. introduced Child Health Improvement through Computer Automation: The CHICA System. CHICA combines patient–relevant pediatrics guidelines with information learned from the patient’s family to enable the pediatrician to provide individually targeted care.

Upon arrival for the child’s first appointment, the parent or other family member fills out a simple CHICA waiting room prescreening form, which includes questions specific to the age of the child and reason for visit. The handwritten responses are then scanned and uploaded into the computer system which generates customized items on a form used by the physician when he or she sees the patient. For example, if the parent has indicated that the child lives with a smoker, CHICA will prompt the pediatrician to discuss smoking cessation programs as well as dangers of second hand smoke. Information is tracked from clinic to clinic and from visit to visit.

“Multiple practitioners approached us during the pilot to tell us that the system had informed them of very important clinical data such as guns within homes, abusive family situations, and maternal depression that they would not have known about otherwise,” said senior study author Stephen Downs, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics and director of the division of children’s health services research of the department of pediatrics at the IU School of Medicine and a Regenstrief Institute affiliated scientist.

CHICA is an extension of the Regenstrief Medical Records System (RMRS), a computer-based inpatient and outpatient information system that contains more than 30 years of patient data and more than 300 million patient observations -- primarily on adults. RMRS includes an internationally respected physician reminder system that offers suggestions on appropriate diagnosis, tests and treatment management for each patient.

The sheer volume and changing nature of guidelines for shot administration, vision screening, injury prevention, management of chronic diseases and a myriad of other child and adolescent medicine topics
often overwhelm busy pediatricians who often rely on memory. Most physicians do not use computerized guidelines because they can be costly or, unlike the extensively tested RMRS, may be unappealing to a busy physician. However, the majority of health care providers can’t spend sufficient time with the patient and family to learn enough about many factors such as parental behavior, which may affect the child’s health. CHICA solves both the information overload and cost problems while helping the pediatrician focus on the specifics of the patient in the clinic. Since the system uses paper, it can be implemented with little or no staff training.

“Pediatricians and others taking care of children are constantly struggling to provide preventative care but are overwhelmed by what counseling is necessary,” said co-author Paul Biondich, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics at the IU School of Medicine and a Regenstrief Institute research scientist. “Combining pediatric preventive care guidelines with a dynamic, scannable paper user interface enables us to better serve our patients and their families.”

Dr. Downs estimates that in its first year of use, CHICA will enable the parents and physicians of 55,000 pediatric patients in the Wishard Health System, site of the pilot study, to make better healthcare decisions. Given the ease of implementation and use, he believes CHICA will quickly become an indispensable tool of the many pediatricians at Wishard and that its use will quickly expand to other sites. A Spanish language version of the forms is planned.

The CHICA pilot project was funded, in part, by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Riley Memorial Association, Clarian Health Partners and the National Library of Medicine.

In addition to Dr. Downs and Dr. Biondich, the CHICA team includes Vibha Anand, M.S, Gilbert Liu, M.D., M.S., Aaron Carroll, M.D., M.S., and Marc Rosenman, M.D. All are with the children’s health services research division of the department of pediatrics at the IU School of Medicine. With the exception of Ms. Anand all are also affiliated with the Regenstrief Institute.

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**IU Docs Recognized for Support of Nursing School, Programs**

INDIANAPOLIS — The directors of the Indiana University National Center for Excellence in Women's Health and the state's largest county health agency have been honored by the IU School of Nursing.

Rose S. Fife, M.D., associate dean for research at the IU School of Medicine, was awarded the Victoria Champion Boundary Spanning Award for her work in promoting women's health locally and internationally.

Dr. Fife, a professor of medicine, biochemistry and molecular biology, has included nurses in leadership roles in center of excellence programs. She has served as a member of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research at the National Institutes of Health.

Virginia Caine, M.D., director of the Marion County Health Department and president of the American Public Health Association, was awarded the Doris Merritt Services to Nursing Award. She was recognized for her support of the nursing school and her work in the prevention and control of sexually transmitted diseases in Marion County. Dr. Caine is an associate professor in the medical school's Division of Infectious Diseases.

Drs. Fife and Caine received their awards on Sept. 29 at the 12th annual IU Nursing Gala.

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Flu Season, Women and Heart Disease, and Burning Mouth Syndrome on this Week's Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — On this week's edition of Sound Medicine, guests will discuss the coming flu season, women and heart disease, and burning mouth syndrome.

Shawn Richards, respiratory epidemiologist for the Indiana State Department of Health’s Epidemiology Resource Center will discuss the upcoming flu season. Ms. Richards will review the groups most at risk for getting the flu and talk about this year’s flu vaccine and concerns about shortages.

Heart disease and women will be the topic of Sharonne Hayes, MD, cardiologist at the Mayo Clinic and director of the Mayo Clinic Women’s Heart Clinic, and Marie Warshauer, support network coordinator of WomenHeart of Central Indiana. Heart disease is the number one killer of women in the United States. However, the symptoms can be very different from those of men. As a result, women and their doctors may not recognize a heart problem.

Burning mouth syndrome is a problem that plagues many people but is seldom heard about. The cause is not clear and it is difficult to diagnose, but it affects up to five percent of the U.S. population. Susan Zunt, DDS, chair of the Department of Oral Pathology, Medicine, Radiology, and professor of oral pathology at the IU School of Dentistry, will discuss this condition.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program airs at 4 p.m. Sundays. Barbara Lewis is the program’s host. Co-hosts this week are Stephen Bogdewic, PhD, and Kathy Miller, MD.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at soundmedicine.iu.edu/.

Media Contact:

Pamela Su Perry
September 30, 2004

Spinning Wheels Keep On Turning For Breast Cancer Patient

INDIANAPOLIS — Winning a national cycling championship is a challenge many may only dream about, but when Cindi Hart won her championship over Labor Day weekend she was facing an ever greater challenge – breast cancer.

Cindi, 42, an avid cyclist and speed skater, continued to compete – successfully – while undergoing chemotherapy. Eighteen days after her final chemotherapy infusion she won the American Bicycling Racing National Track Cycling Championships; eight days after that she underwent surgery for a bilateral mastectomy.

Within two days of surgery with surgical drains still in place, she was back on the bike.

“Fortitude” is a word that Cindi’s doctors have no trouble applying to her.

“Cindi Hart is to breast cancer what Lance Armstrong is to testicular cancer,” said Robert Goulet Jr., M.D., associate professor of surgery and medical director of the Indiana University Breast Care and Research Center. “She came to us prepared to do battle with her newly diagnosed breast cancer, made informed decisions regarding her therapy and then made it very clear that breast cancer was not going to interfere with her passion for world-class competitive cycling.

She started her treatment with chemotherapy and throughout that time continued a grueling training schedule in preparation for the World Cycling Championship.”

The Labor Day weekend victory wasn’t her only one during chemotherapy treatment. Two days after she started the treatment, she won the Indiana State Championships Track Cycling Championships at the Major Taylor Velodrome in Indianapolis.

Three days after her third chemotherapy session, she road as captain of the Savage Hill Women’s Cycling Team, which won a 17-mile team time trial in Ohio. Cindi’s national championship, won in Kenosha, Wis., involved competing in five races – 200 and 500 meter, 2 kilometer, a match sprint and a points race. Cindi has several individual and team triumphs in cycling and speed skating to her credit but this victory is special and it isn’t one she is savoring alone.

“I never realized before my breast cancer how important the support from family and friends can be,” she said. “You realize how much they believe in you and that makes you want to succeed all the more.”

Cindi credits self-examination with early detection and her positive outcome. In April, she found a lump. The results of a mammogram and ultrasound were inconclusive but a fine needle biopsy in May confirmed the bad news, it was cancer.
Spinning Wheels Keep On Turning For Breast Cancer Patient

Her next stop was the Indiana University Cancer Center where she became the patient of Kathy Miller, M.D., associate professor of medicine and a breast cancer specialist. Cindi began chemotherapy Memorial Day week and ended her regimen on Aug. 19.

“Cindi’s goal was to continue her training and participate in the National Championships,” said Dr. Miller. “We were able to design a treatment plan that would have as little impact on her athletic ability as possible. I thought she might be able to participate but I am thrilled that she was able to go the extra mile and win.”

“IU Cancer Center was expeditious in seeing me,” Cindi said. “I equate that to my racing: in a time trial – the faster the better.

Time is everything. The same can be said about breast cancer; the faster you get into treatment, the better.”

On Sept. 14 she underwent surgery and was released from the IU Hospital the next day.

“My surgeon actually thanked me for making his job easier,” she chuckled. “Apparently being physically fit made the surgery easier.”

“I am humbled by Cindi’s composure, courage and fortitude,” said Dr. Goulet. “Although Cindi’s story is exceptional in what she was able to accomplish, we care for women on a daily basis who display the same courage and determination for victory over breast cancer.”

Cindi has been a competitive cyclist for 20 years. She obtained her nursing degree from Miami (Ohio) University and then was a resident athlete for four years at Northern Michigan University while she worked toward a degree in exercise physiology. She lived in a special dorm with the Olympic short track speed skating team during this time.

In addition to cycling, she competes in long track and short track speed skating events and coaches IndySpeed, a local group of all ages of competitors. In January 2004, shortly before her breast cancer diagnosis, she won a silver medal in the U.S. Speed Skating National Championship Ice Long Track even in Milwaukee, Wis.

In addition to her busy training, competition and coaching schedule, Cindi is a registered nurse and clinical informatics specialist at Regenstrief Institute Inc., which is associated with the IU School of Medicine. She is the mother of a 10-year-old daughter Madison, who also is an active athlete, as is her husband Ken, who is a champion cyclist.

In conversation, it becomes apparently quickly that Cindi has a special place in her heart for another one of her activities, coaching the state and national Special Olympics speed skaters. In fact, that is one of the things that she says kept her focused during her treatments.

“I have three goals for next year,” she explained. “but first is recovery and training to make up for the summer I lost during my treatments.”

Her other goals are victories for Team USA at the 2005 Special Olympics World Games speed skating events in Nagano, Japan; and gold medals for herself in the U.S. Speed Skating Nationals in Salt Lake City.
in January, and the August 2005 Master's Track Nationals in Indianapolis.

“I can’t stress strongly enough how important breast self-examination is,” said Cindi. “If I had not been aware of my breast health on a monthly basis, I would not have had such a positive outcome.”

Dealing with breast cancer has not been an entirely negative experience and it certainly has opened her eyes to her blessings, Cindi says.

“I have heard many people say that the cancer made them stronger. Cancer doesn't do that, it's the people and faith that make you stronger: faith in your doctors, faith in the cure, and the faith friends and family place in you and God that really makes you stronger,” she said.

“When you realize this, you don't want to give the power to the cancer. You take it.”

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September 30, 2004

Clarian Health Partners and IU School of Medicine Physicians Honored as America's Top Docs

INDIANAPOLIS — Forty-three physicians who practice at the Indiana University School of Medicine and Clarian Health Partners – Methodist, Indiana University and Riley Hospitals – are recognized specialists in their fields and have been included in the 2004 issue of America’s Top Doctors.

Statewide, 54 physicians are listed and 43, or almost 80 percent are affiliated with the IU School of Medicine and Clarian Health Partners.

America’s Top Doctors, is published by Castle Connolly Medical Ltd, and is an authoritative consumer guide to finding the nation’s top specialists. The list of physicians is generated based on nominations by their peers, and the physicians listed are included only after extensive surveys have been conducted.

America’s Top Doctors focuses only on the top 1 percent of specialists and subspecialists across the nation. Less than 1 percent of the hospitals in the United States have more than one doctor listed in the guide.

“I want to congratulate all the doctors that were selected. It is tremendous to have so many of these great doctors recognized nationally and to have them practicing at Methodist Hospital, Indiana University Hospital and Riley Hospital for Children,” says Daniel F. Evans, Jr., President and CEO, Clarian Health Partners. “Our goal is to be the best place for patients to receive care and the best place for our physicians and staff to deliver care that is second to none. The physicians recognized in America’s Top Doctors are representative of the excellence in patient care that the entire staff at Clarian performs each and every day.”

“There are thousands of excellent physicians in Indiana, many of whom have had the opportunity to train with those recognized with this honor,” states D. Craig Brater, M.D., dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine. “More than 1,700 physicians practice in Clarian facilities, and more than 2,000 physicians serve as IUSM volunteer faculty throughout Indiana. All these highly skilled physicians provide the highest quality of patient care to Hoosier families through their clinical practices and education of new physicians. I believe that those honored by America's Top Doctors represent all the outstanding physicians in our state.”

IU School of Medicine physicians staff Riley Hospital for Children, Indiana University Hospital, Wishard Memorial Hospital, and the Roudebush VA Medical Center.

IU School of Medicine and Clarian Health physicians recognized in the 2004 edition of America’s Top Doctors, their areas of specialization and the hospitals where they practice:

Sharon Andreoli (Riley) - Kidney Disease
Jerry Bergstein (Riley) - Dialysis-Peritoneal; Kidney Disease; Hypertension
Clarian Health Partners and IU School of Medicine Physicians Honored as America's Top Docs

Clarian Health Partners, comprised of Methodist Hospital, Indiana University Hospital and Riley Hospital for Children, is an Indiana-based, private, non-profit organization, offering a broad base of tertiary services, specialized pediatric care and a Level 1 Trauma Center. Clarian is Indiana's largest, most comprehensive health center and is one of the busiest hospital systems in the nation. Clarian Health's mission is to improve the health of patients and the community through innovation and excellence in care, education, research and service. To fulfill its mission, Clarian uses the combined resources of its sponsoring institutions and its

John Brown (Riley) - Cardiac Surgery-Neonatal and Pediatric; Transplant-heart; Heart Valve Surgery
Randall Caldwell (Riley) - Transplant Medicine-Heart; Echocardiography
William Chernoff (Methodist) - Facial Plastic/Reconstructive Surgery; Laser Surgery
John Coleman (IU, Riley) - Cancer Reconstruction; Breast Reconstruction; Head and Neck Surgery
Lawrence Einhorn (IU) - Testicular Cancer; Lung Cancer
Martin Farlow (IU) - Alzheimer's Disease; Neurodegenerative Disorders; Multiple Sclerosis
Robert Goulet Jr. (IU) - Breast Cancer
Jay Grosfeld (Riley) - Cancer Surgery
Ronald Hamaker (Methodist) - Head and Neck Cancer
Richard Idler (IU) – Hand Surgery
Matthew Johnson (IU, Riley) - Vascular Interventions; Uterine Fibroid Embolization
Young-Jee Kim (Riley) - Asthma; Chronic Lung Disease; Ventilator Dependent Children
John Kincaid (IU) - Pain-Facial; Neuromuscular Disorders; Electromyography
Martin Kleiman (Riley) - Pediatric Infectious Disease
Paul Kwo (IU) - Hepatitis C & B; Transplant Medicine - Liver
James Lemons (Riley) - Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
Keith Lillimoe (IU) - Pancreatic and Biliary Surgery; Colon Surgery
Katherine Look (IU) - Ovarian Cancer
Thomas Luerssen (Riley) - Pediatric Neurosurgery
Christopher McDougle (Riley) - Autism and Developmental Disorders; Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders; Tourette’s Syndrome
Douglas McKeag (IU) - Primary Care Sports Medicine
Alexander Mih (IU, Riley) - Microsurgery
Douglas K. Miller (Wishard, Methodist) - Frailty Syndrome; Dementia; Falls
Richard Miyamoto (Riley, IU) - Neuro-Otology; Acoustic Nerve Tumors; Middle Ear Disorders
Jean Molleston (Riley) - Liver Disease; Nutrition
David Moore (IU) - Cervical Cancer; Ovarian Cancer
John Mulcahy (IU) - Erectile Dysfunction; Incontinence; Penile Prostheses
Robert Pascuzzi (IU) - Neuromuscular Disorders; Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis; Myasthenia Gravis
Douglas Rex (IU) - Endoscopy; Endoscopic Ultrasound
Richard Rink (Riley) - Pediatric Urology; Reconstructive Urologic Surgery; Genital Reconstruction
Karen Roos (IU) - Infectious Diseases-CNS; Encephalitis
George Sarosi (Roudebush VA) – Infections-Respiratory: Fungal Lung Disease; Diagnostic Problems
K. Donald Shelbourne (Methodist) - Knee Surgery; Arthroscopic Surgery
George Sledge Jr. (IU) - Breast Cancer
Frederick Stehman (IU) - Clinical Trials; Gynecologic Cancer
Rosa Maria Ten (Riley) - Immune Deficiency; Asthma
Patricia Treadwell (Riley) - Pediatric Dermatology; Vascular Birthmarks
Mark Turrentine (Riley) - Cardiac Surgery-Pediatric; Transplant-Heart; Transplant-Lung
Elisabeth von der Lohe (IU) - Heart Disease in Women; Interventional Cardiology
David D. Weaver (IU, Riley) - Inherited Bone Disorders; Genetic & Inherited Disorders; Prenatal Diagnosis
Douglas Zipes (IU, Methodist) - Arrhythmias
Clarian Health Partners and IU School of Medicine Physicians Honored as America's Top Docs

Continuing affiliation with Indiana University School of Medicine, one of the nation’s leading medical education and research centers.

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September 29, 2004

Experts on Global HIV/AIDS to Gather in Indy Oct. 31

INDIANAPOLIS — In 2003, more than 3 million people worldwide died from AIDS and nearly twice that number acquired the human immunodeficiency virus. Behind those grim statistics is what must be done to curb the staggering epidemic of HIV/AIDS in the developing world.

That will be the focus of much of the discussion at the HIV/AIDS Care in the Developing World: Lessons Learned and the Way Forward conference, Sunday, Oct. 31. The conference, organized by the Indiana University School of Medicine, will convene some of the world's chief experts on the medical, ethical, political and economic issues related to HIV/AIDS.

Among the speakers will be Ambassador Randall Tobias, U.S. Global HIV/AIDS coordinator; James Morris, executive director of the U.N. World Food Programme; and Debrework Zewdie, Ph.D., director of the Global HIV/AIDS Program, The World Bank.

Other leaders participating in the conference:

• Terje Andersen, executive director of the National Association of People with AIDS
• Greg Behrman, author of The Invisible People
• Ezekiel Emanuel, M.D., Ph.D., chairman of the Department of Clinical Bioethics at the National Institutes of Health
• Kenneth Fife, M.D., Ph.D., professor of medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, IU School of Medicine
• Helene Gayle, M.D., M.P.H., director of HIV, TB and Reproductive Health at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
• Joseph Mamlin, M.D., co-founder of the Indiana University-Moi University Partnership Program in Kenya
• Winnie Mpanju-Shumbusho, director of the HIV/AIDS/STI Initiative of the World Health Organization
• Allan Ronald, M.D., research director for HIV/AIDS at Makerere University, Uganda; Academic Alliance For AIDS Care and Prevention in Africa; University of Manitoba, Canada

Tobias and some of these panelists participated in the 15th International AIDS Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, last summer.

"The program brings together policy makers and program directors who will share their experiences and insights with others in the concerned community," says IU School of Medicine Dean D. Craig Brater, M.D., who originated the symposium. "Our goal is to determine how to build and expand on the isolated successes we now have to reach the millions more who have no resources to survive these illnesses."

Eric Meslin, Ph.D., director of the IU Center for Bioethics, will moderate the panel discussion following individual presentations.
Experts on Global HIV/AIDS to Gather in Indy Oct. 31

Many point to the IU-Moi Program for HIV/AIDS (AMPATH) as a stellar model in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Last March, the partnership received $15 million from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, which will allow IU and Moi University Faculty of Health Sciences physicians to boost the number of HIV patients they treat from 2,000 to 30,000. To do this, they are building treatment and prevention programs in six rural Kenyan communities.

Earlier in the year, the IU-Kenya program received U.S. government funding of $1.6 million and an additional $500,000 to acquire drugs to treat AIDS patients.

The Indianapolis conference will take place from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 31, at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown Hotel, 350 W. Maryland Street.

Registration for both the public and health care professionals is possible through the IU School of Medicine Division of Continuing Medical Education at 317-274-8353 or 1-888-615-8013, or online at http://cme.medicine.iu.edu/registration/default.asp?course=05-191.

NOTE TO EDITORS/REPORTERS: Conference presenters will be available for interviews immediately preceding the conference. Times, location and other details will be released at a later date.

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September 28, 2004

Purdue, IU Medical School Form Joint Life Sciences Research Program

INDIANAPOLIS — A pilot program to promote biomedical research collaboration has been formed by the Indiana University School of Medicine and Purdue University.

The program will provide $150,000 this fiscal year for grants to enable researchers from the two universities to team up on work that is likely to spawn larger ongoing programs and attract outside funding.

"While both universities have top biomedical researchers, collaborations in this area represent a largely untapped resource for Indiana," said Charles O. Rutledge, Purdue's vice provost for research. "We intend to take advantage of this resource, and we are encouraging researchers to create joint proposals and apply for funding under this new program."

Robert B. Jones, M.D., Ph.D., executive associate dean for strategic planning, analysis and operations at the IU School of Medicine, said the program will accept proposals from any area of biomedical research.

"We hope the project serves as a catalyst for new interactions between the schools' researchers," Dr. Jones said. "Anything that can be done to increase biomedical research here makes sense for Indiana."

The state has grown into a globally recognized center for medical devices, including orthopedic products, diagnostics and cardiac implants. Central Indiana is home to a burgeoning "life sciences corridor," which stretches from Bloomington through Indianapolis to West Lafayette. The corridor includes IU's Emerging Technology Center and Purdue's Discovery Park, now linked by a high-performance optical fiber network, known as I-Light.

Educators, researchers and political leaders in 2002 created the Central Indiana Life Sciences Initiative to develop the region as a world-class center for the life sciences industry. Later renamed BioCrossroads, the ultimate goal of the initiative is to increase the number of jobs, businesses and research opportunities in the life sciences industry, positively impacting the state's economy and the health and well being of Hoosiers.

Researchers who want to compete for the grants must prepare joint proposals and submit them to either Dr. Jones or Rutledge by 5 p.m. Nov. 15. Up to three proposals will be funded after review by a joint committee of the two institutions. The awards will be announced in early December for a start date as early as Jan. 1.

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Purdue, IU Medical School Form Joint Life Sciences Research Program

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
September 28, 2004

Great Expectations, Apprehensions Among Docs and Patients

INDIANAPOLIS — What does blame and responsibility mean in the context of medicine?

That is the question experts will explore at the 2004 Medical Humanities Symposium at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis on Oct. 7-8. The symposium, “Blame and Responsibility in Medicine,” includes physicians, sociologists, ethicists and lawyers.

Eric Cassell, M.D., clinical professor of public health at Cornell University Medical College, is the keynote speaker and will discuss the changing values in medicine, how doctors communicate with those they treat and patient suffering. He is the author of several books, including The Healer’s Art and Talking with Patients.

Several IU School of Medicine faculty members will participate in breakout sessions on topics such as conflicts of physician responsibility in the U.S. health care system, blame and responsibility for chronic illness, smoking and obesity and religious perspectives.

The event, which is supported in part by the Clarian Values Fund, will be at the University Place Conference Center on Oct. 7, and at the Ruth Lilly Learning Center, Riley Outpatient Clinical on Oct. 8. Both are located on the IUPUI campus.

The pre-registration cost of the event is $15 for students and $50 for nonstudents. Checks and completed registration forms can mailed to Judi Izuka-Campbell, Medical Humanities Program, Cavanaugh Hall 329, IUPUI 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202.

For more information, go to medhumanities.iupui.edu, call 317-274-4740, or e-mail jizukac@iupui.edu.

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IUPUI Media Relations
September 27, 2004

Mental Health Problems in Assisted Living Residents Higher Than Expected

INDIANAPOLIS — The first large scale comparative study of the mental health of assisted living residents has found a higher rate than expected of mental health problems in this rapidly growing population.

The study, which appears in the October issue of the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, reports that two-thirds of 2,100 assisted living residents studied exhibited symptoms of mental health problems. Half suffered from dementia and a fourth exhibited symptoms of depression.

More than half the assisted living residents studied took psychotropic medications including antipsychotics, antidepressants or sedatives.

"These findings that the rate of mental health problems in the assisted living population is as high as the rate of mental health problems in nursing home patients is rather surprising," said study co-author Malaz Boustani, M.D., assistant professor of medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine and a Regenstrief Institute, Inc. research scientist. "The assisted living population has a rate of mental health problems much higher than the 6 percent to 7 percent of individuals with depression or dementia found in the age 65 and older population seen by primary care physicians.

"Now that we know that a significant proportion of assisted living residents have mental health problems, we need to work with assisted living residents, administrators, health care providers, policy makers and advocates to ensure that these facilities can accommodate their residents without over-medicating. We don't want to repeat the overregulation errors we have made with nursing home care," he said.

Dr. Boustani and his fellow researchers studied a random sample of assisted living residents at 193 facilities in four states, interviewing the residents, observing them within their environment, reviewing their medical charts, and talking with their health-care providers. The residents lived in three types of assisted living environments – “mom and pop” operations (16 or less residents and not part of a chain), nursing home-like facilities and hotel-like facilities with active social programs.

Dr. Boustani and colleagues found that over a third of all the assisted living residents they studied had actual behavioral problems. These included:

- 22 percent demonstrated verbal behavioral symptoms such as constant humming or repeating questions
- 20 percent exhibited physical behavioral problems such as as wandering, pacing, restlessness or hoarding
Mental Health Problems in Assisted Living Residents Higher Than Expected

- 13 percent had aggressive behavior problems such as hitting, throwing objects or spitting at others.

The type of assisted living environment appeared to be statistically insignificant except that residents of "mom and pop" facilities had more aggressive behavior problems.

"When we tried to find risk factors for these behaviors we found that those individuals with depression, dementia or functional dependency such as inability to walk without assistance were at higher risk for demonstrating behavioral problems," he said.

"Clinicians need to change how we look at assisted living residents," Dr. Boustani added. "We don’t need to institutionalize them – we should accommodate them."

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September 24, 2004

New Parkinson’s Treatment, MRSA, and Adult Hypoglycemia on Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — On this week’s edition of Sound Medicine, guests will discuss a new treatment for Parkinson’s disease, MRSA, and adult hypoglycemia.

Joanne Wojcieszek, MD, associate professor of clinical neurology at Indiana University School of Medicine, will discuss a new treatment for Parkinson’s disease. The FDA recently approved a first-of-its-kind drug for patients with Parkinson’s.

Robert Daum, section chief of pediatric infectious diseases and professor of pediatrics at University of Chicago, will discuss methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), a virulent and potentially deadly bacterium. While MRSA was once only found in hospitals and long-term care facilities, it has currently been detected in the general population.

Also on hand will be Paris Roach, MD, professor of clinical medicine at Indiana University School of Medicine, to talk about adult hypoglycemia in non-diabetic people. Hypoglycemia, also known as low blood sugar, can be a side effect of diabetes treatment. However, it is much less common, but no less real, in non-diabetic adults.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program airs at 4 p.m. Sundays. Barbara Lewis is the program’s host. Co-hosts this week are Kathy Miller, MD and David Crabb, MD

 Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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September 22, 2004

National Leaders on IU School of Medicine Faculty

INDIANAPOLIS — Fifteen Indiana University School of Medicine faculty members currently serve as presidents and president-elects of their national professional organizations. In addition, nine faculty members are serving as trustees or board members of their professional organizations, eight are serving as national chairs or delegates and three faculty members this year received honors from national organizations and alma maters.

Presidents and president-elects:

Kimberly E. Applegate, M.D., M.S
Associate Professor of Radiology
• AAWR Research and Education Foundation, President 2004
• Radiology Alliance for Health Services Research, secretary/treasurer 2004, Vice President 2005, President 2006

D. Craig Brater, M.D.
Dean and Walter J. Daly Professor
Professor of Medicine and of Pharmacology
• United States Pharmacopoeia, President, 2004
• American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, President, 2004

Virginia Caine, M.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine
Adjunct Associate Professor
• American Public Health Association, President 11/03-11/04

Carey Chisholm, M.D.
Adjunct Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine
• Society for Academic Emergency Medicine, President 5/04-5/05

John J. Coleman, III, M.D.
James E. Bennett Professor of Plastic Surgery
• American Head and Neck Society, President-elect 8/04-5/05, President 5/05-8/06

Caroline Carney Doebbeling, M.D., M.Sc.
Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Medicine
• Association of Medicine and Psychiatry, President 11/02-11/04

John N. Eble, M.D., MBA
Chairman and Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Nordschow Professor of Laboratory Medicine
• International Society of Urologic Pathology, President 2003-04
Rose S. Fife, M.D.
Barbara F. Kampen Professor of Women’s Health
Associate Dean for Research
• Central Society for Clinical Research, President-elect 4/04-4/05, President 4/05-4/06

Keith D. Lillemoe, M.D.
Jay L. Grosfeld Professor
Chairman of Department of Surgery
• Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, President 5/04-5/05
• Society of Clinical Surgery, President 11/04-11/05

Praveen N. Mathur, MBBS
Professor of Clinical Medicine
• American Association for Bronchology, President-elect 2002-04, President 2004-06

Richard T. Miyamoto, M.D.
Arilla Spence DeVault Professor
Chairman of Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery
• Association of Academic Departments of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, President-elect 11/04-11/06, President 11/06-11/08

Peter Nalin, M.D.
Associate Professor of Clinical Family Medicine
• Association of Family Medicine Residency Board of Directors, President 2004-05

John I. Nurnberger, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Joyce & Iver Small Professor of Psychiatry
• Psychiatric Research Society, President-elect, 2004-05

Ora H. Pescovitz, M.D.
Edwin Letzter Professor
Executive Associate Dean for Research Affairs
• Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endocrine Society, President 2004-05

Douglas K. Rex, M.D.
Professor of Medicine
• American College of Gastroenterology, President 11/03-11/04

Richard C. Rink, M.D.
Robert A. Garrett Professor of Pediatric Urologic Research
Chief of Pediatric Urology, Riley Hospital
• American Academy of Pediatrics, Urology Section, President 10/03-10/04

**Faculty serving as trustees or members of national and international boards:**

David B. Burr, Ph.D.
Chairman of Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology

Professor of Anatomy & Cell Biology and of Orthopedic Surgery
• Orthopedic Research Society, Board of Directors, 2004-05

Valerie P. Jackson, M.D.
Chairman of Department of Radiology
John A. Campbell Professor of Radiology
• American Board of Radiology, Board of Trustees, 2001-2010

John C. Kincaid, M.D.
Kenneth and Selma Earnest Professor of Neurology
Professor of Cellular and Integrative Physiology and of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
• American Board of Electrodiagnostic Medicine, Board of Directors 2004

Michael O. Koch, M.D.
Chairman and Professor, Department of Urology
• American Board of Urology, Trustee 2004

Keith D. Lillemoe, M.D.
Jay L. Grosfeld Professor
• American Board of Surgery, Executive Council 7/04-7/06

John I. Nurnberger, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Joyce & Iver Small Professor of Psychiatry
Professor of Neurobiology and of Medical and Molecular Genetics
• International Society of Psychiatric Genetics, Board of Directors, 2004-05

Robert Pascuzzi, M.D.
Professor and Chairman, Department of Neurology
• American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Board of Directors 2002-2010
• Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America, Inc., Board of Directors 2003-present

Mark D. Pescovitz, M.D.
Professor of Surgery
Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology
• United Network for Organ Sharing, Board of Directors 2004-05

Stephen B. Trippel, M.D.
Professor of Orthopedic Surgery
• Orthopedic Research Society, Board of Directors, 2004-05

Stephen F. Wintermeyer, M.D., MPH
Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine
Adjunct Associate Professor of Public Health
• American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Board of Directors 2002-05

National committee, section and panel chairs

Tracy G. Anthony, Ph.D.
Assistant Scientist/Assistant Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Center for Medical Education, Evansville
• American Society for Nutritional Sciences Energy and Macronutrient Metabolism Research Interest Section, Chair-elect 2004-05; Chair 2005-06

Allison Brashear, M.D.
Associate Professor of Neurology
• American Association of Neurology/Movement Disorder Society: Dystonia/Spasticity Advisory Panel, Chair, 2003-present

John J. Coleman, III, M.D.
James E. Bennett Professor of Plastic Surgery
• Plastic Surgery Residency Review Committee, Vice-chair 4/04-05, Chair 4/05-06

William C. Hamlett, Ph.D.
Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology
South Bend Center for Medical Education
• United States Delegate to the International Symposium on Morphological Sciences, 8/04-present

David Potter, M.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine

Gail H. Vance, M.D.
Professor of Medical and Molecular Genetics
• College of American Pathologists/American College of Medical Genetics Cytogenetics Resource Committee, Chair 2002-06

Eric S. Williams, M.D.
Professor of Medicine
Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs-Clarian Health Partners
• American College of Cardiology National Training and Workforce Committee, Chair, 2004-05

Stephen F. Wintermeyer, M.D., MPH
Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine
Adjunct Associate Professor of Public Health
• ACOEM Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease Committee, Chair 5/00-present

Douglas P. Zipes, M.D.
Distinguished Professor Emeritus
Professor Emeritus of Medicine
• Ventricular Arrhythmia Guidelines ACC/AHA/ESC, Chair 2003-present

Awards:

Liang Cheng, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
• Leopold Koss Award for Service, International Society of Urologic Pathologists, February 2004

Ora H. Pescovitz, M.D.
Edwin Letzter Professor
Executive Associate Dean for Research Affairs
• Distinguished Alumnus Award, Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine, 2004

Karen L. Roos, M.D.
John and Nancy Nelson Professor of Neurology, Departments of Neurosurgery and Neurology
• John L. Whitaker Memorial Scholarship, American Neurological Association for Neurological Education, 2004

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Clinician-Researcher Appointed to Named Chair

INDIANAPOLIS — D. Wade Clapp, M.D., is the new Freida and Albrecht Kipp Professor of Pediatrics at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Dr. Clapp, who was appointed to the position by IU trustees, is professor of pediatrics and of microbiology and immunology and a faculty member in the Section of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at Riley Hospital for Children. He also is an investigator at the Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research at the IU School of Medicine.

He is internationally recognized for his research of Fanconi’s anemia and neurofibromatosis and his work has appeared in many scientific journals. Much of his research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, American Heart Association and the U.S. Army.

Dr. Clapp also directs the School’s Combined M.D. /Ph.D. Program and a fellowship program geared to recruit pediatric residents interested in research careers.

The Freida and Albrecht Kipp Professor position is endowed by the Riley Children’s Foundation. The Kipps were siblings in a family who funded the construction of the original Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research, whose scientists are internationally known for their work with immune disorders, blood-related diseases, growth disorders and lung development.

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September 17, 2004

Opening Dialogues in Healthcare Communication

INDIANAPOLIS — Patients look to their physicians to provide more than correct diagnoses and accurate cost-effective treatments. They expect to be a part of medical decisions and to be given information to weigh treatment options against potential risks.

That is the focus of the “Opening Dialogues in Healthcare Communication” conference, sponsored by the Indiana University School of Medicine and the American Academy on Physician and Patient. The Oct. 1-3 conference will focus on how effective doctor-patient communication improves the quality of the relationship and positively influences outcomes.

A sample of the more than 100 presentations include:

- “Using Evaluative and Measurement Techniques to Improve Patient-physician Interactions and Reduce Malpractice Claims”
- “I know It's Bad, but How Bad is It?: Bad News in Oncologist-patient Interactions”
- “Primary Care Clinicians Rely on the Provider-Patient Relationship to Treat Patients with Medically Unexplained Symptoms – A Clinical Trial”
- “Internet-Based Patient Education can be Holistic, Collaborative, and Entertaining”

Plenary speakers include nationally-known experts in shared decision-making Thomas Inui, M.D. of the IU School of Medicine and the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. and Hilary A. Llewellyn-Thomas, Ph.D. of Dartmouth University and health literacy experts Rima Rudd, M.S.P.H., Sc.D. of Harvard University and David W. Baker, M.D. of Northwestern University.

The conference will be held at the IU School of Medicine and at the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. in Indianapolis. Non-media wishing to attend can register at www.physicianpatient.org or 314-576-5333.

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Newborn Screening, Breastfeeding, and Healthy Lifestyles - On This Week’s Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this week’s edition of Sound Medicine will discuss newborn screening in Indiana, the impact of breastfeeding on children’s health, and healthy eating and lifestyles.

Rebecca Wappner, M.D., professor of medical and molecular genetics and professor of pediatrics at Indiana University School of Medicine, will discuss newborn screening in Indiana. Years ago, genetic anomalies were often not discovered until a child had developed a fatal disease; now, prenatal and newborn screening can often alert parents much sooner.

Kinga Szucs, M.D., assistant professor of clinical pediatrics at IU School of Medicine, will talk about the importance of breastfeeding. Breast milk is the perfect source for nutrition for infants. Additionally, Dr. Szucs will discuss the public service campaign about breastfeeding created by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Ad Council.

Zonya Foco, registered dietitian and certified health and fitness instructor with the American College of Sports Medicine, will discuss healthy eating and easy lifestyle changes for a healthier America. Ms. Foco is the author of “Lickety-Split Meals for Health Conscious People on the Go.”

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program airs at 4 p.m. Sundays. Barb Lewis is the program’s host. Co-hosts this week are Ora Pescovitz, M.D., and Stephen Bogdewic, Ph.D.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at soundmedicine.iu.edu/.

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Media Contact:

Pamela Su Perry
Kohl’s Donates $1.5 Million to Auto Safety Program

INDIANAPOLIS — One of the greatest dangers facing children is riding in an automobile. Kohl’s Department Stores is partnering with Riley Hospital for Children to improve the safety of Indiana’s children.

On Thursday, September 16th at 2 p.m. at Riley Hospital, Kohl’s will present a check for $1.5 million to Riley Hospital’s Automotive Safety Program. The funds directly support the Kohl’s Center for Safe Transportation of Children at Riley, allowing the hospital to provide much-needed car safety education and specialty transportation services to the public. The funds will enable Riley to continue as a leader in automotive safety issues in Indiana.

At the 2 p.m. event, Dr. Bull, Lisa Anderson of Kohl’s, Representative Peggy Welch and Senator Thomas J. Wyss will speak, along with Elena Baez and her daughter who was helped by Riley’s Automotive Safety Program. Other safety advocates and Riley staff will also be present at the event.

Dr. Bull will conduct a demonstration on how to properly install and use safety seats and will address the importance of restraining and properly restraining children in automobiles.

Dr. Bull will also discuss other measures that need to be addressed regarding automobile safety and offer safety tips and advice for parents and consumers, as well as options that are available to parents of children with special needs.

Senator Wyss and Representative Welch will discuss the impact and importance of the legislation that takes effect next summer.

Effective July 1, 2005, Hoosier children younger than age 8 riding in an automobile must be restrained in an approved car seat or booster seat. State Rep. Peggy Welch (D-Bloomington) and Sen. Thomas J. Wyss (R-Indianapolis) worked closely with Dr. Bull and authored the bills that led to the new law.

Riley Hospital’s Automotive Safety Program has long been a leader in automobile safety advocacy, including car and booster seat safety. Dr. Marilyn Bull, MD, Director of Developmental Pediatrics and Medical Director of the Automobile Safety Program at Riley Hospital for Children was instrumental in getting recent legislation passed to ensure that all young children are restrained when riding in an automobile. She is considered a national expert and leading advocate in automobile safety for children.

In 2003, more than 291,000 Indiana children under age 15 were injured and 2,570 were killed in motor vehicle crashes, while only 16 percent of Hoosier children who needed to be in booster seats actually used them. Young children are nearly four times more likely to suffer devastating injuries – including severe damage to the brain, liver, spleen and spinal cord – when they use a vehicle’s seat belts rather than booster seats.
Through continued work of Indiana’s legislators, Governor’s Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving, Riley Hospital and the contributions of community organizations like Kohl’s, the momentum to improve the safety of children will continue to make progress.

“Sadly, unrestrained and improperly restrained children are far more likely to be injured, to suffer more severe injuries and to die in the event of an automobile crash,” said Dr. Marilyn Bull, who launched the Automotive Safety program at Riley in 1981. “Thanks to Kohl’s, we hope to enhance the resources in Indiana to help parents of all children, including those with special needs, keep their children properly restrained any time they’re in a vehicle.”

“Kohl’s introduced the Kohl’s Cares for Kids program to promote children’s health and educational opportunities and is committed to playing an active role in communities throughout the country,” said Julie Gardner, senior vice president of marketing for Kohl’s Department Stores. “We want to continue to make a big impact on the Indianapolis area and reach out to our neighbors in a personal way. Through our gift to Riley Hospital for Children, we are supporting an initiative that yields benefits that can’t be measured in dollars.”

On Saturday, Sept. 18, the Noblesville Kohl’s store will host technicians from Riley’s Automotive Safety Program for Children to conduct a free safety-seat clinic. From 8 to 11 a.m., technicians will inspect drivers’ existing restraint systems and educate parents about proper restraints. All central Indiana Kohl’s locations will be open from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Sept. 18.

For more information about automobile safety for children, visit www.preventinjury.org or call 1-800-KID-N-CAR.

As Indiana’s only comprehensive hospital dedicated exclusively to the care of children, Riley Hospital for Children, a part of Clarian Health Partners, has provided compassionate care, support and comfort to children and their families for 80 years. Riley serves more than 150,000 inpatients and outpatients annually from across Indiana, the nation and the world. Riley Hospital’s partnership with Clarian Health and its strong affiliation with the Indiana University School of Medicine make Riley Hospital for Children the leader in pediatric care in the state and the region.

www.rileyhospital.org • www.rileykids.org

The Kohl’s commitment to Riley Hospital for Children is made possible through the Kohl’s Cares for Kids program, which raises funds for children’s hospitals through the sale of special gift items. Four times a year, Kohl’s features special items in its stores priced at $5 each, with 100 percent of the net profits donated to children’s hospitals nationwide.

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Media Contact:
Kohl’s Donates $1.5 Million to Auto Safety Program

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September 15, 2004

Former Surgeon General To Address Med Student Conference

INDIANAPOLIS — She has been described by many as a “lightning rod for public health,” known for her blunt assessments on issues ranging from teen sexuality to limited health care access for the poor.

Joycelyn Elders, M.D., the nation’s first African-American woman to serve as U. S. Surgeon General, will be the featured speaker at a black-tie dinner at the annual Student National Medical Association Regional Conference, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16 on the Indiana University Medical Center campus.

The day-long conference, hosted by the IU School of Medicine’s SNMA chapter, includes intensive workshops on hypertension, cardiovascular disease, integrative medicine, smoking cessation, prostate cancer, suturing techniques and sexually transmitted diseases.

“We also will have sessions about opportunities and challenges for minorities seeking careers in medicine and research, and discuss diversity issues in today’s health-care arena,” says Ruby Long, a third-year medical student at IU and chairwoman of SNMA Region V Conference, which includes medical students from Indiana, Ohio and Michigan.

A pediatric endocrinologist and veteran of the U.S. Army, Dr. Elders was appointed surgeon general by President Bill Clinton in 1993, but resigned under pressure 15 months later amidst controversial remarks she made at a United Nations conference on AIDS. She returned to the University of Arkansas College of Medicine to teach and practice medicine and today is a distinguished professor of public health at that institution.

Dr. Virginia Caine, director of the Marion County Health Department and associate professor in the IU School of Medicine’s Division of Infectious Diseases, and U.S. House Rep. Julia Carson, will be on hand to discuss medical education and health policy issues during the conference.

The Student National Medical Association is the nation’s oldest and largest organization focused on the needs and concerns of under represented medical students. Membership includes nearly 5,000 medical students, pre-medical students, residents, and licensed physicians.

For more information about the conference, contact Ruby Long at rujlong@iupui.edu or Lauren Outlaw at loutlaw@iupui.edu.

# # #
September 14, 2004

Mini Medical School – Up Close and Personal

INDIANAPOLIS — Do you want to learn how to save the life of a heart attack victim? Have you ever wondered what it would be like to try your hand at surgery? Want to observe the use of acupuncture needles and other non-traditional therapies to relieve pain?

These and three other topics will be demonstrated by Indiana University School of Medicine physicians and other health experts at the fall series of Mini Medical School, Oct. 12 through Nov. 16. All but the final two-hour weekly sessions will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesdays in the lower-level auditorium at the Riley Outpatient Center on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus. The last session will meet at a location to be announced.

Most of the sessions will give participants the opportunity to handle training tools used at the medical school. The interactive confabs will be conducted by the School’s top physicians, researchers and other medical staff. Here is what is on tap for the upcoming sessions and the lead presenters:

**Oct. 12: Tackling the Torment**
How patients benefit from alternative therapies such as acupuncture, visualization, herbal remedies and biofeedback. Palmer MacKie, M.D., clinical assistant professor and director of the IU Integrative Pain Center.

**Oct. 19: CPR and Cardiac Therapy**
The basics of cardiopulmonary resuscitation and how automated external defibrillators work. Participants also will have the chance to sign up for future coursework leading to certifications. William J. Groh, M.D., M.P.H., associate professor and affiliated with the Krannert Institute of Cardiology.

**Oct. 26: Inner Visions: Imaging for Diagnosis and Disease**
See how ultrasound and other advanced imaging tools are used to diagnose and treat illnesses. Gary D. Hutchins, Ph.D., professor and director of the IU Division of Imaging Sciences.

**Nov. 2: Bedside Manner**
Learn how medical students improve their communication and diagnostic skills with actor-patients who simulate real-life scenarios. Mini Medical School participants will evaluate how well students do. Susan H. Ballinger, associate professor and director of the School’s Clinical Skills Education Center; Stephen B. Leapman, M.D., executive associate dean for education affairs and professor.

**Nov. 9: Living With Your Genome**
Much information about our genes, how they function and associated genetic diseases has been discovered because of the Human Genome Project. This segment focuses on insight gained from the project, including information about cystic fibrosis, cancer, Parkinson diseases and other disorders. David
Mini Medical School – Up Close and Personal

Weaver, M.D., M.S., professor and director of the Division of Clinical Genetics and associates.

**Nov. 16: Life in the Virtual OR**
Enter an operating room where you don't have to scrub. Virtually reality tools are used to teach surgeons. And meet a $250,000 "patient" anesthesiology residents work on frequently to hone their skills. David F. Canal, M.D., associate professor and director of the IU Center for Surgical Education; Jeffrey L. Lane, M.D., assistant professor and director of the IU Human Simulation Laboratory.

One of the main goals of the twice-annual Mini Medical School is to introduce and explain to the public – in everyday language – the latest developments and topical issues in health care and research.

The cost to attend the six-week series is $40 per person and advanced registration is required. Parking is included. For information or to register, call 317-278-7600. When registering, refer to Course No. 042N01A00.

IU Mini Medical School is sponsored by the IU Medical Group and Indianapolis radio station WIBC-1070 AM and is offered by the IU School of Medicine Faculty Community Relations through the IUPUI Division of Continuing Studies.

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September 13, 2004

Center Focuses on Improved Disease Diagnostics

INDIANAPOLIS — Adults and children with cancer and heart disease patients will be among the first to benefit from researchers’ work at the Center of Excellence in Computational Diagnostics at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The center, established by a $2 million grant from Indiana’s 21st Century Research and Technology Fund, harnesses the collective talents of scientists at IU-Bloomington and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

“This is an exciting opportunity to propel IU further as a leader in patient care and research,” says Susanne Ragg, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of pediatrics and an oncologist at James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children.

Dr. Ragg leads a team of experts in genetics, evidence-based medicine, proteomics, database integration and mathematical modeling.

Their immediate goal is to create to develop blood tests to better identify disease biomarkers for pediatric cancer and heart disease.

The team includes researchers from the School’s departments of pediatrics and medicine, Bloomington’s Department of Chemistry and School of Library and Information Science, and IUPUI’s departments of computer engineering and mathematical sciences. The massive medical data management systems at the Regenstrief Institute, Inc., based at the IU School of Medicine, also will be a key contributor to the center.

Scientific collaboration isn’t confined to the Hoosier state. The German Heart Center in Munich and the Center for Biotechnology at Bielefeld University in Germany also will contribute data and sample collection.

“The center also will create unique capabilities for the life sciences research and industry in Indiana, including the commercial sector,” says Dr. Ragg.

Establishment of the Center of Excellence in Computational Diagnostics comes on the heels of the Sept. 1 groundbreaking of the IU Medical Information Sciences Building in downtown Indianapolis. When opened in 2006, the $42 million facility will provide space for five IU research programs: the Division of Children’s Health Services Research, the Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, the Division of Biostatistics, the Center for Bioethics and the Regenstrief Institute.

The 21st Century Research and Technology Fund was established in 1999. Its goal is to expand research in Indiana and create new partnerships between universities and businesses and boost the state economy.

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September 12, 2004

High School Athletes and Head Injuries and Parkinson's Disease - On This Week's Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Tune in at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12, to Sound Medicine, the weekly radio program co-produced by IUSM and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program is hosted by Barb Lewis. The co-host this week is David Crabb, MD.

Shane Shapiro, M.D., primary care/sports medicine physician with the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla., and Kevin Gebke, MD, assistant professor of clinical family medicine and sports medicine fellowship director for the Indiana University Center for Sports Medicine, will address the issue of American high school athletes, injuries, and those who are the first-responders

Tatiana Foroud, Ph.D., associate professor of medical and molecular genetics at the Indiana University School of Medicine, will discuss the genetic link of Parkinson’s disease identified by researchers on the PROGENI project.

Mark Ackermann, senior vice president and chief corporate services officer of St. Vincent’s Catholic Medical Centers of New York, looks back at Sept.11 and how we can become better prepared in the event of a catastrophe.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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September 10, 2004

Missouri Physician Will Lead Orthopaedic Surgeons

INDIANAPOLIS — Jeffrey O. Anglen, M.D., has been named chairman of the Indiana University Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, pending approval by IU trustees.

Dr. Anglen is expected to begin his duties in early 2005. He currently is a clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery at the University of Missouri Health Sciences Center. Dr. Anglen joined the faculty in 1992 as an assistant professor and chief of Orthopaedic trauma Services. Previously, he served a fellowship at the Florida Orthopaedic Institute in Tampa, Fla.

He also has been an assistant clinical professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and a volunteer surgeon with Orthopaedics Overseas in Transkei, South Africa.

Dr. Anglen specializes in the biomechanics of fractures, evaluating reconstruction outcomes and wound care. He graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri. He received his medical degree and completed his internship and residency at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

The new orthopaedic surgery chief replaces Randy Loder, M.D., who was interim chair from August 2003. Dr. Loder served in that capacity when Stephen Trippel, M.D., resigned the position to devote more time to his clinical practice and research.

For more information about the IU Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, go to www.orthopaedics.iu.edu.

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Spend a Buck, Dunk a Dean

INDIANAPOLIS — Some of the top leadership at the Indiana University School of Medicine and the chancellor of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis are on tap for a solid soaking later this month.

The second "Dunk the Deans" fundraising event is on for 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24, on the lawn in front of Fesler Hall, north of Michigan Street on the IUPUI campus. Proceeds from this year's event will be used for the IU-Moi University program in Kenya. The initial event in 2002 raised about $10,000 for the IU-Moi University program in Kenya.

IU School of Medicine Dean D. Craig Brater, M. D., and IUPUI Chancellor Charles Bantz will be among those who take their place in the dunking booth and no doubt will hurl encouragement and insults at throwers. Prices begin at $1 for a softball; less accurate participants can make a larger donation and throw a basketball.

Other activities planned include a silent auction of various craft items, such as jewelry, afghans, sweaters and pottery made by Kenya AIDS patients; miscellaneous gift items from local businesses and restaurants; and an Ambassadair Travel Club membership.

"Dunk the Deans" T-shirts are for sale for $12; contact Linda Vinson at lvinson@iupui.edu, or call 278-0057.

For more information about "Dunk the Deans" and a list of the "dunkees" and their times in the booth, go to www.medicine.iu.edu/events/dunkTheDeans.

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Joe Stuteville
September 9, 2004

**New Immunobiology Center Research Leads to Better Therapies**

INDIANAPOLIS — Future transplant recipients and other patients at high risk for immune system complications will benefit from research conducted at the newly established Center of Immunobiology at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The center will bring together expertise of researchers from various basic science disciplines, says David S. Wilkes, M.D., the Dr. Calvin H. English Professor and professor of medicine and of microbiology and immunology.

“This greatly strengthens the bench-level research at the IU School of Medicine,” says Dr. Wilkes, director of the Center of Immunobiology. “Ultimately, it helps focus our research specialties that will translate into better therapies and care for patients.”

Immunobiology is an interdisciplinary science that studies the immune factors that affect growth, development and the health of the human body. For example, transplant recipients currently receive a battery of anti-rejection drugs to thwart organ rejection. At the same time, these drugs suppress the body’s immune system, which can cause life-threatening infections.

Initially, the Center will include about 20 researchers and clinicians from areas such as surgery, microbiology and immunology, pathology, pediatrics, pharmacology and toxicology and clinical pharmacology. Dr. Wilkes plans to add several new investigators as the program develops.

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September 8, 2004

IU Physician Has Republic of Georgia on Her Mind

INDIANAPOLIS — A second-year resident in the Indiana University Family Practice Residency will journey to the Republic of Georgia to participate in an international medical relief effort.

Anna Sagoyan, M.D., is making the trip by way of winning the nationally competitive American Academy of Family Physicians scholarship. She was the only recipient of the award, which drew applicants from family practices around the United States.

While in Georgia from Oct. 27 to Nov. 6, she will be part of an international team that meets with local physicians to discuss health care needs and to provide medical care to children in several orphanages.

Dr. Sagoyan is a native of Armenia, which borders Georgia to the south, and earned her medical degree in that country at the Yerevan State Medical University. She and her family left Armenia for the United States in early 1990s when civil war broke out in her homeland.

"Georgia and Armenia are close culturally and even though both have different languages most of the people in both countries speak Russian," says Dr. Sagoyan. "I believe my Russian language skills and background will help the mission trip and help cut through cultural barriers."

The Republic of Georgia, which has a population of more than 5.3 million, was forcibly incorporated into the former Soviet Union in the 1920s, but gained its freedom 70 years later when the union dissolved.

Closer to home in Indianapolis, after completing her residency, Dr. Sagoyan plans to work in a multi-specialty group, providing care for the growing Russian-Armenian community. Her clinical specialty is preventive medicine and she focuses on endocrinology in her research.

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IU Physician Has Republic of Georgia on Her Mind
September 7, 2004

Marvella Bayh Scholarship Seeds Student Research in Cancer

INDIANAPOLIS — A Fort Wayne native is the 2003-04 recipient of the Marvella Bayh Scholarship created by the Bayh family at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Michelle Braun is a second-year student at the Indiana University School of Medicine on the Indianapolis campus. Her work in medical research began as part of her master's degree work in physiology, also at the IU School of Medicine. As an undergraduate at Ball State University, she was in the Honors College where she distinguished herself as a magna cum laude graduate with a major in biology.

For many summers, Braun has volunteered at a summer camp for youngsters afflicted with muscular dystrophy. Work with this group of campers is driven by her personal interest in the disorder. This year, she participated in a cancer-related bench research project that will be submitted for publication later this year.

Her research occurred in the laboratories of medical school faculty members Frederick Pavalko, Ph.D., associate professor; and Suzanne Norvell, Ph.D., assistant scientist. Their work focuses on a group of proteins found in the osteoblasts (special cells found in bone) of a particular mouse model. These proteins may be abnormally regulated in cancer patients with primary bone cancer as well as patients with metastases to the bone from breast cancer and other types of tumors.

The Marvella Bayh Scholarship provided the research funds that enabled Michelle to continue this important work while pursuing her degree in medicine.

"I wish to extend my sincere appreciation and congratulations to Michelle for her important work to help discover new cures for cancer," Sen. Bayh said. "As the son of a courageous mother who lost her life to breast cancer, it is my eternal hope that one day the work of young women, like Michelle, will play a major role in removing breast cancer from the list of deadly diseases those women must battle.

"Finding a cure for cancer will take a multi-faceted approach, requiring the dedication of community members and Congress. I will continue to do my part to help tackle research hurdles and ensure that much needed federal funding is made available on a national level. To Michelle and so many others, I remain grateful for your hard work and for your determination, which will undoubtedly carry the field of cancer research to new heights, providing a new promise of hope to future generations."

The Marvella Bayh Scholarship is awarded each year to a medical student who has identified an interest in pursuing cancer research while attending IU. Marvella Bayh, the wife of former Indiana Sen. Birch Bayh, died from breast cancer in 1979.
"Michelle is a role model that we would like other students to emulate," says D. Craig Brater, dean of the IU School of Medicine. "The availability of the Marvella Bayh Scholarship ensures that our students can choose to pursue research in cancer-related areas while studying medicine."

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Genetic Research Aims to Isolate Bipolar Gene

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University School of Medicine has embarked on a massive search to isolate the specific gene responsible for bipolar I disorder.

The School's Institute for Psychiatric Research is continuing a collaboration with the National Institute for Mental Health and 11 other U.S. academic centers. Their goal is to narrow the field from suspect areas of chromosomes to isolate genes that affect the mental health of thousands of Americans.

The Institute began the collaborative research 15 years ago and has successfully identified areas of genetic linkage on specific chromosomes. With new funding from the NIMH, the IU researches hope to hone in on the specific gene by collecting genetic information from 5,000 people with bipolar I disorder. This multi-center trial has received a five-year, $16 million NIMH grant.

John I. Nurnberger, M.D., Ph.D., the Joyce and Iver Small Professor of Psychiatry and director of the Institute and the national coordinator for the multi-site study.

Other team leaders at IU School of Medicine are Howard J. Edenberg, Ph.D., Chancellor's Professor and professor of biochemistry and molecular biology and of medical and molecular genetics and director of the Center for Medical Genomics, who is heading up the laboratory for the research institutions. Tatiana Foroud, Ph.D., associate professor of medical and molecular genetics and director of the Division of Hereditary Diseases and Family Studies, is in charge of the genetic analysis.

The study seeks individuals with Bipolar I affective disorder, the most severe form of the condition, known as manic depression. Bipolar I disorder is characterized by incapacitating manic episodes that frequently require hospitalization. The disorder affects 1 percent of the U.S. population, nearly 3 million Americans.

Participants in the study will be interviewed and will give a blood specimen from which a cell line will be developed as part of a national resource for genetic studies of this disorder. The cell line will provide a source of DNA. All of the information will become part of a national database that will eventually be available to investigators conducting NIMH-approved bipolar genetic studies.

The information being collected at IU and the other sites will be added to prior DNA information collected over the past decade from 4,000 individuals representing 700 families affected by bipolar disorder.

"The ultimate goal of the research is to understand what goes wrong in the brain to cause the illness," said Dr. Nurnberger. "That information will help with drug and treatment development and ultimately identify people at risk to see what can be done to prevent the onset of the disorder."
Seventy-five percent of people with the illness have a family member with bipolar disorder or with recurrent depression. By isolating specific genes involved with the disease, researchers can increase the effectiveness of current treatments and provide the knowledge needed to develop new treatments.

"The medications for bipolar illness are much better than they used to be, but we still have a long way to go," Dr. Nurnberger said.

For additional information or to enroll in the study contact Carrie Smiley, R.N., at 317-274-8844, or toll free at 888-750-2201.

For additional information on the IU School of Medicine Institute of Psychiatric Research see [http://ipr.iupui.edu](http://ipr.iupui.edu).

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**News Release Archives** | **Media Relations** | **IU School of Medicine**
September 5, 2004

Stroke and Hypertension – On This Week’s Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this weekend’s Sound Medicine program will take a look at plastic surgery and discuss hypertension and stroke.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program airs at 4 p.m. Sundays. Barb Lewis is the program’s host. Co-hosts this week are Ora Pescovitz, MD, and Kathy Miller, MD.

New trends in plastic surgery will be discussed by A. Michael Sadove, M.D., IU professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and of plastic surgery.

Daniel Woo, M.D., an assistant professor of neurology at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, will discuss his recently completed research on the relationship between hypertension and stroke.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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Kids’ Smoking Choices Sparked by Parents’ Attitudes

INDIANAPOLIS — Inner-city youngsters residing in households with smokers are more likely to take up the habit and hang out with friends who also smoke, an Indiana University School of Medicine study reports.

A survey of more than 8,100 middle-school aged students in the Indianapolis Public Schools system shows that children residing with smokers are three times as likely to be smokers themselves and those who are smoking are four times as likely to say they started because family members light up. About two-thirds of survey participants said they live in homes with adults or other youths who smoke.

The study appears in the September issue of the International Journal of Health Promotion and Education, an England-based publication.

"Living in a home with others who smoke has a significant impact on a child’s smoking behavior," says lead investigator Terrell W. Zollinger, Dr. P.H., professor in the IU Department of Family Medicine. "Parents and older siblings need to understand that their behavior and anti-tobacco messages definitely impact children’s decisions."

Parents – particularly mothers – who give clear antismoking messages to their children appear to exert a significant deterrent to children experimenting with tobacco use and becoming regular users. Disapproval of smoking by parents and other family members can reduce peer influences on children’s decisions.

The study also revealed that white children (78 percent) were much more likely to be in homes with smokers than their African-American counterparts (54 percent).

Non-smoking kids living in non-smoking households were five times as likely to say the reason they don’t smoke is because their families and friends are not users. Among the study’s other findings:

- Smoking children from non-smoking households more often indicate their parents were unaware that they are smoking
- Non-smoking children from non-smoking households were only a third as likely to say they would try smoking in the next year
- Children from non-smoking households were more concerned about the health effects of their families’ and friends’ smoking
- Youngsters in smoking households were less likely to believe that smoking causes ill health

IU investigators point out that study participants are inner-city children and that their responses might be
markedly different from suburban and rural children. However, parents and influential adults still can make a difference.

"Children in middle school, 12- to 14-years-old, are still susceptible to home influences," Dr. Zollinger says. "As they become older adolescents, they may become less open to the messages they get at home. The bottom line is that parents need to have the skills to effectively communicate anti-smoking values to their children – and they need to be encouraged to take responsibility for giving those messages."

Other IU study investigators included Robert M. Saywell Jr., Ph.D., M.P.H.; Carolyn M. Muegge, M.S., M.P.H.; Lora J. Bogda, M.P.H.; Sandra F. Cummings, M.S.W.; J. Scott Wooldridge, M.H.A.; and Sandra F. Cummings, M.S.W., Marion County Health Department.

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August 30, 2004

Dr. Ora Pescovitz Named Riley Hospital President and CEO

INDIANAPOLIS — Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D., Indiana University School of Medicine's top dean of research, has been named president and chief executive officer of Riley Hospital for Children. Dr. Pescovitz will continue to serve as the medical school's executive associate dean for research affairs.

As a longtime faculty member and physician practicing at the state's premier hospital for children, Dr. Pescovitz said she is excited by the opportunity to lead Riley to new levels of excellence in research, patient care and advocacy for children's health. Her appointment is effective Wednesday, Sept. 1.

Riley Hospital for Children is part of Clarian Health Partners, which also includes Indiana University Hospital and Methodist Hospital. As Indiana's first and only comprehensive hospital dedicated exclusively to the care of children, Riley Hospital for Children has provided compassionate care, support and comfort to children and their families for 80 years. Riley has 251 staffed beds and serves more than 185,000 inpatients and outpatients from across Indiana, the nation and the world.

"Riley has always been one of Indiana's crown jewels, one that we want to continue polishing. We want to continue to expand its services to the children of Indiana and be recognized as a national leader among children's hospitals," said Dr. Pescovitz. "I am thrilled to join the hospital and the Clarian leadership team during this exciting new era for Riley."

Daniel F. Evans, Jr., president and CEO of Clarian Health Partners, said, "We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Ora Pescovitz as president and CEO of Riley Hospital for Children," said. "Ora's experience and many successes at Riley Hospital and the IU School of Medicine as a leader in clinical care, research and operations will continue to enhance Riley's delivery of patient care, second to none. Her skills and expertise will also help heighten Riley's position and visibility as a preeminent children's hospital in the United States. She is one of the most respected leaders and physicians throughout the country and we are thrilled she has accepted the CEO position at Riley Hospital for Children."

Dr. Pescovitz brings a strong set of skills to her new position. As an executive associate dean, she has administered the school of medicine's research program, which brings in more than $210 million per year in grants and contracts. She also oversees the Indiana Genomics Initiative, funded by $155 million in grants from Lilly Endowment, which helped lay the research foundation for BioCrossroads and Indiana's life sciences economic initiatives.

D. Craig Brater, M.D., dean of the IU School of Medicine, said, "Ora is a special talent. She is a skilled clinician, scientist and administrator. She has perspective and vision that make her such a valuable contributor to anything she does. She has given the school remarkable leadership in guiding our research mission for the past four years. Her next role with split responsibilities for Clarian and the school will allow
Dr. Ora Pescovitz Named Riley Hospital President and CEO

her charisma and vision to apply even more broadly; this will be great for both organizations."

This unprecedented joint appointment will benefit both the hospital and the school, strengthening the process in which world-class basic research is conducted and then translated into treatments that directly benefit patients.

"This will enable us to further align and strengthen the relationship, and enhance the collaborations, between Clarian and the IU School of Medicine," said Dr. Pescovitz.

"Ora possesses amazing abilities in all areas of medicine – patient care, teaching, research, administration and advocacy," said Richard L. Schreiner, M.D., physician-in-chief of Riley Hospital. "She is visionary and passionate about all that is important in health care and academic medicine, especially in all that relate to the health of our children. This appointment is the perfect prescription for great things at Riley Hospital for Children, Clarian Health Partners, Indiana University School of Medicine, and the well-being of children."

Dr. Pescovitz is the Edwin Letzter Professor of Pediatrics and professor of cellular and integrative physiology at the school of medicine. She has served as the director of pediatric endocrinology and diabetology at IU School of Medicine and Riley Hospital since 1990. As a researcher she has published nearly 170 scientific papers on work primarily related to human growth and pubertal development.

She has served as president of the Society for Pediatric Research, the nation's largest pediatric research organization and is currently president of the Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endocrine Society, the major North American organization for pediatric endocrinologists and diabetologists.

As a physician, Dr. Pescovitz continues to see young patients in her specialty of endocrinology, the hormone-producing system that controls growth and development, reproduction and other bodily systems.

Dr. Pescovitz stressed that she will continue to oversee the school of medicine's efforts to dramatically expand its research programs. The school has developed plans to double the amount of research funds it receives from the National Institutes of Health – the nation's primary source of biomedical research grants – by 2012.

"Ora possesses a progressive and crystal clear vision for the future of Riley Hospital," said Kevin O'Keefe, president and CEO of the Riley Children’s Foundation. "Given this vision, her deep passion for children and her expertise in research and clinical care, Ora is uniquely prepared to lead Riley into the future. We look forward to working in partnership with Ora for the benefit of Indiana’s children."

Dr. Pescovitz also is chair of the March of Dimes grants review committee, a member of the Ad-Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding and chair of the nominating committee of the Hormone Foundation. Her awards include a Research Career Development Award from the National Institutes of Health, IU School of Medicine’s highest teaching award and the 2004 Distinguished Alumni Award from Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine.

She is married to Mark Pescovitz, M.D., an organ transplant surgeon and vice chair of research for the Indiana University Department of Surgery. They have three children.

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
August 27, 2004

**Bariatric Surgery Explored On This Week's Sound Medicine**

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this weekend’s Sound Medicine program will focus on how to keep the younger generation healthy.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program airs at 4 p.m. Sundays. Barb Lewis is the program’s host. Co-host this week is David Crabb, M.D.

Bariatric surgery, a popular weight-loss procedure, will be the topic of Geraldo Gomez, M.D., associate professor of surgery at IU School of Medicine.

The National Research Roster for Huntington’s Disease Patients and Families, the only database of its kind, is under the care and keeping of P. Michael Conneally, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor and professor of medical and molecular genetics. He will discuss the DNA bank and it’s history, including being a member of the team that identified the Huntington gene in 1983.

Sound Medicine’s Jonathon Schmitz will travel to an Indiana prison and talk to people involved in an inmate program to train and care for puppies that will be used as service dogs.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at [http://soundmedicine.iu.edu](http://soundmedicine.iu.edu).

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INDIANAPOLIS — Physical symptoms are nearly as common as emotional ones in patients suffering from depression, according to Indiana University School of Medicine research published in the August issue of the Journal of General Internal Medicine.

Patients with depression frequently talk to their physicians about symptoms such as headache, back or muscle pain, stomach ache and dizziness instead of symptoms more commonly associated with depression such as fatigue, lack of motivation and moodiness, says Kurt Kroenke, M.D., professor of medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics at IU and a research scientist at the Regenstrief Institute, Inc.

"Depression is a risk factor for symptoms of pain," he said. "The most reports of pain – such as muscle pain, headaches, leg pain – are two or three times more common in people with depression."

Physical symptoms also may serve as a barometer for physicians to gauge the effectiveness of common antidepressant treatments, he said.

"Physical symptoms may not respond to common antidepressant treatment as much as the emotional symptoms," says Dr. Kroenke. "Even though the physical symptoms may be related to or aggravated by the depression, they can linger longer than the emotional symptoms."

In his article "The Outcome of Physical Symptoms with Treatment of Depression," Dr. Kroenke cautions it is important to monitor physical symptoms when assessing patients with depression. If the physical symptoms persist, additional medical assessments may be needed.

The study examined the prevalence, impact on quality of life and outcome of physical symptoms in patients with depression during nine months of antidepressant therapy. A total of 573 depressed primary care patients at 37 clinic settings were assessed at one, three, six and nine months.

In more than a third of the patients, the physical symptoms persisted longer than the depression symptoms.

"While physical symptoms showed, on average, some improvement with antidepressant treatment, the improvement was typically less than was reported for emotional symptoms," he said. "Most of the improvement for the physical symptoms occurred within the first month of treatment, while the emotional symptoms continued to improve over a nine-month period."

A related study by Dr. Kroenke also revealed a correlation between the severity of pain as reported by the patient and the success of treatment for depression. The more severe the pain at the beginning of
treatment, the less responsive depression is to antidepressant medication.

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August 20, 2004

The Fitness of Stretching and Inhaled Insulin All on This Week's Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this weekend's Sound Medicine program will look at the importance of stretching muscles when exercising, the body's need for potassium, the gift of inhaled insulin and how facial prosthetics change lives.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program airs at 4 p.m. Sundays. Barb Lewis is the program's host. Co-hosts this week are Ora Pescovitz, MD, and Kathy Miller, MD.

To stretch or not to stretch, is the question when Stacey Ingraham, PhD, with the University of Minnesota School of Kinesiology, discusses current research about working out.

The importance of dietary potassium will be the topic of Curtis Morris, MD, from the University of California, San Francisco, departments of medicine, pediatrics and radiology.

Inhaled insulin - a long awaited innovation for diabetics - will be discussed by Paris Roach, MD, IU professor of clinical medicine.

A special guest on the program will be Arizona Public Radio's Ann Heppermann, who will interview David Trainer, a manufacturer of facial prosthetics.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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August 17, 2004

Shock Wave Lithotripsy Research Expanded With NIH Grant Renewal

INDIANAPOLIS — The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases has renewed a major grant which will allow Indiana University School of Medicine researchers to continue scrutinizing the long-term effects of shock wave lithotripsy in the treatment of kidney stones.

Andrew P. Evan, Ph.D., professor of anatomy, is the principal investigator of the $6.5 million grant. This is the third time the NIDDK has funded the novel research; first in 1994 with $2.45 million and again in 1998 when it received $4.15 million in grant funding. The money will finance four different projects, all ultimately seeking to improve the effectiveness and safety of shock wave lithotripsy.

Early studies by the IU School of Medicine researchers and others in the field have proven that lithotripsy treatments cause tissue damage with potential long-term health consequences.

"In our previous grants, we were looking for mechanisms that cause shock waves to break stones and injure tissue," said Dr. Evan. "We have spent nine years on that and have made very good progress in answering those questions. Now, we're reviewing the data to develop protocols to make lithotripsy safer for all patients."

Dr. Evan, Lynn Willis, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and toxicology and of medicine, and James E. Lingeman, M.D., volunteer clinical professor of urology, are seeking ways to protect a kidney from the tissue damage that occurs with a clinical dose of shock waves.

The group previously developed a pre-treatment protocol to reduce tissue damage from shock wave lithotripsy. During the treatment, blood vessels break and internal bleeding develops in the kidney. Drs. Evan, Willis and Lingeman determined that administrating 100 to 500 low-level shock wave doses allows the blood vessels to constrict more rapidly, thus protecting the kidney and reducing internal bleeding before a clinical dose of shock wave is administered.

Current grant funding will allow the researchers to try to determine the physiological mechanisms causing the blood vessel constriction. That information will help the researchers to further refine the protocol and begin a clinical trial, which may revamp standard shock wave lithotripsy protocols or lead to the development of drugs that can enhance the constriction to reduce the number of shocks administered.

The IU shock wave lithotripsy research team is an independent test site for the new generation of lithotriptors manufactured in the United States, Israel and China.

In another area of the research, scientists already learned that the slower the rate of shock waves, the
better the kidney stones break. This reduces the number of shocks administered per minute for each patient and this protocol currently is being tested in clinical patient trials.

James A. McAteer, Ph.D., professor of anatomy and cell biology, is the principal investigator of this portion of the grant project. He and James C. Williams Jr., Ph.D., associate professor of anatomy and cell biology, know there is a direct correlation between the number of shocks administered and the amount of tissue damage incurred. They will test how well stones break with the new lithotriptors to determine which is safest for patients.

University of Washington physicist Larry Crum, Ph.D., principal investigator for this grant project with Michael Bailey, Ph.D., and Boston University engineering professor Robin Cleveland, Ph.D., are focused on developing mathematical models of how kidney stones break. With the current grant funding, they will develop ways to better image the stone and follow it through the treatment process.

As with the other projects, Drs. Crum, Bailey and Cleveland are intent on reducing the number of shocks needed to treat patients effectively. When patients breathe, the action causes kidney stones to move. They want to develop a model to control when the shock wave fires so it will only fire when the stone is in its pathway.

A final theoretical arm included in the program project grant funding is under the direction of Tim Colonus, Ph.D., a professor of aeronautics at California Institute of Technology. Dr. Colonus and his team have developed a sophisticated computer model of air bubbles generated when shock waves travel through the water to the kidney.

"As a group, we think these bubbles, called acoustic cavitation, are important in stone breakage and kidney damage," said Dr. Evan. "This is a huge and exciting project which could ultimately eliminate much of the time-consuming portion of the research."

The Caltech team members will attempt to build a virtual lithotriptor to simulate what happens to the kidney in a shock wave path.

"There is a consistent theme to all of our research and that is to reduce the kidney’s exposure to shock waves, improving the effectiveness of lithotripsy and safeguarding the patient’s health," said Dr. Evan.

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August 17, 2004

Lymphoma Clinical Trial Opens at IU Cancer Center

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University Cancer Center seeks patients with mantle cell lymphoma for a multicenter trial of a new cancer treatment.

Mantle cell lymphoma is an aggressive form of non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma and is diagnosed in nearly six percent of all patients with lymphoma. No existing therapies are known to cure this form of lymphoma.

To be eligible for this trial, adult patients must have relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma and have undergone one or two chemotherapy regimens with at least one involving anthracycline or mitoxantrone.

This 12-month clinical trial will study the effectiveness of Velcade®, which already is FDA approved for treatment of multiple myeloma.

For additional information or to enroll in the trial at the IU Cancer Center, call 317-278-4271.

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August 16, 2004

Three IU Faculty Received Endowed Chairs

INDIANAPOLIS — Stephen B. Leapman, M.D., who is executive associate dean for educational affairs and professor of surgery, has been named the Frank C. and Ruby L. Moore and George T. Lukemeyer Professor at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The chair was established in 1997 by Frank and Ruby Moore to recognize Dr. Lukemeyer for his decades of distinguished service to the school of medicine as a physician and mentor to young medical students. He also directed the school’s Medicine Admissions Committee for 17 years.

Dr. Leapman joined the faculty in 1977. He has served as executive associate dean for educational affairs since 2000 and recently was selected to chair the admissions committee.

Christopher M. Callahan, M.D., has been named the first Cornelius and Yvonne Pettinga Professor of Medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The Pettinga Chair was established in 1998 by Cornelius and Yvonne Pettinga to ensure support for program development and research in aging at IU.

Dr. Callahan, who also is an adjunct professor of psychiatry, is director of the IU Center for Aging Research.

Steven R. Counsell, M.D., has been named the first Mary Elizabeth Mitchell Professor of Geriatrics.

The Mitchell Chair was established in 2000 by the Fort Wayne-based English-Bonter-Mitchell Foundation in memory of its former director who died in 1999. The position must be held by a medical school faculty member involved in program development and leadership activities related to geriatrics and aging research.

Dr. Counsell is director of the clinical geriatrics programs at IU.

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August 13, 2004

**Healthy Kids Focus of This Week's Sound Medicine**

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this weekend’s Sound Medicine program will focus on how to keep the younger generation healthy.

*Sound Medicine* is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program airs at 4 p.m. Sundays. Barb Lewis is the program’s host. Co-host this week is Ora Pescovitz, MD.

Dietary changes and how they affect food service at Indianapolis’ Washington Township Schools is the topic of Annette Guenther, food service nutrition specialist for the school system. She also shares tips to encourage children to eat more wisely.

Mary Gavin, MD, author of *Fit Kids: A Practical Guide To Raising Healthy And Active Children – From Birth To Teens*, will discuss the role schools play in educating kids about nutrition and fitness.

Also on the program will be Robert Levy, M.D., director of Northwestern Memorial Hospital’s Gamma Knife Program. Dr. Levy will discuss his experimental treatment for migraines.

Archived editions of *Sound Medicine*, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at [http://soundmedicine.iu.edu](http://soundmedicine.iu.edu).

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August 13, 2004

Study Reveals Potential for More Efficient Stem Cell Transplants

INDIANAPOLIS — Blood-making stem cells found in bone marrow, umbilical cord blood and some adult blood products have been used in transplants to treat cancers, leukemia and immune system disorders and to restore blood cell production compromised by chemotherapy and irradiation. But insufficient numbers of donor cells sometime limit success, especially with cord blood transplants.

An Indiana University School of Medicine study suggests these stem cells can be enhanced in trafficking to the bone marrow and may increase transplant success, particularly in adults. The study, "Modulation of Hematopoietic Stem Cell Homing and Engraftment by CD26," appears in the Aug. 13 issue of Science.

Hematopoietic stem cells, rich sources found in the umbilical cord and placenta, are precursors of mature blood cells. They have the ability to replace damaged or diseased bone marrow systems and can continue to produce mature blood cells. Bone marrow is found in soft fatty tissue inside bones, where red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets are produced and developed.

"The efficiency of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation is important when donor-cell numbers are limiting," says study co-author Hal E. Broxmeyer, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor and chair of the School's Department of Microbiology and Immunology. "Attempts at growing hematopoietic stem cells outside the body for clinical transplantation have not been encouraging."

Using a mouse model, the study sought an alternative means to enhance the engraftment of stem cells by increasing their homing capability to the bone marrow. IU researchers focused on CD26, an enzyme on the surface of stem cells. They inhibited or deleted the CD protein on donor cells and were able to boost short-term homing, long-term engraftment and hematopoietic stem cell repopulation.

"The results were revealing," says Dr. Broxmeyer. "By inhibiting or deleting CD26, it was possible to increase greatly the efficiency of transplantation. This indicates that improvement of stem cell transplants may be possible in the clinic."

The IU research team also included principal author Kent W. Christopherson, Ph.D., Giao Hangoc, D.V.M., and Charlie Mantel. All are affiliated with the Walther Oncology Center, which Dr. Broxmeyer directs.

Dr. Broxmeyer's laboratory research, which led to the use of umbilical cord blood for stem cell transplantation to treat a large number of malignant and non-malignant diseases, is internationally recognized.

He was a member of the team that successfully performed the first cord blood transplant in 1988 in France.
for a young boy suffering from Fanconi anemia, a pre-leukemic and often fatal disease. Dr. Broxmeyer's laboratory set up the world’s first cord blood bank, which processed the blood for the first five cord blood transplants.

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Pescovitz, Tector Expand Roles In Organ Transplantation at IU

INDIANAPOLIS — Two faculty changes in the organ transplant program at Indiana University and the Clarian Transplant Center will expand the research and clinical capabilities of the program.

Mark D. Pescovitz, M.D., has been named vice chair of research for the Indiana University Department of Surgery and Joseph Tector, M.D., Ph.D., now will direct the IU Division of Organ Transplant Surgery and the Clarian Transplant Center at Indiana University Hospital and the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children.

In his new role, Dr. Pescovitz will focus on coordinating the expansion of the Surgical Research Program and serve in an administrative role for all clinical and basic science research activity. He also will assist with the development of the School's planned Center of Immunobiology, which reflects his research interests in T-cell and B-cell immunology and clinical transplant immunosuppression.

Dr. Pescovitz, who will remain an active member of the IU clinical transplant group, will continue in his position as professor of surgery and of microbiology and immunology and director of the Transplant Immunology Laboratory.

Dr. Tector joined the IU faculty in 2000 and has been instrumental in developing the hepatic transplantation program, which now is one of the top three most active programs in the country. His research interests include improving the clinical results of liver transplantation, organ preservation and xenotransplantation.

In July, Dr. Tector and fellow IU transplant surgeon Rodrigo Vianna, M.D., made Indiana transplant history with the successful completion of a first adult four-organ transplant at Indiana University Hospital. The 25-year-old patient received a stomach, pancreas, small intestine and liver.

Other faculty members of the IU Division of Transplant Surgery are Martin Milgrom, M.D., Ph.D., Jonathan Fridell, M.D., and William Goggins, M.D.

As one of the top transplant centers in the country, Clarian ranked fourth nationally in 2003 in number of solid organ transplants performed. It performs more transplants than all other Indiana transplant centers combined, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing. Additionally, the transplant center is the only health system in the state to perform heart, lung, kidney, liver, pancreas and intestine transplants.

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August 11, 2004

IU Digs In As Life Sciences Research Leader

INDIANAPOLIS — The goal of establishing Indiana as a national leader in life sciences research and industry will take a significant step Sept. 1 when ground is broken for the Indiana University Medical Information Sciences Building.

Indiana Gov. Joe Kernan, Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson, IU President Adam Herbert, IUPUI Chancellor Charles Bantz and IU School of Medicine Dean D. Craig Brater, M.D., will lead the 11 a.m. groundbreaking ceremonies, located near the Canal Walk at 10th Street. The property, formerly the site of the Indianapolis Police Department mounted police horse barn, was given to IU by the City of Indianapolis.

The 167,000-square-foot facility will provide space for five IU programs: the Division of Children’s Health Services Research, the Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, the Division of Biostatistics, the Center for Bioethics and the Regenstrief Institute, Inc., whose researchers are IU faculty members.

In addition to those programs, Eli Lilly and Co. and Clarian Health Partners will have offices for scientists who work with IU faculty and researchers.

The MISB cost is $42 million, $15 million of which was authorized by the Indiana General Assembly in 2003, and the remainder in private gifts, notably from Eli Lilly and Co. and the Eli Lilly and Company Foundation.

The corridor is being developed by the city, IU, Clarian, Lilly and other industries associated with BioCrossroads, an initiative created through public-private collaborations in Indiana. BioCrossroads seeks to attract and create jobs, companies and entrepreneurial opportunities to make Indiana a center of innovation in the business of enhancing health.

The vision was spawned nearly four years ago when the Lilly Endowment, Inc., awarded $105 million to IU to launch the Indiana Genomics Initiative. In 2003, the Endowment awarded another $50 million to IU to further advance INGEN and its related biomedical research.

When completed in 2006, the building also will include restaurants and other shops to serve the occupants of the building and the general public. Here is a look at the occupants of the Medical Information Sciences Building:

**IU Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics**
The Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics was established by the Indiana University School of Medicine in 2003 with support from the Indiana Genomics Initiative. The center is home to scientists who use software to analyze biological information – the experiments run on computers rather than in traditional laboratories. It has a special emphasis on the problems of identifying the functions and structures of various protein entities.
Scientists at the center will collaborate with other investigators to merge bioinformatics techniques with traditional biomedical research, said center Director A. Keith Dunker, Ph.D., professor of biochemistry and molecular biology in the School of Medicine.

The center has established the Indiana Bioinformatics Interest Group with the purpose of integrating Indiana’s intellectual capital with its economic capital. With participants from Eli Lilly & Co., Molecular Kinetics, Dow Agrosciences, IUPUI, Purdue University, and Indiana University, the group's members represent a broad spectrum of fields, including biochemistry and molecular biology, computer science, engineering, which will expand as the group increases in size and scope.

www.compbio.iupui.edu

IU Division of Biostatistics
This division was formed in the late 1980s by the IU School of Medicine as the role of biostatistics became elemental to medical research and education. The division provides leadership in the statistical design, analysis and data management of clinical, laboratory and epidemiologic studies for the schools of medicine, nursing and dentistry.

In addition to teaching courses in biostatistics, faculty members are developing new statistical methods in genomics, pharmacokinetics, item response theory and the analysis of long-term studies on dementia and sexual behaviors. They also direct projects or cores in cancer, osteoporosis, lithotripsy, and sexually transmitted diseases. Barry Katz, Ph.D., professor of medicine, is director of the division.

www.biostat.iupui.edu

IU Center for Bioethics
The IU Center for Bioethics was established on the IUPUI campus of in July 2001 with a broad mandate to conduct interdisciplinary research, engage in education, and provide service to the IU community. The center’s five core and more than 25 affiliate faculty represent the multidisciplinary involvement from many IU schools and programs in Indianapolis and Bloomington. It is supported by the IU School of Medicine and by the Indiana Genomics Initiative. Its research focuses on topics ranging from genetic testing and stem cell research to privacy, health care philanthropy and international research.

The center is directed by Eric M. Meslin, Ph.D., professor of medicine and of medical and molecular genetics, and assistant dean for bioethics in the IU School of Medicine, and professor of philosophy in the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts. He is the former executive director of the U.S. National Bioethics Advisory Commission.

www.bioethics.iu.edu

Indiana Children’s Health Services Research
The Indiana Children’s Health Services Research is a section of the IU School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics and a partner of Health Services Research at Regenstrief Institute, Inc. It was established in 2001 with support from the pediatrics department and the Riley Children’s Foundation. Its mission is to improve the health and health care of children by developing and applying best scientific evidence and methods in health services research and informatics.

The center's areas of focus include community pediatrics, research and service concentrating on vulnerable children, the use of information technology to improve knowledge of children’s health care and quality of health services and dissemination of research through health policy research, clinical policy analysis and
advocacy for children. Stephen Downs, M.D., M.S., associate professor of pediatrics, is director of the center.

www.iupui.edu/~chsdp

The Regenstrief Institute, Inc.
The Regenstrief Institute is an internationally recognized informatics and health-care research organization dedicated to enhance the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care for all people. Philanthropist Sam Regenstrief established the institute in 1969 on the Indiana University Medical Center campus in Indianapolis. The Institute is closely affiliated with the IU School of Medicine and Wishard Health Services.

Regenstrief’s research scientists, members of the IU faculty, are a highly respected cadre of informatics specialists and health services researchers working within one of the largest and most comprehensive medical informatics laboratories in the world.

The president and chief executive officer of the institute is Thomas Inui, M.D., who is the Sam Regenstrief Professor of Health Services Research, associate dean for Health Care Research and professor of medicine. The director of the institute is Clement McDonald, M.D., IU Distinguished Professor, Regenstrief Professor of Medical Informatics, professor of medicine, and a professor in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

www.regenstrief.org

For more information about:
Indiana University
www.indiana.edu

Indiana University School of Medicine
www.medicine.indiana.edu

Indiana Genomics Initiative
www.ingen.iu.edu

City of Indianapolis
www.indygov.org/home.htm

BioCrossroads
www.biocrossroads.com

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August 10, 2004

**Estrogen May Ease Parkinson’s Symptoms in Older Women**

INDIANAPOLIS — Post-menopausal women with Parkinson’s disease may find some relief from their symptoms in a clinical trial under way at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Patients are sought for the nationwide study, which measures the safety and tolerability of estrogen replacement therapy. Participants selected for the trial will be evaluated for two months.

"The study will also measure how ERT affects thinking and behavior, movement and activities of daily living, as well as motor fluctuations, the loss of the ability to move or freezing in place," says Joanne Wojcieszek, M.D., associate professor of neurology and investigator at the IU School of Medicine.

To be considered for the trial, patients must:

- Be post-menopausal for at least 12 months
- Be under the age of 76
- Currently taking a stable dose of carbidopa/levodopa Parkinson’s medication
- Not currently using estrogen (within six months)

Thirty patients will be enrolled at five other sites around the country: Parkinson’s Institute, Sunnyvale, Calif.; Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Fla.; Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.; University of Maryland, Baltimore, Md.; Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C.; and University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y.

The study is supported by the Parkinson Study Group, a non-profit group of U.S. and Canadian physicians and other health-care providers.

To enroll or learn more about the trial at the IU School of Medicine, call Jo Belden at 317-278-0868, or email her at jbelden@iupui.edu.

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The ABC's of Life Science Startups Taught in New Course

INDIANAPOLIS — Classroom primers spawn memories of block-letter ABC's, "run, Spot, run" and simple arithmetic. This fall, entrepreneur-wannabes will get a different view of a primer with a three-credit-hour class on how to succeed in the life sciences business arena.

The practical introduction to the dynamics of high-tech entrepreneurship in the life sciences is offered by the Indiana University School of Medicine in collaboration with the IU Kelley School of Business and the School of Informatics at IUPUI. The course, High Tech Startups: Focus on the Life Sciences, is designed to impart that opportunities exist for graduate and doctoral students outside of academia.

The unique course is designed to give real-life insights into managing a flourishing scientific career in the business world and creating a successful and profitable advanced technology business. It is open to graduate students in science, engineering and medicine, upperclass science and engineering majors, faculty and post-doctoral fellows with entrepreneurial interests.

Co-directors of the course are Jack Gill and Scott Jones. Gill is a 35-year veteran of Silicon Valley who teaches entrepreneur courses at Harvard University, MIT and Stanford University. He has founded several successful companies in the medical, instrumentation, computer and communications industries including Vanguard Ventures, whose first five funds invested $155 million in 103 startup companies generating $1.3 billion return to investors.

Jones is the founder and former chairman and CEO of Boston Technologies Inc., a company that holds numerous patents used worldwide in voicemail applications. Currently, he is director at Indiana Technology Partnership, a statewide organization of hundreds of business, academic and civic leaders.

Lectures will be presented by national corporate leaders representing enterprises such as Percardia Inc., The Finish Line, TissueLink Medical, Inc., Bioanalytical Systems, Inc. and Renal Solutions.

Other instructors include Robert McDonald, M.D., former medical director for Anthem who teaches in the MD/MBA program at Indiana University School of Medicine; Keith March, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Indiana Center for Vascular Biology and Medicine at IU, who holds several medical device patents.

Over the course of 16 weeks, students will be introduced to topics such as the dynamics of startup companies, stock options and financing, and high-tech career planning all to present the opportunities available in the life sciences business arena.

For additional information on the course, contact Julie Moore, administrative recorder, IU Kelley School of
The ABC's of Life Science Startups Taught in New Course

Business, at 317-274-0885.

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August 6, 2004

Assisted Reproduction and a Global Look at HIV/AIDS on Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this week’s edition of Sound Medicine will discuss fertility treatments, the prevalence of AIDS worldwide and the behind-the-scenes players in the discovery of penicillin.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program airs at 4 p.m. Sundays. Barb Lewis is the program’s host. Co-host this week is Kathy Miller, MD.

Guests include Eric Lax, author of "The Mold in Dr. Florey's Coat," who discusses the contributions of the all-but-forgotten men involved in developing penicillin, discovered by Alexander Fleming.

Kenneth Fife, M.D., Ph.D., professor of medicine, pathology, and of microbiology and immunology at the I.U. School of Medicine, will discuss the status of HIV and AIDS throughout the world as well as his attendance at the 15th International AIDS Conference in Bangkok, Thailand.

Joseph Sanfilippo, M.D., vice president of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, and vice chairman of Reproductive Sciences at Magee Women's Hospital in Pittsburgh, joins the program to talk about the growing number of women who are turning to fertility treatments.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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August 4, 2004

IU Internal Medicine Specialists Join Carmel Center

INDIANAPOLIS — Steven Hill, M.D., and Sunil Juthani, M.D., both assistant professors of medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine, are now seeing patients in the offices of the IU Medical Group at Carmel, located just west of 103rd Street and Meridian Street.

Drs. Hill and Juthani have more than nine years of experience in internal medicine. They are accepting new patients over the age of 18. Both internists also see patients at the IU Medical Group at Anderson office.

"We have several patients from the Carmel area who were driving to Anderson to see us," said Dr. Hill. "Since we live in the Carmel area, it was only natural for us to join the IU Medical Group at Carmel office to be more accessible to our patients."

For more information about the new internal medicine practice at IU Medical Group at Carmel, call 317-278-5900.

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August 2, 2004

Hands-on Learning Highlights Fall Mini Medical School

INDIANAPOLIS — Do you want to learn the basics of how to save the life of heart attack victim? Have you ever wondered what it would be like to try your hand at surgery? Want to observe the use of acupuncture needles and other non-traditional therapies to relieve pain.

These and three other topics will be demonstrated by Indiana University School of Medicine physicians and other health experts at the fall series of Mini Medical School, Oct. 12 through Nov. 16. All but the final two-hour weekly sessions will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesdays in the lower-level auditorium at the Riley Outpatient Center on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus. The last session will meet at a location to be announced.

Most of the sessions will give participants the opportunity to handle many of the training tools at the medical school. The interactive confabs will be conducted by the School's top physicians, researchers and other medical staff. Here is what's on tap for the upcoming sessions.

Oct. 12: No Pain, Big Gain
How patients benefit from alternative therapies such as acupuncture, visualization, herbal remedies and biofeedback at the IU School of Medicine's Integrative Pain Center. This session is led by a physician who incorporates complementary methods with conventional medicine.

Oct. 19: Heart Help 101
The basics of cardiopulmonary resuscitation and how automated external defibrillators work. Participants also will have the chance to sign up for future coursework leading to certifications.

Oct. 26: Inner Visions
Ultrasound and other advance imaging tools are used to diagnose and treat illnesses.

Nov. 2: Bedside Manner
Learn how medical students improve their communications and diagnoses skills with actor-patients who simulate real-life scenarios. Mini Medical School participants will evaluate how well they do.

Nov. 9: Applied Genomics
What do genetics counselors do? How do they help families learn to live with familial and genetic disease?

Nov. 16: Tools of the Trade
Enter an operating room where you don't have to scrub. Virtually reality tools are used to teach surgeons. And meet a $250,000 "patient" anesthesiology residents work on frequently to hone their skills. This session will meet at another location and participants will be given directions to it at the beginning of the series.
One of the main goals of the twice-annual Mini Medical School is to introduce and explain to the public - in everyday language - the latest developments and topical issues in health care and research.

Cost to attend the six-week series is $40 per person and advanced registration is required. Parking is included. For information or to register, call 317-278-7600. When registering, refer to Course No. 042N01A00.

IU Mini Medical School is sponsored by the IU Medical Group and Indianapolis radio station WIBC-1070 AM and is offered by the IU School of Medicine Faculty Community Relations through the IUPUI Division of Continuing Studies.

# # #

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August 2, 2004

Participants Needed For Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Study

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry is seeking participants for a study on the effectiveness of an investigational medication for Post-traumatic Stress Disorders.

Has your child survived a frightening or dangerous incident in which his or her life or well being was threatened? Is he or she scared, withdrawn, irritable or having reoccurring nightmares related to their experience? If so, he or she may qualify for a study at Riley Hospital, evaluating an investigational medication for children with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder.

Details of the study will be disclosed prior to enrollment.

For more information, call (317) 278-4888 to learn more about this research study.

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July 30, 2004

Biotechnology, Assisted Reproduction On This Week's Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on this weekend’s Sound Medicine program will discuss the future of biotechnology, embryo-transfer practices and the body’s afterlife.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. This weekend only, Sound Medicine will air at noon, Saturday, July 31, and at 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 1, before beginning its new Sundays time slot. Barb Lewis is the program’s host.

Guests will include August (Gus) Watanabe, M.D., chairman of the board of directors of BioCrossroads, will share his insights on the future of biotechnology. He retired last June from his position at Eli Lilly and Co. as executive vice president of science and technology and president of Lilly Research Laboratories. He was the former chair of the Department of Medicine at the IU School of Medicine.

Tarun Jain, M.D., and Mark Hornstein, M.D., will discuss their analysis of national trends in embryo-transfer practice patterns and in outcomes after the use of assisted reproductive technology in order to assess if efforts to lower the incidence of multiple gestations have been effective. Their report was published earlier this year in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Also appearing is Mary Roach, author of Stiffs: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers, which details what happens to the human body after death and discusses everything from Egypt mummies to research done today on cadavers.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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Media Contact:

Pamela Su Perry
July 28, 2004

Participants Needed For Depression Study

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University School of Medicine Adult Psychiatry Mood Disorders Clinic is seeking participants for a study on an investigational depression medication.

To qualify for this research study, participants must be between 18 years and 70 years of age and have experienced symptoms of depression for at least two weeks. This study will evaluate the effectiveness of a new investigational medication.

Qualified participants will receive medical evaluations and study-related medication or placebo at no charge. Risks will be disclosed prior to study enrollment.

For more information, call (317) 278-0038, extension 2.

# # #

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Babies Were Born To Be Breastfed, Advocates Say

INDIANAPOLIS — The National Institutes of Health Office of Women’s Health is touting the benefits of breastfeeding in a national advertising campaign and during the Aug. 1-7 World Breastfeeding Week.

Supporters of the campaign include the American Academy of Pediatrics and Kinga Szucs, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics at the Indiana University School of Medicine and the AAP’s Indiana Chapter Breastfeeding Coordinator.

"The benefits of breastfeeding are tremendous for the baby and for the mother," said Dr. Szucs. "Research has proven breastfeeding has innumerable short-term and long-term health benefits for the baby and reduces the risk of death for infants. Those facts seem to be better known than the benefits for moms, which include decreased risk for osteoporosis, ovarian and breast cancer, and postpartum bleeding, to name a few."

Breastfeeding moms lose pregnancy pounds faster, bond more closely with their newborns and also have less employee absenteeism, Dr. Szucs said. Several local companies, include Eli Lilly and Co. and Roche Diagnostics, support breastfeeding with special accommodations for lactating mothers.

A study published in the May issue of the journal Pediatrics reported that children who were breastfed had a 20 percent lower risk of dying as infants. The study compared Centers of Disease Control records of 1,204 children who died between 28 days and one year of age of causes other than congenital anomalies or cancer with those of 7,740 children alive at one year.

A second recent study published in Diabetes/Metabolism Research and Reviews touted exclusive breastfeeding as a protective factor against type 1 or juvenile diabetes.

The HHS campaign presents breastfeeding as a public health issue as opposed to a personal choice, which advocates say is the path the baby formula industry has taken for years. Currently, U.S. breastfeeding rates fall well below federal goals set by Healthy People 2010.

The $40 million National Breastfeeding Awareness Campaign kickoff was delayed by several months after the infant formula industry protested the message. Originally slated to begin in December 2003, the public service ads were launched in print and broadcast formats, all with the tagline "Babies were born to be breastfed." The ads invite the public to visit www.4woman.gov or call 800-994-WOMAN for additional information.

Among the benefits of breastfeeding mentioned in the ads for children exclusively breastfed for six months are a reduction in the onset of type 1 diabetes, obesity, recurrent ear infections, leukemia, diarrhea and respiratory problems such as asthma and pneumonia.
Dr. Szucs said Indiana mothers have a benefit that many do not; breastfeeding in public is legal in the Hoosier state.

In 2003 the Indiana General Assembly made it legal in the state for a mother to breastfeed in public. That is not the case in all states. Neighborhood states are split evenly on support of a woman’s right to breastfeed in public. In Illinois and Michigan, breastfeeding in public is protected from indecency statutes; no laws are on the books for public breastfeeding in Ohio or Kentucky.

The Indiana statute simply states: Notwithstanding any other law, a woman may breastfeed her child anywhere the woman has a right to be. "As a pediatrician, I support breastfeeding when possible because the benefits far outweigh the inconveniences," said Dr. Szucs.

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July 23, 2004

Epilepsy Trial Probes Drug, Early Surgery Treatment Options

INDIANAPOLIS — Early surgery or medications? Those are the two approaches researchers are investigating to determine the best therapy to eliminate seizures and improve the quality of life for those people with epilepsy.

The Indiana University School of Medicine is conducting the Early Randomized Surgical Epilepsy Trial and seeks patients to participate in the nationwide study. ERSET is a five year study sponsored by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders of the National Institutes of Health. ERSET is based on the belief that early surgery to stop seizures without side effects provides the best opportunity to prevent irreversible psychological and social adverse consequences and rescue patients from a lifetime of disability.

People with mesial temporal lobe epilepsy, the most common form of the malady, may be eligible for the trial. Seizures can cause disturbances in brain function resulting in auras like fear, nausea, odors, transient lack of response to the environment, automatisms, jerking, difficulty in walking, moving or speaking.

"More than 30 percent of people suffering from epilepsy have seizures that cannot be controlled with medications, says Vicenta Salanova, M.D., who leads the IU School of Medicine study. "Epilepsy surgery remains underutilized, as many as 200,000 or more patients are potential candidates for surgery in the United States, but only about 3,000 procedures are performed each year."

The safety and efficacy of surgery for temporal lobe epilepsy has been demonstrated, and surgery is successful in as many as 90 percent of patients with mesial temporal lobe epilepsy; however, continuous treatment with medications or the decision to have early surgery can be difficult for patients and their families."

"This study ideally will help make those decisions easier and improve the quality of life for those with epilepsy," adds Dr. Salanova, director of Epilepsy Monitoring and Epilepsy Surgery programs at IU.

To be considered for the trial, patients must:

- Be 12 years of age or older with history of temporal lobe epilepsy
- Have disabling seizures (six days per year or more) for no more than two consecutive years since onset or after remission of six months or longer
- Have tried at least two antiepileptic medications

Those accepted into ERSET will then be selected randomly to receive either medications or surgery. This process ensures that everyone who participates in this study has an equal chance to receive either
Epilepsy Trial Probes Drug, Early Surgery Treatment Options

Once "randomized," patients will be placed on a medication plan. Those selected for surgery do so within a month after their evaluation. The procedure removes a small amount of brain tissue that is the source of a person’s seizures.

The follow-up period in this study lasts for two years. Those selected for the medication arm of the study can choose to have surgery at that time. Patients will visit the IU Medical Center about four times a year and be monitored for the effects of the treatment on their epilepsy. There is no cost to the patients for this study.

To enroll or learn more about the trial, call 317-274-4974.

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July 23, 2004

**Sound Medicine features include "Dialysis Diaries" and Cochlear Implants**

INDIANAPOLIS — This week, Sound Medicine airs part two of "Dialysis Diaries" from Brian Eckstein who is now preparing for his second kidney transplant. Brian is on staff at WBST-FM, the NPR-affiliate at Indiana Public Radio, Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

The program also features a field report from Senior Producer Nora Hiatt on cochlear implants that includes interviews with James Battey, M.D., Ph.D., director of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (one of the National Institutes of Health), and a family whose children have received implants at Riley Hospital for Children-Clarian Health.

Karen Roos, M.D., associate professor of neurology at the IU School of Medicine, gives us an update on West Nile Virus and talks about Rift Valley Fever, a new mosquito borne virus that health officials fear may appear in the U.S.

Terry Horner, M.D., associate professor of neurosurgery at IU, talks about StrokeSense, a public education campaign to help people recognize the first symptoms of stroke and get treatment before the stroke causes substantial damage.

The program is hosted by Barb Lewis. She is joined this week by co-host Steve Bogdewic, Ph.D., professor of family medicine at the IU School of Medicine.

Archived editions of **Sound Medicine**, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://www.soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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July 23, 2004

Grant Helps Eye Docs Focus on Community Care

INDIANAPOLIS — A new Indiana University outreach program designed to promote good visual health and better access to eye care services for the needy has received a boost through a grant from the Nina Pulliam Charitable Trust.

The $150,000 grant will be used to help support the Eye Care Community Outreach Program, established by the IU School of Optometry and the Department of Ophthalmology. ECCO collaborates with other community groups such as Prevent Blindness Indiana, Lions Clubs of Indiana, the Indiana Lions Eye Bank and the Indianapolis Medical Society.

"We greatly appreciate the grant from the Pulliam Trust," says Ophthalmology Chairman Robert D. Yee, M.D. "This support, coupled with our partnerships, gives us a better opportunity to increase public awareness of eye disease and improve access of medically underserved segments in the Indianapolis community."

Professor Brad Sutton, O.D., and Jack Downey, O.D., clinical professor, oversee the IU School of Optometry's involvement in the ECCO Program. Both are affiliated with the Indianapolis Eye Care Center.

More specifically, ECCO assists the uninsured who don't qualify for Medicaid or Medicare and insured people with referrals to clinics, social services agencies and hospitals. Specialists have been hired to administer the program and to coordinate outreach efforts of the ophthalmology and optometry departments.

The National Eye Institute reports that the number of major eye diseases is increasing and that vision loss is fast becoming a major public health problem. Many diseases and eye conditions are preventable and treatable.

The trust is named for Nina Mason Pulliam, a journalist and philanthropist, and is designed to help women, children and families primarily in Indianapolis and Phoenix, Ariz.

For more information about ECCO, call 317-321-1413, or email program coordinator Dewana Allen at dewaalle@indiana.edu.

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July 22, 2004

**West Nile Virus Under Attack With New Treatment**

INDIANAPOLIS — Summer in Indiana means many things: tall corn, high humidity and plenty of mosquitoes. It is the pesky insects, however, that are on the radar screen of health care professionals because they can spread the potentially deadly West Nile virus.

The Indiana University School of Medicine is a partner in the fight against the disease, joining with 60 other sites in a National Institutes of Health clinical trial of an experimental West Nile virus treatment. IU was one of the 36 sites that began the study last fall. This week, the NIH expanded the number of institutions participating in the study of a blood product that has West Nile virus antibodies.

The study is testing the safety and effectiveness of a blood plasma-derived substance containing antibodies to the virus. The study also is collecting preliminary data about the treatment’s effectiveness against encephalitis, a brain inflammation that can result from West Nile virus infection.

The product used in the trial is derived from Israeli blood donors who have antibodies to the virus. West Nile virus has been present in Israel for decades so many people have developed antibodies to the virus.

Until recently, human infection with the virus was limited to Africa, Asia and the Middle East. The first reported case in the United States was in the New York City area in 1999. Four years later the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported more than 9,860 cases of West Nile virus and 264 deaths in the country.

The Indiana State Department of Health reported 293 cases and 11 deaths from West Nile virus in 2002, when conditions were hot and dry. Last year, when heavy rains and flooding swept away mosquito eggs from breeding sites, the ISDH reported 47 cases and four deaths.

Typically, cases of the virus are not reported until two or three months after peak season for mosquitoes. If the pattern continues, the ISDH predicts it could be September or October before the majority of cases are reported.

The elderly, the young and people with compromised immune systems are most at risk for the virus, which is characterized by flu-like symptoms. Other symptoms include fever, headaches, muscle aches and joint pain. More severe complications can include brain swelling.

Individuals with severe or persistent headache should seek medical attention. Physicians interested in referring patients to the West Nile virus study may contact the Infectious Diseases Research Clinic at Indiana University Hospital at 317-274-8456. Participants in the trial must be at least 18 years of age and have West Nile virus-related encephalitis, or be at risk of developing it.
The IU School of Medicine is participating in a second West Nile virus study funded by the National Institutes of Health. This study is designed to collect detailed information on the natural history of West Nile virus infections. The contact information for this study is the same as that listed above. Physicians can call 317-274-8456 for further information.

Karen L. Roos, M.D., the John and Nancy Nelson Professor of Neurology, and Kenneth H. Fife, M.D., Ph.D., professor of medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases, are co-investigators for both studies.

For additional information on West Nile virus:
Collaborative Antiviral Student Group – www.casg.uab.edu
National Institutes of Health – www.clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT00068055
Indiana State Department of Health – www.in.gov/isdh

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Indians, IU Docs Take Swing at Skin Cancer

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Indians and dermatologists at the Indiana University School of Medicine will step up to the plate and offer free skin cancer screenings to fans attending an upcoming home game against the Norfolk Tides.

Residents in the IU Department of Dermatology will conduct the screenings from 12:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 15 on the concourse at Victory Field, 501 W. Maryland St. Free information about skin cancer and related disorders also will be distributed to visitors.

The screenings are made possible by an educational grant from 3M Pharmaceuticals, which partners with dermatology residency programs around the nation to heighten public awareness of skin cancer and actinic keratosis (AK), a cancerous skin growth typically caused by sun exposure.

Many people do not know the warning signs of AK, which affects as many as 10 million Americans. It may take years to develop and usually surfaces in elderly people, although cases have been reported in people in their 40s.

The condition appears as rough, scaly patches, crusts or sores on the top layer of skin. Left untreated, it may progress to squamous cell carcinoma, the second leading cause of skin cancer deaths in the United States.

The American Cancer Society reports that skin cancer is on the rise nationally, with nearly 8,000 deaths related to melanoma and up to 2,000 deaths from non-melanoma skin cancers. However, if diagnosed in the early stages, all types of skin cancer are treatable and, in most cases, curable, experts say.

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Mike Wolinsky
July 22, 2004

Epilepsy Study Tests New Anti-Seizure Drug

INDIANAPOLIS — Volunteers are being sought for a study at the Indiana University School of Medicine testing the effectiveness of a new anti-epilepsy drug.

The medication will be evaluated in connection with other anti-epilepsy drugs taken by patients participating in the worldwide study, says Vicenta Salanova, M.D., principal investigator and director of Epilepsy Monitoring and Epilepsy Surgery at the IU School of Medicine.

To be considered for the trial, patients must:

● Be between 16 and 70 years old
● Take at least one but no more than three anti-epilepsy medications
● Have been diagnosed with simple partial and/or complex partial seizures
● Have been observed to have partial onset seizures the last two years while taking anti-epilepsy medication
● Experience on average four or more seizures a month

Study participants will receive study medication, study-related care and other procedures at no cost. For more information, contact Katie Keller at 317-274-3989.

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July 21, 2004

**Sound Medicine moves to new day and time at WFYI**

INDIANAPOLIS — *Sound Medicine*, the weekly radio program produced by the IU School of Medicine and WFYI-FM 90.1 public radio, is moving to 4 p.m. Sundays as of Aug. 1. (It now airs at noon Saturdays on WFYI.)

The move is part of WFYI’s reorganization to add new programming and create a more "Indiana friendly" broadcast schedule throughout the year.

*Sound Medicine* will be preceded by Splendid Table, a culinary program with a call-in component, and followed by All Things Considered—Weekend Edition, one of National Public Radio's most popular news shows.

Other recent changes for Sound Medicine include the addition of senior producer Nora Hiatt who has added field reports and a news segment. Producer Lisa Floreancig joined the program in June, taking the position previously held by Ellen Gullett. The program continues to be hosted by Barbara Lewis West.

During the summer, Jonathan Schmitz interned with the program and hopes to file field pieces after he leaves for the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine in August. The new interns for 2004-05 are Karen Wiens and Meghan Freeman, who recently graduated from Purdue and DePauw universities, respectively. Ms. Freeman is a master's degree student this year in the IUPUI Department of English; Ms. Wiens plans to attend graduate school in the fall of 2005.

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July 21, 2004

International Team of Researchers Identify Gene Mutation Linked To Severe Neurological Disorder

INDIANAPOLIS — In an important breakthrough against a rare but devastating genetic disease, researchers have pinpointed the gene involved in rapid-onset dystonia-parkinsonism (RDP). People with RDP suffer from the symptoms of both dystonia (involuntary, irregular contortions of the muscles) and Parkinson’s disease (tremors and muscle rigidity).

The international research team, led by Dr. Laurie Ozelius of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Dr. Allison Brashear of the Indiana University School of Medicine, found that six different mutations in this single gene accounted for RDP in seven unrelated families. Their study was reported in the July 21 issue of the journal Neuron.

Parkinson’s disease afflicts about one million people in North America and dystonia about 300,000. RDP is a rare form of dystonia. Until this study, very little was known about RDP except that it has a rapid onset, with people often developing the disease over a period of just a few days or even hours.

Dr. Ozelius, an associate professor of molecular genetics at Einstein, analyzed DNA samples from the seven RDP families that were studied. She found six different mutations that all affected the same gene, known as ATP1A3. “The ATP1A3 gene codes for a protein that plays a role in the cellular ‘pumps’ that regulate the transit--both into and out of cells--of sodium and potassium, which are necessary for proper nerve signaling throughout the body,” explains Dr. Ozelius. “The mutations in ATP1A3 appear to compromise the encoded protein’s function and disrupt nerve signaling.”

For people who have one of these mutations—either by inheriting it from a parent or developing it spontaneously—the “trigger” for bringing on RDP is usually some form of severe stress such as a very high fever or extreme physical exertion. RDP can strike over a broad age range: People as young as four and as old as 58 have developed the disorder.

“I’ve been hopeful they would find the genes responsible and that such a discovery would lead to better treatments,” says Elizabeth Gay of Cincinnati, Ohio, whose family was involved in the study. Three of her five children and one grandchild suffer from RDP. It took 16 years and consultations with numerous specialists across the country before the disease was correctly diagnosed in her family members.

For Mrs. Gay’s children – Sheila Gay, 49, Carolyn Sparks, 47, and Michael Gay, 39 – RDP has meant being dependent on a motorized wheelchair. All of their motor skills are challenged, and even chewing food is difficult. The most disturbing handicap for all three is a severe speech impediment, says Mrs. Gay. “People think if you can’t talk you are mentally incompetent or deaf. It’s heartbreaking.”
Dr. Susan Bressman, professor of neurology at Einstein and director of the Movement Disorder Research Center at Beth Israel Medical Center, made the eventual diagnosis of RDP in the Gays. Dr. Bressman noticed that the clinical features of RDP in the three siblings resembled those first noted by Indiana University’s Dr. Brashear in a paper describing another family.

“I contacted Dr. Brashear and told her how symptoms of the patients I had seen mirrored those she had described in her paper,” says Dr. Bressman. “At the time, there was a lot of skepticism that RDP was a distinct disorder with its own unique genetic cause.”

After the two researchers compared notes and videos of their patients, “The similarities seemed clear,” adds Dr. Brashear, who is an associate professor of neurology and vice-chairman of clinical practice and practice development at Indiana University School of Medicine. “We then got DNA samples from family members so that Dr. Ozelius could explore the genetic implications. With her discovery of the mutation of ATP1A3 among the families studied, and the prevalence of RDP that we’ve observed within these families, the link between RDP and a single gene has now been firmly established.”

“There’s so much more we can learn through the study of this gene and its mutations,” adds Dr. Ozelius. “It’s particularly exciting because it opens further avenues for examining different mutations in this gene that might shed light on the causes of more common neurological disorders that have similar symptoms, such as Parkinson’s and epilepsy.”

Other researchers of the international team involved in the study are from Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School; the University of Chicago; the Federal University of Sao Paulo, Brazil; the Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology, Warsaw, Poland; Centro de Neurologia-Neurocirugia and Clinica Quiron, San Sebastian, Spain; Universitaire de Nice, France; and the Academic Medical Centre of the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

The research was supported by grants from the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, the National Institute of Aging, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, and the CAPES Foundation.

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International Team of Researchers Identify Gene Mutation Linked To Severe Neurological Disorder
July 21, 2004

Doebbeling Awarded First Health Services Research Professorship

INDIANAPOLIS — Bradley N. Doebbeling, M.D., M.Sc., a nationally recognized health services researcher, has been named the first Department of Medicine Professor of Health Services Research at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Dr. Doebbeling also is a professor of medicine and serves as director of Health Services Research at the Regenstrief Institute for Health Care, Inc. and as director of Health Services Research and Development at the Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center.

An internist and expert on improving the quality and efficient delivery of health care, Dr. Doebbeling has been awarded a $3.6 million grant to establish a Veterans Affairs Health Services Research and Development Center of Excellence in Implementing Evidence-based Practice.

Dr. Doebbeling comes to Indianapolis from the University of Iowa, where he was professor of internal medicine and epidemiology. He directed the clinical research training program, supported by two grants from the National Institutes of Health, including a $6.2 million grant to support clinical research training of faculty.

Dr. Doebbeling is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and of the Infectious Diseases Society of America.

He is the recipient of the American Society of Microbiology’s Young Investigator Award, a University of Iowa Collegiate Teaching Award, as well as multiple teaching and research awards. He has served on multiple research advisory committees and panels for the National Institutes of Health, departments of veterans affairs and defense, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Institute of Medicine. His work has resulted in over 100 published articles and more than $20 million dollars in grant funding.

Also joining the IU School of Medicine faculty and serving as a Regenstrief Institute research scientist is his wife Caroline Carney Doebbeling, M.D., M.Sc. She is an associate professor of psychiatry and of medicine.

Dr. Carney Doebbeling is the recipient of a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to study the epidemiology and medical service delivery for people with physical and mental health conditions.

Dr. Carney Doebbeling was the American Psychiatric Institute for Research and Education’s Health Services Research Scholar for 2002, and formerly directed the University of Iowa’s internal medicine and psychiatry combined residency training program.

The Doebbelings are parents of a six-year old son and a three-year old daughter.
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# # #
July 21, 2004

**Roudebush VA Center of Excellence Grant To Focus On Advancing Health Care**

INDIANAPOLIS — Americans receive only half of the medical treatments proven to work but Brad Doebbeling, M.D., M.Sc., and colleagues are on a mission to improve that statistic.

Dr. Doebbeling is the principal investigator for a $3.6 million grant establishing a Veterans Affairs Center of Excellence on Implementing Evidence-Based Practice at the Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center. The funding will bring together researchers from multiple disciplines, patients and staff to determine how to implement beneficial health care practices as routine health care services.

"Much of the emphasis in medical research has been on identifying new basic science discoveries," said Dr. Doebbeling. "The Institute of Medicine and other expert panels report that the second major barrier to providing the best patient care is taking the interventions that have been shown to work and incorporating them into routine care practices. These practices have been shown to improve quality of care in the areas of patient outcomes, satisfaction, safety, effectiveness and access."

There is a major gap between best practice and current practice for many conditions, said Dr. Doebbeling.

"The clinical focus for diabetes primarily is to control insulin levels," he said. "However, medical literature demonstrates that better control of high blood pressure in patients with diabetes has a huge effect on long term health functioning and mortality. Much of the current focus solely is improving glucose control instead of incorporating innovative approaches to improve control of blood pressure into the treatment of the disease."

Along with focusing on moving best-practices for chronic conditions such as diabetes into clinics and hospital settings more rapidly, Dr. Doebbeling said the Center of Excellence is designed to look at prevention, a key component of improving best-practices. The Center will focus on identifying best clinical and implementation practices, and designing and testing health systems interventions in evidence-based practice.

A nationally recognized health services researcher, Dr. Doebbeling recently was recruited to the Indiana University School of Medicine to focus on health care improvement research that earned the funding from the Department of Veteran Affairs. With appointments to direct health services research at the Roudebush VA Medical Center and the Regenstrief Institute, Inc., he is in a position to maximize the research potential of organizations already well known for their expertise in a relatively new medical science.

Much of the terminology mentioned in the grant application – evidence-based best practices, health
systems interventions, informatics – sound like research buzz words, but when Dr. Doebbeling talks about how they can affect the health of individuals the words take on new meaning.

This science doesn’t involve beakers and test tubes as much as it does medical literature, computer information systems, social and management sciences and access to health care networks.

"Our goal is to partner with health care organizations, patients and providers in Indiana and nationally to find the best way to get the care that’s been shown to work actually into practice," he said. "Research shows this isn’t a matter of educating health care providers; our health care system needs to change. There also are substantial problems with overuse of treatments that are not effective or potentially hazardous."

Regenstrief Institute is internationally known as a pioneer in informatics research and health improvement research. It is lead by Thomas Inui, M.D., president and CEO of Regenstrief, and Director Clement McDonald, M.D., who, with their team, continue to break new ground in the field that utilizes one of the most advanced computerized patient records systems to process all aspects of medical practice and management.

Regenstrief’s strengths also include a division of Health Services Research, directed by Dr. Doebbeling, and a division of Aging Research, directed by Christopher Callahan, M.D., both of which will be participants in the Center’s research.

Multiple IU, IUPUI and Purdue schools and departments, including the IU School of Nursing and the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Purdue University Engineering and Management Sciences will contribute to the new Center of Excellence’s research.

The IU Medical Group, Wishard Health Services and Clarian Health hospitals and clinics will be partners in the process of speeding best-practices treatments to patients.

"The city of Indianapolis, its health care systems and university and industry partners are an exciting environment in which to form new partnerships to improve the health of the public," said Dr. Doebbeling. "This is the best environment in the country to conduct the kind of collaborative research which will move the health care system to achieve best practices routinely. We are looking to partner with all the hospitals and health care systems in the city."

"It takes 17 years or longer for a new medical finding on what approach has been shown to work to percolate through the system to the patient," he said. That time period between evidence and practice is simply called the "gap."

Dr. Doebbeling said there are multiple factors in the health care system responsible for the gap. He attributes the delay to numerous factors such as the rapid evolution of new research information, efforts to control health care costs, reimbursement pressures, and new technologies and treatments from the pharmaceutical and device manufacturers.

Other IU faculty participating in the research are Linda Williams, M.D., associate director of the Center of Excellence and associate professor of neurology; William Tierney, M.D., Chancellor’s Professor, professor of medicine and director, Division of General Internal Medicine; Richard Frankel, Ph.D., professor of medicine and senior scientist, Regenstrief Institute and Roudebush VA; Kurt Kroenke, M.D., professor of medicine and senior scientist, Regenstrief Institute; Caroline Carney Doebbeling, M.D., M.Sc., associate
professor of psychiatry and internal medicine and Regenstrief research scientist; Colleen McHorney, Ph.D., professor of medicine and senior scientist, Regenstrief Institute and Roudebush VA.

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July 20, 2004

Nelson Heads New Neurosurgery Department

INDIANAPOLIS — Paul B. Nelson, M.D., is the first person to chair the newly created Department of Neurological Surgery at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The department was established July 1 and includes 11 neurosurgeons, 10 residents and nursing and research staff. IU neurosurgeons will continue to serve adult and pediatric patients at Indiana University Hospital, Riley Hospital for Children and Wishard Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Nelson was the director of the Neurological Surgery Division within the IU Department of Surgery before the division was elevated to department level. He has been on faculty since 1992. He also served as the interim executive officer of IU Medical Group-Specialty Care and the School’s executive associate dean of clinical affairs from 2002 until February 2003.

His clinical and research interests include spinal disorders and brain and pituitary tumors.

Dr. Nelson, who is the Betsey Barton Professor of Neurosurgery, completed a residency at the University of Pittsburgh and is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine. He was the recipient of the School’s 2004 Glenn W. Irwin Jr. Distinguished Faculty Service Award.

Department of Neurological surgery Web site

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July 20, 2004

Valerie Jackson Appointed to Lead IU Department of Radiology

INDIANAPOLIS — Valerie P. Jackson, M.D., has been named chair of the Indiana University Department of Radiology. She has served as interim chair since January 2003.

Dr. Jackson is the John A. Campbell Professor of Radiology. She received her medical degree at IU School of Medicine in 1978 and also completed her internship and residency at IU. She joined the faculty in 1982 as an assistant professor and became a full professor in 1990.

She directed the IU School of Medicine radiology residency program and is chief of the breast radiology section. She has conducted extensive research of mammography and has published more than 100 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters. She also has research interests in breast ultrasound and interventional breast-imaging procedures.

Dr. Jackson is the recent past president of the American College of Radiology and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Board of Radiology.

The appointment creates two firsts at the IU School of Medicine: she is the first female chair of the Department of Radiology and the School now has a brother and sister each serving as chair of a department. Dr. Jackson's brother, Robert Pascuzzi, MD, chairs the Department of Neurology.

Dr. Jackson succeeds Mervyn Cohen, M.B.,Ch.B., M.D., who resigned as chair in December 2002 after five years in the position.

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July 19, 2004

**Ceremony Marks Start of Training to Become Doctors**

INDIANAPOLIS — One by one, they will step forward to receive their first white lab coats. Collectively, they will recite an oath promising to act professionally and compassionately.

Those are among the rites 280 first-year students will experience at the White Coat Ceremony of the Indiana University School of Medicine. The event is 3 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 14, at the Murat Theatre, 502 N. New Jersey St.

With their families and friends looking on, the Class of 2008 will be presented with coats – symbolic of clinical service – and repeat a pledge whose origins are attributed to the Greek physician Hippocrates. The White Coat Ceremony has become a staple activity at the IU School of Medicine.

The IU School of Medicine was established in 1903 at the IU Bloomington campus with 25 students and only a few instructors. Since that time, the School has grown to become the nation’s second-largest medical teaching institution with more than 1,200 students. First- and second-year students are divided among centers located in Indianapolis, Bloomington, Evansville, Fort Wayne, South Bend, Gary, Terre Haute, Muncie and Lafayette.

In their first year, students learn gross anatomy, histology, neurobiology, biochemistry, physiology, microbiology and immunology and introduction to medicine. The second year focuses on biostatistics, pharmacology, medical genetics, pathology and emergency medicine.

All IU medical students complete their final two years at the Indianapolis campus, where they receive clinical training and further classroom and laboratory studies. Students are required to master nine core competencies, including self-awareness, effective communication skills, lifelong learning, problem-solving, professionalism, moral reasoning and ethical judgment, social awareness and its relation to health care, using science as a guide for all aspects of health care and clinical skills.

For more information about the IU School of Medicine, visit its Web site at [www.medicine.iu.edu](http://www.medicine.iu.edu).

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Ceremony Marks Start of Training to Become Doctors
July 16, 2004

Sound Medicine Tackles Athletes' Drug Use

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on the Saturday, July 17, Sound Medicine program will discuss performance-enhancing drug use among amateur athletes, how actors play a role in educating medical students and a technological advancement in diagnosing disease.

Guests include Larry Bowers, Ph.D., senior managing director, Technical/Information Resources for the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, who will discuss the surging trend of amateur athletes using performance-enhancing drugs and how the USADA is battling it.

Dempsey Arnold, a local actor, will talk about the twist of one of his acting roles — that of a medical patient. In the role, he feigns all types of symptoms, conditions and diseases for medical students in a mock clinical setting.

David Nolte, Ph.D., professor of physics at the School of Science, Purdue University, will discuss his pioneering method of creating analog CDs that can function as inexpensive diagnostic tools for protein detection.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by the Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program is hosted by Barb Lewis. This week's co-host are Ora Pescovitz, M.D., and Kathy Miller, M.D.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at www.soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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Brain Stimulator May Curb Epileptic Seizures

INDIANAPOLIS — Certain epilepsy patients who don't respond to medications to control seizures might benefit from an experimental procedure being tested at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The clinical trial involves the surgical implantation of an electrical stimulator in the thalamus, a mass located in the brain whose function controls the body's sensory impulses. The therapy seeks to disrupt the circuits thought to cause epileptic seizures.

"This is a promising trial for patients with severe partial epilepsy who are not candidates for resective epilepsy surgery. Preliminary data showed that patients with temporal or frontal lobe epilepsy had an 80 percent seizure reduction rate," says Vicenta Salanova, M.D., director of Epilepsy Monitoring and Epilepsy Surgery programs at the Indiana University School of Medicine. Dr. Salanova is the principal investigator at IU, which is among 12 sites nationally participating in the trial.

The Intercept™ Epilepsy Control System developed by Medtronic Inc., uses three implantable components. A neurostimulator is implanted in the chest, and two small wires leading from it are connected to electrodes implanted in the thalamus, located at the top of the brain stem.

The stimulator generates electrical impulses delivered directly to the brain. The pulses can be adjusted non-invasively by a physician. Later, patients also can activate the stimulation through a hand-held programmer when they sense an oncoming seizure.

Criteria for participating in the trial:

• Partial-onset seizures with or without secondary generalization
• Anticipated average of six or more partial-onset seizures per month during the baseline phase
• Refractory to anti-epileptic drugs (AEDs)
• Receiving one to three currently marketed AEDs
• Between 18-65 years of age at the time of lead implant

Participating patients will be monitored for 13 months after they are fitted with the device.

Epilepsy, which affects more than 2.5 million Americans, is a neurological condition that makes people susceptible to seizures. A seizure is a change in sensation, awareness, or behavior brought about by a brief electrical disturbance in the brain.

For more information about the trial, call 317-274-4974 or vsalanov@iupui.edu
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July 15, 2004

**Patient Recovers After Undergoing Multi-Organ Transplant**

INDIANAPOLIS — An Ohio man is mending after having four organs transplanted into his body by Indiana University School of Medicine surgeons.

The 25-year-old patient, who has asked not to be identified at this time, is hospitalized at Indiana University Hospital, where the transplant was performed. He received a stomach, pancreas, small intestine and liver, the first procedure of its kind on an adult in Indiana.

"He is in good spirits, responding well to medications, and is up and walking," said surgeon Joseph Tector, M.D., Ph.D., who with Rodrigo Vianna, M.D., led the IU surgical team.

The donor organs were harvested in Indianapolis and the surgery took 15 hours. The patient currently is receiving total parenteral nutrition, which is necessary for patients who are unable to absorb normal nutrition through their intestines.

The patient has a long history of health problems, leading back to his childhood when he was treated for liver cancer, Dr. Tector said.

Multivisceral transplants are rare; only about 40 American adults undergo the procedure annually.

The Division of Organ Transplant Surgery at IU Hospital and Riley Hospital for Children is part of the Clarian Transplant Center of Clarian Health Partners.

As one of the top transplant centers in the country, Clarian ranked fourth nationally in 2003 in number of solid organ transplants performed. It performs more transplants than all other Indiana transplant centers combined, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing. Additionally, the transplant center is the only health system in the state to perform heart, lung, kidney, liver, pancreas and intestine transplants.

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Patient Recovers After Undergoing Multi-Organ Transplant

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New Appointments and Changes in Leadership Structure Enhancing Clarian's Commitment to Patient Care, Second to None

INDIANAPOLIS — Today Clarian Health Partners announced changes in leadership structure that match Clarian Health Partners' strategic and organizational goals for its hospitals to operate under a single-hospital system. The changes are also designed to further Clarian's commitment and ability to deliver patient care that is second to none, and ensure that Clarian provides the absolute best places for physicians and staff to deliver unsurpassed patient care.

The organizational changes include the following:

- David Handel will leave his position as executive vice president at Clarian Health Partners and chief operating officer for Indiana University Hospital at the end of August to assume a position at Indiana University
- Appointment of Sam Odle as president and CEO of Clarian's adult hospitals, Methodist and Indiana University hospitals
- Recruitment of an individual to fill the newly created position of president and CEO of Riley Hospital for Children
- Expanded role for the senior vice president of statewide operations

David Handel, Clarian executive vice president and chief operating officer, will leave Clarian at the end of August. He's been with the IU Hospitals and Clarian for 19 years and has spent 36 years total in health care administration. Handel is leaving Clarian to direct Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs Master of Health Administration program.

"Dave has provided essential leadership since the beginning of the Clarian consolidation," says Daniel F. Evans, Jr., president and CEO of Clarian Health Partners. "His operational knowledge combined with his insight into academic medicine has been critical to our progress. Dave's commitment to excellence, his clear and decisive style and his attention to detail will be missed."

"Dave Handel has been a colleague and a friend for close to 20 years," says D. Craig Brater, dean of the IU School of Medicine. "He has distinguished himself as a leader of a university hospital. Dave's talents will be as invaluable in his new role of training the next generation of leaders as they have been for the IU Hospitals and for Clarian."

"I've been in health care management for a long time, and thoroughly enjoyed it," says Handel. "It's been a great experience and opportunity for the 19 years I've been here. We accomplished a lot at the IU hospitals, and then at Clarian over its first seven and a half years."

Although he'll be turning the page to a new chapter in his health care career, Handel won't be far away - geographically or in spirit.
On September 1, he'll join SPEA the faculty on the nearby IUPUI campus, which is the largest school of public affairs in the United States.

Handel's responsibilities as director of SPEA's Master of Health Administration program will bring him into frequent contact with Clarian colleagues as he works to build alliances with health care organizations throughout Indiana, including Clarian. Several MHA students from the school are at Clarian facilities this summer as interns.

Handel is looking forward to his new role in shaping health care's future leaders. "This is an opportunity for me to make a significant contribution in a new and challenging way," he says. "I think working with the future leaders of our profession will be very satisfying and a great deal of fun."

SPEA also is looking forward to the new relationship.

"David Handel's years of experience as a top executive of major health institutions in Indiana - and his impressive grasp of policy and management issues - has given him a vision that promises both to invigorate the program academically and to forge meaningful relationships with the larger community of health professionals," says Astrid E. Merget, dean of the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

Sam Odle, who currently serves as senior vice president for Clarian and as chief operating officer for Methodist Hospital will assume the newly created position of president and CEO of Clarian's adult hospitals, Methodist and Indiana University hospitals.

"Sam's appointment to this position is due to his outstanding performance and the respect he has gained as a Clarian leader," says Evans.

"Sam has been a part of the Clarian leadership since the organization's very inception," says Brater. "He's an outstanding executive. His experience includes incomparable depth in a private practice setting. I look forward to working with Sam to exercise those same talents from the perspective of the academic setting so that we can make Clarian and the IU School of Medicine a role model partnership for the entire country in providing clinical excellence second to none."

"Methodist Hospital and Indiana University Hospital each have a distinctive role to play in this marketplace," says Odle. "The medical leadership and nursing leadership for each hospital should be the drivers of quality and service for our patients. My role as an administrative leader is to serve as an enabler to ensure that this happens at the highest level."

Clarian is also currently recruiting to fill the newly created position of president and CEO for Riley Hospital for Children. "This role was developed in response to a strategic decision for Riley to operate more independently while maintaining our integration strategy and single-hospital system," says Evans.

Among the departing Handel's duties as executive vice president and chief operating officer for Clarian Health Partners was management of Clarian's statewide partner relationships. This responsibility will now move to the senior vice president of statewide operations.

"The role of this position will include leadership of our statewide relationships and serving as operational liaison to the suburban hospitals - Clarian West and North," says Evans. "This individual will create and
New Appointments and Changes in Leadership Structure Enhancing Clarian's Commitment to Patient Care, Second to None

sustain optimal and mutual beneficial relationships between Clarian Health Partners and our partner hospitals and affiliates."

Candidates for both the Riley president and CEO position and the senior vice president of statewide operations position are currently being interviewed.

Clarian Health Partners, comprised of Methodist Hospital, Indiana University Hospital and Riley Hospital for Children, is an Indiana-based, private, non-profit organization, offering a broad base of tertiary services, specialized pediatric care and a Level 1 Trauma Center. Clarian is Indiana's largest, most comprehensive health center and is one of the busiest hospital systems in the nation. Clarian Health's mission is to improve the health of patients and the community through innovation and excellence in care, education, research and service. To fulfill its mission, Clarian uses the combined resources of its sponsoring institutions and its continuing affiliation with Indiana University School of Medicine, one of the nation's leading medical education and research centers. Clarian Health Partners, Inc. operates the Methodist Hospital, Indiana University Hospital and Riley Hospital campuses as a single hospital under Indiana law.

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
July 14, 2004

Name Registry May Help Solve Disease Mysteries

INDIANAPOLIS — Individuals with diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure and high cholesterol may help physicians better understand their disease by joining a registry at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The IU Division of Endocrinology is seeking the names and contact information for people with one of those conditions. Participants must be between the ages of 18 and 80 years and must be willing to be contacted regarding participation in future clinical research studies.

For more information or to be listed in the registry, respond to jkellett@iupui.edu and provide your name, phone number and email address. Individuals without access to email may fax that information to 317-278-1750, or call 317-278-3682.

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Hibbard Named To National Child Abuse, Neglect Committee

July 13, 2004

Hibbard Named To National Child Abuse, Neglect Committee

INDIANAPOLIS — Roberta A. Hibbard, M.D., professor of pediatrics at the Indiana University School of Medicine, has been appointed to the American Academy of Pediatrics National Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect. Her term ends in 2010.

Dr. Hibbard has been a faculty member at James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children since 1985 after she completed her Robert Wood Johnson fellowship in academic general pediatrics at the University of Rochester. Dr. Hibbard directs the Child Protection Services at Riley and Wishard Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Hibbard is active in efforts to improve the knowledge, communication and coordination of services involved when child abuse or neglect is suspected. She serves on the Marion County Fatality Review Team, the Marion County Child Protection Team, the Ray Helfer Society and the International Society on the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect.

She has served on several Indiana commissions including the Commission on Abused and Neglect Children and Their Families.

The AAP National Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect is concerned with issues relating to physical, sexual and mental abuse and neglect of children, adolescents and their families. The committee develops appropriate policy recommendations for consideration from the AAP Board of Directors and state legislators, and serves as a liaison with other organizations that focus on the health and well-being of children and their families.

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'Bridges' Link Minority Students to Ph.D. Degrees

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University School of Medicine and Mississippi’s Jackson State University are partners in a nationally funded program to increase the number of minorities teaching basic science and conducting biomedical research at colleges across the country.

The "Bridges to the Doctorate" program seeks to increase the number of underrepresented ethnic faculty members at medical and graduate schools. The foundation of the program, funded by the National Institutes of Health, is to train students in the biomedical sciences.

Jackson State students must first complete their academic requirements at that institution but may choose to complete their master’s thesis research projects during the summers in one of the basic science departments at the IU School of Medicine under the joint direction of an Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis mentor and JSU advisor. The aim of the Bridges program is to provide seamless transition from the master’s of science to a doctorate; students are encouraged to apply for and pursue the higher degrees at the School of Medicine.

"This unique partnership establishes an excellent link between our two institutions," says Hal Broxmeyer, Ph.D., chairman of the medical school’s Department of Microbiology and Immunology. "It provides excellent research opportunities for students, establishes a solid mentoring program with our faculty and strengthens the research capabilities for both universities."

Two students who entered the program last year will begin their doctoral studies this fall in the microbiology and immunology department. Five Jackson State students have come to Indianapolis to work in IU research labs at the School this summer.

Dr. Broxmeyer and David Wilkes, M.D., professor of medicine and of microbiology and immunology, are co-investigators of the Bridges program. Gwendolyn Johnson, Ph.D., of the IUPUI Graduate Office, and Joseph Cameron, Ph.D., Jackson State University, coordinate the program.

"The Bridges to the Doctorate program provides an excellent mechanism and incentive for Jackson State University graduate students to obtain doctorate degrees in the biomedical sciences at IUPUI immediately after completion of their masters’ degrees," says Dr. Cameron. "It also provides a strong incentive for JSU undergraduate college students in the Bridges to the Baccalaureate Degree program, also funded by the NIH, to continue their education towards advanced degrees."

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July 12, 2004

Graduate Program Prepares Students for Medical School

INDIANAPOLIS — When Selika Owens recites the Physician's Oath with her fellow classmates as new students at the Indiana University School of Medicine in August, it will be more than just a rite-of-passage in her journey to become a physician.

The pathway Owens chose was through the School's Master of Science in Medical Science program, which helps students strengthen their learning skills and prepare for the rigors of medical school. The two-year program, established in 1995, provides a route to succeed in medical school and training in other biomedical careers, such as health care, research and pharmaceutics. About 68 percent of MSMS students have been admitted to medical schools throughout the nation.

"Certainly, the MSMS program enhanced my candidacy for medical school," claims Owens, a biology graduate from Xavier University in Louisiana. "I chose this program because I felt it would offer me an unparalleled transition into medical school."

"No single factor is determinative," says MSMS program director William Agbor-Baiyee, Ph.D., assistant professor of family medicine. "The admission process provides an individualized, thorough and holistic review of each applicant, taking into account personal and academic factors, including but not limited to, socioeconomic or educational criteria. Perhaps the strongest factor leading to admission is something no test can gauge - the applicant believes he or she has the potential to become a physician."

Students admitted to the School's MSMS program are required to participate in a ten-week Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) Preparation Program, the cornerstone of the program. The MCAT is a national standardized test for applicants to medical schools. It is designed to test knowledge of basic science concepts, as well as your problem-solving skills, critical thinking ability and writing skills.

Collectively, the summer study program promotes student-directed learning, teamwork and helps students approach the MCAT with better strategies to succeed. Dr. Agbor-Baiyee says almost always score higher when retaking the test.

Students begin their actual degree curricula in the fall semester after completing the MCAT program. Thirty-five semester hours must be completed before students receive their MSMS degrees. Some of the credits may be transferable toward degree requirements in other graduate and professional program.

But many entering the MSMS program have no intention of completing their master's degree; their one goal is to enter medical school. After finishing one year of the program, Robert L. King was to the IU School of Medicine.
"The one thing I find unique about the School is that it sets its standards higher for admission," notes King, a Palmdale, Calif., native, who recently began his third year of study at Indiana's only medical school. "I was so well prepared that I really felt my first year of medical school was a review of what I had learned the year I spent in the MSMS program.

"So, let's just say my stress level during my first year as a medical student was kept to a minimum because I was prepared," adds King, whose hard work has earned him a fully-financed medical education through an Eli Lilly Co. Scholarship.

For more information about the MSMS program at the Indiana University School of Medicine, go to www.msms.iu.edu.

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July 9, 2004

**Sound Medicine takes a look at medicine and the Internet**

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on the Saturday, July 10, Sound Medicine program will discuss how the Internet has changed doctor-patient relationships and take a look at the evolving diary of a young kidney transplant patient.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by the Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program is hosted by Barb Lewis. This week's co-host is David Crabb, MD.

It's a new era for the doctor-patient relationship thanks to the Internet. Patients are doing their own medical research, joining Internet support groups, seeking online medical consultation from doctors they've never met, signing up for clinical trials, and even emailing their own physicians to ask questions.

Sound Medicine guests include two physicians who have recognized the importance of the Internet as a communication tool. Paul Helft, MD, an IUSM assistant professor of medicine in the Division of Hematology/Oncology, has researched and written extensively on how patients and physicians are using the Internet. Tom Delbanco, MD a professor of general medicine and primary care at Harvard Medical School and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, welcomes email from patients. Harvard has established a secure Internet site for patients to enhance online communication and research.

A third Sound Medicine guest is Brian Eckstein, who is keeping a “dialysis diary.” Eckstein, a 33-year-old Muncie resident and production manager at WBST, Muncie’s Public Radio station, is awaiting a kidney transplant and is using his diary to take listeners on his medical journey. He'll be reporting periodically to Sound Medicine listeners as his treatment continues.

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The Ethics of Organ Donation Topic of Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on the Saturday, July 3, Sound Medicine program will discuss the ethics of organ transplantation on a special segment entitled Sound Ethics.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program is hosted by Barb Lewis. This week’s co-host of Sound Ethics is Eric M. Meslin, Ph.D., director of the IU Center for Bioethics and assistant dean for bioethics at the IU School of Medicine.

The new IUPUI Public Opinion Lab national survey on health related philanthropy – the donation of blood, organs, tissue and body – is the focus of Saturday’s guests. They include Jim Wolf, who conducted the survey at the IUPUI Public Opinion Laboratory; Bill Reed, vice president of operations at the Central Indiana Regional Blood Center; and Sam Davis, director of professional services and public affairs at the Indiana Organ Procurement Organization.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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July 1, 2004

Clarian Health Partners--Methodist, IU, Riley--Comprised of Physicians from Methodist Hospital and the Indiana University School of Medicine, Rank Among Top in Nation

INDIANAPOLIS — Six clinical programs at Clarian Health Partners -- Methodist, Indiana University and Riley hospitals — ranked among the top "2004 America’s Best Hospitals Guide."

Clarian, partnered with the Indiana University School of Medicine, received rankings in 6 clinical programs in the upcoming July 12, 2004 issue of U.S. News & World Report. The rankings can currently be viewed by visiting USNews.com. The programs that were ranked include cancer, digestive disorders, ear, nose and throat, kidney disease, orthopedics and urology.

Clarian and the Indiana University School of Medicine perennially receive national recognition. Through the hard work of all staff, Clarian and the School of Medicine continue to share the national spotlight, and solidify their spot as the premier health care system in the region.

"It is an honor for our programs to receive recognition," said Daniel F. Evans, Jr., President and CEO, Clarian Health Partners. "It is a reflection of the commitment and dedication the physicians and employees of Clarian Health Partners and the IU School of Medicine have to delivering patient care that is second to none. I want to commend all employees of Clarian and the IU School of Medicine for their continued excellence and commitment to our collective goal of making our hospitals the best place for patients to receive care and the best place for staff to deliver care."

"We are pleased that our programs have been recognized in these rankings. This reflects well on the Clarian Health partnership and the School of Medicine faculty. I also wish to extend my sincerest appreciation to all of the caregivers and support staff who made this possible," stated Craig Brater, Dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The programs and their numerical rankings are:

- Digestive Disorders 12th
- Urology 15th
- Cancer 27th
- Orthopedics 37th
- Kidney Disease 38th
- Ear, Nose and Throat 44th

The rankings are developed by surveys of a geographical cross-section of 150 board-certified specialists in
each of 17 specialties. Hospital rankings are based on criteria related to reputation, mortality rates, and other areas such as advanced technology capabilities and nursing care.

In addition, hospitals must meet one of three requirements for eligibility for ranking: affiliation with a medical school, membership in the Counsel of Teaching Hospitals or having a minimum of nine of the 17 key technologies available.

Clarian Health Partners, comprised of Methodist Hospital, Indiana University Hospital and Riley Hospital for Children, is an Indiana-based, private, non-profit organization, offering a broad base of tertiary services, specialized pediatric care and a Level 1 Trauma Center. Clarian is Indiana's largest, most comprehensive health center and is one of the busiest hospital systems in the nation. Clarian Health’s mission is to improve the health of patients and the community through innovation and excellence in care, education, research and service. To fulfill its mission, Clarian uses the combined resources of its sponsoring institutions and its continuing affiliation with Indiana University School of Medicine, one of the nation's leading medical education and research centers. Clarian Health Partners, Inc. operates the Methodist Hospital, Indiana University Hospital and Riley Hospital campuses as a single hospital under Indiana law.

The IU School of Medicine, the second-largest medical school in the nation, is dedicated to advancing health in the State of Indiana and beyond by promoting innovation and excellence in education, research and patient care.

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
IU School of Medicine Scientists Reveal Origins of Blood Vessel Cells

INDIANAPOLIS — Researchers at the Indiana University School of Medicine have discovered how the body makes the cells that line its blood vessels, work that could someday lead to dramatic new treatments for vascular problems ranging from stroke to diabetes.

The origin of these endothelial cells, which play a vital role in the body’s circulatory system and internal organs, has been uncertain. But by extracting and comparing cells from adult blood and infant umbilical cords, the IU team was able to isolate the parents -- the progenitors -- of the cells and explain how they differ from related cells.

The progenitor cells that the researchers identified are adult type stem cells, but they proliferate much like embryonic stem cells, and they can be grown in large quantities in the laboratory, said Mervin C. Yoder, M.D., Richard and Pauline Klingler professor of pediatrics and of biochemistry and molecular biology.

The research appears in the online version of Blood, the journal of the American Society of Hematology.

Endothelial cells make up the inner lining of the blood vessels in the body, as well as the capillary beds where the blood delivers its nutrients and oxygen to other cells.

The researchers found that the endothelial cells are formed in a manner similar to the blood cells carried by the circulatory system, said David A. Ingram, Jr., M. D., assistant professor of pediatrics.

The red blood cells that carry oxygen and "white" cells that make up the body's immune system are descended from a series of progressively less differentiated cells, created in a process called hematopoiesis ("hee-matt-oh-po-esis"). The source of those less differentiated cells are a relative handful of hematopoietic stem cells, found mainly in the bone marrow.

Researchers have been attempting to use hematopoietic stem cells in gene therapy, hoping to correct immune disorders, certain cancers and other genetic problems by inserting genes into the stem cells. Progress has been slow, however, because hematopoietic stem cells are hard to find, difficult to grow in the laboratory and hard to modify with genes.

The endothelial progenitor cells, on the other hand, not only grew exceedingly well, but were easily modified with new genes, raising the prospects of a new gene therapy tool, Yoder said. He foresees a day -- many years in the future -- when genetically modified endothelial stems cells would help diabetes patients reverse the circulatory problems that threaten them with the loss of extremities from amputation. Or the day could come in which modified cells would be injected to quickly begin a process of blood vessel repair after a
IU School of Medicine Scientists Reveal Origins of Blood Vessel Cells

Previously, researchers have attempted to identify possible endothelial progenitor cells using indirect measures involving certain protein "markers" on the surfaces of cells. The Indiana University scientists, however, were able to isolate the endothelial progenitor cells directly from cord blood and grow them the laboratory. Unlike the cells previously identified in adult blood as possible endothelial progenitor cells, the cord blood progenitor cells could be grown for at least 100 new generations, forming many new colonies of cells.

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
June 30, 2004

Carmel Medical Center Open House Offers Fun, Information For Families

INDIANAPOLIS — IU Eye at Carmel will host a community open house with tours and special events from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 10.

Faculty clinicians and staff will be available to administer the latest in vision screening tools for glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and nearsightedness. Screenings will be available free of charge to open house guests through a partnership with Prevent Blindness Indiana. There will be a display of low-vision rehabilitation aids for the visually impaired and a display of specialty contacts. Designer eyewear representatives will exhibit the latest in fashion eyewear.

The IU Department of Ophthalmology is sponsoring a drawing for a free LASIK procedure. Guests also will be able to register to win a variety of other prizes.

Indy’s Smooth Jazz 100.9 FM will broadcast live from the event and refreshments will be provided by Hubbard and Cravens Coffee Company, which has a store located on the first floor of the facility.

IU Eye is located on the second floor of the IU Medical Group building at 200 W. 103rd Street, immediately west of the Thompson Inc. offices. Faculty members of the IU School of Ophthalmology see patients Monday through Friday. An outpatient surgery center is located on the second floor of the facility.

For additional information about the open house, contact Lynne Hulbert at 317-278-3500. To make an appointment with one of the IU Eye specialists seeing patients at the new Carmel facility, call 8-IUDOCS.

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June 25, 2004

Prisoner Abuse, Medical Lyrics And The Happy Sounds of A Camp For Disabled Children All On This Week’s Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Sound Medicine will visit the lyrics of medicine in the Saturday, June 26, program which airs at noon on WFYI Public Radio found at 90.1 FM in Indianapolis and on Sundays at other stations in Indiana. Please check our web site for information about those stations and times at www.soundmedicine.iu.edu

Sound Medicine is a weekly radio program co-produced by the Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI. The program is hosted by Barb Lewis.

Music and medicine have been entwined throughout history, according to Herbert Swick, M.D., executive director of the Institute of Medicine and Humanities in Montana.

Dr. Swick will discuss the themes of songs that touch on such topics as a personal account of an operation without anesthesia and an illness brought on by drinking contaminated hooch during Prohibition.

A second segment will focus on the psychology of prisoner abuse with guest Paul Ragan, M.D., a Navy psychiatrist during Desert Storm who now is an associate professor of psychiatry at Vanderbilt University.

As Army and government officials untangle the Iraqi prisoner abuse scandal, psychiatrists and psychologists say what happened at Abu Ghraib Prison is not surprising based on past research. Studies done at Stanford and Yale universities over the past 30 years shed light on the current situation.

In one study, researchers found that the unequal balance of power in prisons can drive normal people to become brutal and abusive. The other study found that ordinary people will go to great lengths, even against their better judgment, to follow the orders of someone in authority.

Dr. Ragan will discuss the psychological factors that might have driven U.S. soldiers to abuse Iraqi prisoners.

Sound Medicine will take a field trip to Camp Agapé, where children and adults with disabilities are learning how to ride and to care for a horse as part of a therapeutic program focused on improving their health. Producer Nora Hiatt will speak with some of the campers and staff at the Agape Therapeutic Riding Center near Cicero, Ind.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at soundmedicine.iu.edu.
Prisoner Abuse, Medical Lyrics And The Happy Sounds of A Camp For Disabled Children All On This Week’s Sound Medicine

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Lab Puts Some Sleep Disorders to Rest

INDIANAPOLIS — Brian H. Foresman doesn't mind if patients doze off when they visit his clinic at Indiana University Hospital. In fact, the pulmonologist prefers they plunge head-first into Lullabyland. That way, Dr. Foresman and his colleagues can get right to work finding the source of their sleep problems and plot a course for cures.

A good night's sleep is an ongoing quest for many Americans. The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke estimates that at least 40 million adults experience long-term and chronic sleep disorders annually and another 20 million have occasional sleeping problems. Sleep deprivation related to these disorders affects job performance, social activities, relationships and overall health.

At one time, scientists believed that sleep was an inactive state, a time solely for the body to rest and reenergize. But the medical mindset has changed.

"We know now that sleep is not a passive state at all and that our brains are very much active," says Dr. Foresman, director of the Sleep Medicine and Circadian Biology Program at the Indiana University School of Medicine. "What the medical community needs to understand is that sleep disorders are emerging as a health problem in our society because they affect the quality of life and morbidity."

Sleep disorders have been linked to maladies ranging from cardiovascular disease to various forms of mental illness. Often the disease is the source of sleep problems, and specialists in the program are consulted to make diagnoses and to devise treatment plans.

"Our program truly is interdisciplinary, drawing from otolaryngology, neurology, cardiology, gastroenterology, psychiatry, gerontology, nephrology and dentistry. I think this is what defines our success as a lab and a clinic," Dr. Foresman says.

The IU sleep program began in 1988 with a one-bed laboratory and limited equipment. Today, it is an expansive eight-bed clinic and laboratory at IU Hospital that operates around the clock. Private rooms, two of which are designed for the disabled, have storage and showers. Upon arrival, the patient fills out a medical history and is given a brief physical. Then he is escorted to his room where he is prepped for an evaluation, including a full fitting of electrodes and other sensor devices.

The facility has the latest monitoring equipment to measure patients' brain activity, eye movement, respiration and other functions. Clinicians and technicians closely watch video monitors that show body movements and also review a constant output of computer printouts. Each patient's information is confidentially stored on an electronic database.

The Children's Sleep Disorders Center at Riley Hospital for Children is Indiana's only pediatric sleep clinic and the largest in the world. The facility, directed by Deborah C. Givan, M.D., professor of pediatrics, specializes in evaluating and treating children ranging from premature newborns to 18 year olds.
physical and emotional needs of children are very different from those of adults. This is especially true in the area of sleep disorders, and an adult approach in evaluating and treating sleep problems is often not appropriate or successful for children.

What Dreams May Come

Five years ago, Vince Sheehan would wake up in the morning tired and would remain sluggish throughout the day. At night, he was one-man chainsaw chorus. These stentorian episodes often were interspersed with periods of stony silence and no movement. He received his first diagnosis from his wife.

"She was watching a segment on the news, and she woke me up and told me I had this thing they were discussing on television," recalls Sheehan. "Before that, she would occasionally touch me at night when I was asleep to see if I moved because I seemed to stop breathing."

It turned out his wife's diagnosis was accurate. Thirty minutes into Sheehan's sleep study, IU pulmonologist Frank Sheski, M.D., who determined the problem to be obstructive sleep apnea, a condition that largely affects middle-aged adults. Patients with apnea experience interrupted sleep and are prone to develop cardiovascular problems because of the repetitive cycles of snoring, shrinking airway space (if a patient is overweight or has a receding jaw) and continuous arousal from sleep.

Apnea is among the many disorders diagnosed and treated at the IU sleep clinic. Other conditions are restless legs and periodic limb syndromes, movement disorders, narcolepsy, sleep walking, sleep talking and insomnia. Earlier bedtimes and afternoon and early-evening naps taken by seniors often account for insomnia, which is said to be chronic in more than 40 million Americans.

"Changing sleep hygiene by limiting or eliminating naps and establishing routine sleep times helps reduce insomnia and improves sleep," Dr. Foresman says. "For seniors this might mean that they need to stay up later. For younger people to ensure a good sleep, it means maintaining a routine time of awakening and going to bed."

Sheehan's solution came in the form of a continuous positive air pressure machine. During sleep, muscles in the airway relax, allowing any excessive tissue in the throat – such as tonsils, adenoids, tongue and the uvula – to block the airway. The air pressure device gently delivers oxygen into the airway through a nasal mask and keeps the airway open, eliminating obstructions.

"It took about a week to get used to the mask, but I was able to adjust," Sheehan says. "I can feel a big difference. While I don't sleep any longer in terms of hours, my sleep is much deeper and I wake up rested and energized."

For more information about the Sleep Medicine and Circadian Biology Program, go to http://medicine.iupui.edu/pulmonary/Sleep_Clinics.htm. Details about the Riley Sleep Disorders Center can be found at www.rileyhospital.org/document.jsp?locid=183.

# # #

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Lab Puts Some Sleep Disorders to Rest

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June 22, 2004

**Rheumatoid Arthritis Focus Of Clinical Trial At IU School Of Medicine**

INDIANAPOLIS — Individuals with rheumatoid arthritis are being sought for a clinical trial at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

To be eligible, individuals must be between the ages of 18 and 75 years and have been diagnosed with the illness for at least six months. Participants must have active moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis and currently taking methotrexate.

The study will look at the effectiveness of an investigational drug. Participants will be involved in the study for approximately four months and will need to make about eight visits to the IU Medical Center campus.

Rheumatoid arthritis affects 2.1 million Americans, primarily women. Onset usually is in middle age, but the disease can strike children and young adults. Research has shown that patients with rheumatoid arthritis who receive an early diagnosis and begin aggressive treatment are more likely to improve their quality of life while reducing disease activity and deformity.

For additional information or to enroll in the trial, contact Sandy at 317-278-3166.

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June 21, 2004

Purdue Engineers, IU Physicians, West Lafayette Firm Work to Improve Radiation Therapy

INDIANAPOLIS and WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Radiation therapy for treating cancer could be improved through the collaborative efforts of a Purdue Research Park high-tech company with Indiana and Purdue university scientists and research physicians.

Researchers at Advanced Process Combinatorics Inc., Purdue University and the Indiana University School of Medicine have designed and refined a new technique that allows physicians to quickly customize treatment plans that deliver more radiation to tumors without causing extensive damage to surrounding or healthy tissue.

Radiation treatments are used in a large percentage of the more than 1 million cases of cancer treated annually in the United States. Worldwide costs of goods and services used in cancer treatment exceed $1 billion annually.

But Dr. Mark Langer, the project's lead investigator and a professor of clinical radiation oncology at the IU School of Medicine, said, traditionally, individualized radiation-oncology treatment plans have been very difficult and time-consuming to prepare.

"Our goal is to find a better way to deliver a maximum radiation dosage to individual tumors," Langer said. "This new technology has produced encouraging preliminary results."

Rather than having a single large radiation beam pass through the body, radiation through intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) is effectively broken up into thousands of tiny, thin radiation beams. With millimeter accuracy, these beams enter the body from many angles and intersect at the cancer. Although IMRT allows for very precise treatments, Langer said he believed the process could be improved if oncology radiation treatment planners had the capability to more quickly and effectively assign intensity levels to each of the smaller beams of radiation.

Four years ago, Langer began conversations about this problem with some of the scientists making novel optimization breakthroughs at Purdue. He contacted Ron Rardin, a professor of industrial engineering at Purdue, who thought some of the same techniques could be applied to radiotherapy.

Rardin brought Purdue Research Park company Advanced Process Combinatorics (APC) on board because he was aware that APC, while specializing in algorithm engineering, also had a former cancer researcher on its staff. Dr. Larry Baxter came to APC from Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School where he was involved in applied research for cancer therapy modeling and optimization.
"Mathematically, what are the chances of this type of coincidence?" said Joseph Pekny, a Purdue professor of chemical engineering and co-founder of APC. "Despite the interdisciplinary nature of the team, we have been able to speak the same language from the beginning by way of Dr. Baxter."

In recent years, the company has applied novel mathematical approaches in a wide range of endeavors, from the scheduling of pharmaceutical manufacturing to the building of pallets for soda cans.

Pekny said he is excited about applying a similar technique to a project that can save lives.

In this case, researchers will apply their mathematical solution to IMRT by creating a software program that can assist the treatment planner in beam arrangement and intensity assignment. The research team plans to develop a product line of software solutions that will be updated continually to match the advances in radiation oncology-related machine tooling, control systems and computer imaging.

Along with faculty, the project team includes students at both Purdue and the Indiana University School of Medicine.

"We have attracted several outstanding students to our team," Rardin said. "Students love the idea of working on a project that demands state-of-the-art methodological tools and also impacts society."

The project team includes two students pursuing their doctoral degrees, two other graduate students, a medical school student and a medical school resident.

The work of this group has been funded by grants from the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. The group's progress also has been bolstered by the support of the Indiana 21st Century Research and Technology Fund. Total funding to date is $2.1 million.

"Radiation treatment planning may serve as a model for wider collaborations between the medical services and mathematical programming communities, leading to more refined operations and use of capital equipment and labor and accelerated processing of the information explosion in fields like pharmaceutics and biologic diagnostics," said Tony Armstrong, the 21st Century Fund's director.

"Within the life sciences arena, applied computational medicine and telemedicine are areas where Indiana can carve its own niche because these fields have no established leaders or strong competitors, and these startups require less initial capital investment."

Armstrong said the resources available in Indiana - Purdue, the IU School of Medicine, hospitals and the high-tech companies working in this area - have demonstrated a willingness to collaborate.

"This collaboration is a great example of the kinds of partnerships we need to foster in Indiana to improve human health and the economy of Indiana," said Charles Schalliol, president and chief executive officer of BioCrossroads, Indiana's life sciences initiative.

BioCrossroads is a public-private collaboration that supports the region's research and corporate strengths while encouraging new business development. "The development, in our back yard, of this cutting-edge technique to fight cancer is yet another example of the tremendous scientific talent base found in Indiana," Schalliol said.
Advanced Process Combinatorics Inc. was founded in 1993 by Pekny and Donald Miller. APC provides solutions to complex operations management problems in process scheduling, supply-chain optimization, project and portfolio management, pharmaceutical pipeline management, warehouse management and dispatch systems. The company has deployed a variety of commercial applications that have been successfully used by Fortune 500 companies.

The IU School of Medicine, the second largest medical school in the United States with more than 1,200 students, has nine medical education centers throughout Indiana for first- and second-year students. All students complete their third and fourth years at the Indianapolis campus. Nearly two-thirds of Indiana's physicians receive all or some of their education at IU.

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**Sources**

- Dr. Mark Langer, (317) 274-1343; mlanger@iupui.edu
- Ron Rardin, (765) 494-5410; rardin@purdue.edu
- Joseph Pekny, (765) 497-9969; pekny@combination.com
- Dr. Larry Baxter, (765) 497-9969; baxter@combination.com
- Anthony "Tony" Armstrong, (317) 233-4332; tarmstrong@21fund.org
- Jennifer Cebalo, BioCrossroads media contact, (317) 635-9175; jcebalo@marcusa.com

**Related Web sites**

- Purdue Research Park: [http://www.purdueresearchpark.com](http://www.purdueresearchpark.com)
- Purdue University Home Page: [http://www.purdue.edu](http://www.purdue.edu)
- Indiana University School of Medicine: [http://medicine.iu.edu/home.html](http://medicine.iu.edu/home.html)
- IU School of Medicine Department of Radiation Oncology: [http://www.radonc.iupui.edu](http://www.radonc.iupui.edu)
- Indiana University Home Page: [http://www.indiana.edu](http://www.indiana.edu)
- BioCrossroads: [http://www.biocrossroads.com](http://www.biocrossroads.com)
- Indiana 21st Century Research and Technology Fund: [http://www.21fund.org](http://www.21fund.org)

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June 18, 2004

Cancer Screening, Questions To Ask A Doc And Moments of Brilliance All On Sound Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Guests on the Saturday, June 19, Sound Medicine program will discuss the importance of cancer screenings in the elderly, a book detailing questions individuals should ask their doctors and a shed little insight on how the mind works.

Sound Medicine is the weekly radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program is hosted by Barb Lewis. This week’s co-host is Kathy Miller, MD.

Guests will include Louise Walter, M.D., a professor from the University of California – San Francisco and the San Francisco VA Medical Center. She will discuss her research analyzing breast and cervical cancer screening trends in older women. She concluded that age and health status should be considered since the benefit of screening may be lost on unhealthy women, and conversely, many healthy older women are not getting screened.

Also on the program will be Margaret Fitzpatrick, R.N., a Chicago area trauma nurse and co-author of What to Ask the Doc, a book that guides patients and family members through several health scenarios and provides lists of questions that should be asked of physicians.

Mark Jung Beeman, PhD, an associate professor of psychology in the Cognitive Neuroscience Program at Northwestern University, will discuss his research of how the brain achieves insight that leads to "Aha" or "light bulb" moments."

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at http://soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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Einhorn Honored For Career In Cancer Research

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana University Cancer Center oncologist Lawrence Einhorn, M.D., has been honored for his contributions to the field of cancer research by the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

Dr. Einhorn was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for Scientific Achievement at the group’s annual meeting earlier this month. The award is presented annually to an oncologist who has significantly contributed to the field of cancer research.

Dr. Einhorn, who is a Distinguished Professor at IU and a professor of medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine, has spent his career looking for better treatments for cancer patients. He is a recognized authority on the treatment of urologic and lung cancer and certain other tumors, but is perhaps best known for his work in the field of testicular cancer.

In 1974, he and IU urologist John Donohue, M.D., developed a chemotherapy regimen and surgical technique for testicular cancer patients. Their research changed a disease that was frequently a death sentence to a disease with a 95 percent cure rate.

Dr. Einhorn has been on the testicular cancer world stage since his best-known patient Lance Armstrong was successfully treated in 1996 by a team of specialists at the IU Cancer Center. Armstrong has since won five Tour de France championships and is about to embark on his sixth race.

Part of the now-standard regimen developed by Dr. Einhorn for testicular cancer included a relatively new platinum-based drug. Today, platinum-based chemotherapy regimens are used widely in treatment many different forms of cancer including ovarian, bladder and lung.

A former president of ASCO, Dr. Einhorn was honored by the organization in 1990 with its prestigious Karnofsky Memorial Award. ASCO is the leading professional organization representing physicians who treat people with cancer. With more than 21,500 members from more than 100 countries, ASCO’s members set the standard for patient care worldwide.

Dr. Einhorn has been recognized with several prestigious awards as a result of his work as a clinician researcher including the Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Foundation Award for Cancer Research, presented in 1981 by the American Association of Cancer Research; the 1983 American Cancer Society Medal of Honor; and the 1992 Kettering Prize for Cancer Research, awarded by the General Motors Foundation. In 2001, he was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences.

A native of Dayton, Ohio, Dr. Einhorn received a bachelor's degree from IU and a medical degree from the University of Iowa. He completed his internship and residency at the IU School of Medicine and hematolgy/
Einhorn Honored For Career In Cancer Research

oncology fellowships at IU School of Medicine and the M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston, Texas. He joined the IU School of Medicine faculty in 1973 and was named a distinguished professor at the university in 1987.

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June 17, 2004

Art is Right Rx for This Med Student’s Free Time

INDIANAPOLIS — When several of her paintings of saints on wood, called Santos, were displayed in galleries and sold throughout New Mexico, Felicia Hinant had an inkling of her artistic worth. It was strengthened when she learned someone in that state was copying her style. But it was a thief who finally convinced her that she had arrived as an artist.

"I was flattered when I heard that a painting I did of San José had been stolen from a home in New Mexico. Art theft is perhaps the ultimate compliment," says Hinant, who is beginning her third year as a medical student.

Art and medicine have been long-time pursuits for Hinant, who grew up in Washington, D.C. She spent countless hours in art galleries, including the National Gallery of Art. She often visited the district’s many memorials and historic sites and did crayon drawings. In the fourth grade, she painted the blossoming cherry trees and the work was displayed in an exhibit in the U.S. Senate office building.

The idea of becoming a doctor took root when she was a 13-year-old high school biology student in Indianapolis, but she quickly opted for more hard-core sciences, Hinant recalls.

"We were dissecting fetal pigs and some of the boys in class chased me around the room with guts and threw them on me," she says. "That’s when I decided physics and chemistry were better classes to take."

She went on to earn a degree in chemistry and worked in that profession for several years. Some years later, she earned a master’s degree in mechanical engineering and worked for a defense contractor. That’s when she started thinking about becoming a doctor again; she applied and was accepted at IU in 2000.

"Art and medicine both involve seeing relationships in new and different ways," she explains. "Every painting is different and every patient is different. Painting and sketching use a part of the brain that has no sense of time and no language ability. There’s great freedom there because mood and emotion are legitimate feelings. In contrast, medicine is highly dependent on language and time can be crucial. The mood and the emotions of a physician should not cloud judgment."

Hinant describes her art as having no particular style because she often does not start out with a specific subject in mind. She takes out her pencil and begins to draw on a blank piece of white paper. From there, the work takes on a life of its own and may evolve into serpents, ladybugs, fish, ships riding waves, musical notes, flowing streams, medical school experiences and relationships. Most of her paintings are done in acrylics on watercolor paper, and she uses India ink for outlining. The colors she chooses are very bright and vibrant and, in some ways, much like stained-glass windows.
"I like to sketch flowers and human faces," says Hinant, the mother of two daughters, the oldest of whom just completed her sophomore year at IUPUI's Herron School of Art and Design.

"I once tried sketching horses, but they didn’t cooperate," she continues. "It wasn’t long before these huge, curious animals wanted to see what I was doing. My sketchpad was getting nudged by their heads and it was a bit intimidating."

The medical world has taken note of the budding physician’s artistic talents. The Journal of the American Medical Association included Hinant's paintings in two of its "First Year," and illustrates the ups-and-downs of a medical student's rookie year. The other painting now hangs near the entrance at James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children.

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
June 16, 2004

**IU School Of Medicine Seeks Stroke Patients For Botox Study**

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Neurology is seeking stroke patients with muscle tightness or spasticity for a study on the effectiveness of Botox®.

Participants, who will receive injections in their stroke affected arm, will be enrolled in the study for at least six months and will be required to make several visits to the IU Medical Center. They will receive physical examinations, blood tests and medication for muscle tightness.

To qualify, individuals must be at least 18 years of age, have had a stroke more than six months ago and have never used Botox in the arm affected by the stroke.

For additional information or to enroll, contact Amy Perkins at 317-274-1327, or by email at ajkeen@iupui.edu.

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June 14, 2004

Pascuzzi Named Neurology Chairman At IU School of Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — Robert M. Pascuzzi, M.D., has been named chair of Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Neurology pending approval by the IU trustees.

Dr. Pascuzzi is a professor of neurology and served as vice chairman of the department for eight years. He also served as interim chairman while a search was conducted for a replacement for José Biller, M.D., who resigned last fall.

Dr. Pascuzzi specializes in the treatment of neuromuscular diseases, such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and electromyography. He is a graduate of the IU School of Medicine and completed a residency and fellowship at the University of Virginia School of Medicine before returning to IU as a member of the faculty in 1985.

He has been honored by IU medical students for his innovative teaching style on numerous occasions, and in 2001 was named the American Neurological Association’s Distinguished Neurology Teacher.

Dr. Pascuzzi serves as a director of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and is past editor in chief of Seminars in Neurology.

A resident of Zionsville, he and his wife Karen L. Roos, M.D., who is the John and Nancy Nelson Professor of Neurology at IU, have two teenage daughters Annie and Jan.

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June 11, 2004

**Breast Cancer, LASIK Surgery and Alzheimer's Disease this week on Sound Medicine**

INDIANAPOLIS — This week’s guests on Sound Medicine include George Sledge, MD, professor of oncology, of medicine and of pathology at the IU School of Medicine, who talks about the international research project he’s leading to develop individualized treatments for breast cancer patients.

Martin Farlow, MD, the director of the IU School of Medicine Alzheimer's Disease Clinic and Mary Guerriero Austrom, PhD, the director of Indiana Caregiver's Awareness, Recognition and Education, talk about research and education in Alzheimer's disease. Their interviews are taken from earlier broadcasts.

Clark Springs, MD an assistant professor of ophthalmology and Larry Thibos, a professor of optometry with IU and a member of IU’s Visual Sciences Group talk about the development of Wavefront LASIK to treat far-sightedness and its genesis.

This week's co-host is Kathy Miller, MD, assistant professor of medicine. The host is Barbara Lewis.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at [www.soundmedicine.iu.edu/](http://www.soundmedicine.iu.edu/).

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June 11, 2004

Zipes Honored For Innovative Cardiology Career

INDIANAPOLIS — Douglas P. Zipes’ career as a cardiologist, educator and researcher at the Indiana University School of Medicine has been recognized with an endowed professorship named in his honor and supported by the Medtronic Foundation.

The Medtronic Zipes Chair in Cardiology was endowed by the Medtronic Foundation to promote excellence in cardiovascular research, education and patient care. The School will begin a national search to recruit a leading physician-scientist to fill the endowed professorship.

Dr. Zipes is a Distinguished Professor at Indiana University and professor emeritus of medicine. He will step down this month as director of the Krannert Institute of Cardiology at IU, a position he has held since 1995.

"It is hard to imagine the field of electrophysiology today without the invaluable contributions of Dr. Zipes over the past 25 years," said Steve Mahle, executive vice president and president of Medtronic Cardiac Rhythm Management and a member of the Medtronic Foundation Board. "His pioneering work has made all the difference for hundreds of thousands of patients worldwide who suffer from cardiac arrhythmias. We are delighted to recognize Dr. Zipes with the establishment of this professorship."

As a researcher, Dr. Zipes focused on the electrical impulses that stimulate the heart muscle. His electrophysiology research explored the mechanisms responsible for cardiac arrhythmias and sudden cardiac death. As a leading expert in the field, Dr. Zipes worked closely with Medtronic, Inc. to create the first implantable cardioverter designed to stop attacks of arrhythmia.

Taking research from the "bench to the bedside" was one of the clinical strengths of Dr. Zipes. In this vein, he also pioneered the use of alcohol ablation to treat arrhythmias, as well as other progressive therapies for cardiac irregularities.

Dr. Zipes also is recognized internationally for his research and promotion of the use of automated external defibrillators (AED) in public places such as shopping malls and airports. In Indianapolis, he has started the world’s first Neighborhood Heart Watch to distribute AEDs into the community where 80 percent of sudden cardiac deaths occur.

He has provided international leadership to the field of cardiac electrophysiology through his role as president of professional organizations such as the Heart Rhythm Society. He also served as president of the American College of Cardiology in 2001 and, more recently, as chairman of the American Board of Internal Medicine.
As an educator, Dr. Zipes has trained more than 75 cardiac electrophysiologists who now practice all over the world.

Colleagues and former students from the United States and Canada were speakers and guests at a June 8 symposium in Dr. Zipes' honor. The symposium presented a retrospective of his career. Speakers addressed state of the art diagnostic and treatment methods for heart rhythm disturbances and predicted what the future would hold in the field of electrophysiology.

One of Dr. Zipes' current students, John C. Lopshire, M.D., Ph.D., research and clinical cardiology fellow at Krannert Institute of Cardiology, said his mentor has had far-reaching influence on the field of electrophysiology.

"As a trainee under Dr Zipes, I have come to appreciate that many of the current leaders in cardiac electrophysiology were directly mentored or were greatly influenced by his teachings," said Dr. Lopshire. "The most important lesson I've learned from Dr Zipes is that all of my activities, be they educational, research, clinical or administrative, must be conducted with the end goal of advancing medicine and improving the lives of patients.

"The Medtronic Foundation, with their gracious endowment of the Medtronic Zipes Chair in Cardiology, has provided the Krannert Institute and the IU School of Medicine the opportunity to continue the legacy of Dr. Zipes by supporting a faculty member dedicated to instilling his values in the next generation of physicians in the field of cardiac electrophysiology."

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June 7, 2004

Juvenile Diabetes Studies To Explore Genetics, Environmental Risks

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University School of Medicine is one of 18 international sites involved in two studies seeking ways to reverse or delay the onset of type 1 (juvenile) diabetes and to identify risk factors for the disease.

The kickoff for the studies, funded by the National Institutes of Health, was announced over the weekend by Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy G. Thompson. There are 18 clinical sites in the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia recently designated as Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet Centers. Henry Rodriguez, M.D., assistant professor of pediatric endocrinology, is the principal investigator of the TrialNet Center at the IU School of Medicine. Co-investigator of the study is Mark D. Pescovitz, M.D., professor of surgery and of microbiology and immunology, and director of the Clarian Transplant Center, Division of Organ Transplant Surgery.

One study will probe the risk factors and biological basis of type 1 diabetes in at-risk individuals. First-degree relatives (parents and siblings) between the ages of 1 and 45 years, and second-degree relatives (grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins) between the ages of 1 and 20 years, of individuals with type 1 diabetes will be enrolled in the study. Participants will be screened, which involves a simple blood test for auto-antibodies that appear in at-risk people years before diabetes develops.

Participants will be closely monitored for signs of diabetes and may be offered the opportunity to participate in studies that try to stop the disease process.

Type 1 diabetes develops when the body's immune system mistakenly destroys the insulin-producing beta cells of the pancreas. The hormone insulin is needed to convert glucose into energy. Most people when diagnosed still have some functioning beta cells, but as the disease progresses, the immune system destroys these cells making it harder to control blood glucose. Future TrialNet studies will seek to delay or stop the immune destruction of beta cells.

The second study will look at environmental factors that may contribute to the onset of type 1 diabetes. Scientists believe that a combination of genetic and environmental factors, such as diet or childhood infection, may increase a person's susceptibility to the disease.

Participants in both studies will be seen at the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children and the Indiana University Hospital.

“These new studies will help researchers learn more about preventing and treating type 1 diabetes.” said Dr. Rodriguez. “Although known as juvenile diabetes, type 1 can develop in people of all ages and can have a devastating impact on quality of life issues for children and adults.”

Type 1 diabetes accounts for 5 percent to 10 percent of all diagnosed cases. Type 2 diabetes, which is the
most common form of the disease, is associated with aging, obesity, family history, as well as some ethnic
groups. Nearly 18.2 million people or 6.3 percent of the U.S. population have diabetes. Diabetes is the
main cause of kidney failure, limb amputation and new onset blindness. It also is a major cause of heart
disease and stroke.
For information or to enroll in the studies, call Jody Barnhorst, R.N., or Linda Amstutz, R.N., toll free at 1-866-
230-8486, or email pedsdiab@iupui.edu.

For additional information on the nationwide studies, see www.DiabetesTrialnet.org.

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June 3, 2004

**Study Will Assess Benefits Of Limiting Airflow To Emphysema Patients**

INDIANAPOLIS — Individuals with severe emphysema may participate in a clinical trial studying the effectiveness of a device designed to limit airflow to a selected portion of the lung.

The study, at the Indiana University School of Medicine, will assess whether reducing airflow may result in a reduction in lung volume which may improve lung function in individuals with emphysema.

The device is a valve implanted in a standard bronchoscopic procedure. The minimally invasive procedure may provide a treatment option for patients not eligible for surgery.

Eligible participants must have been diagnosed with severe emphysema and have abstained from smoking for at least four months.

For additional information, contact Katie Keller, R.N., at 317-274-3989.

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June 2, 2004

**Epilepsy Patients Sought For Studies At IU School of Medicine**

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University School of Medicine is conducting three epilepsy studies for individuals with various forms of the neurological disorder.

One study evaluates the effectiveness of a new medication when used in combination with standard epilepsy drugs. This international clinical trial seeks participants with refractory partial epilepsy.

Participants must be between the ages of 16 and 70 years, have an average of four or more seizures a month and are taking at least one, but no more than three, anti-epilepsy medications.

For additional information or to enroll in the trial, contact Katie Keller, R.N., at 317-274-3989.

A National Institute of Health funded study is comparing early surgical treatment for mesial temporal lobe epilepsy compared to standard drug therapy in patients 12 years of age and older.

Patients enrolled in the study must have had disabling seizures for no more than two consecutive years. For additional information, contact Katie Keller, R.N., at 317-274-3989.

In a third study, patients between the ages of 18 and 65 years with refractory partial epilepsy are sought for a multicenter study of deep brain stimulation for refractory partial epilepsy. The study will evaluate a medical device made by Medtronic that stimulates the thalamus.

For additional information, contact Marcia Manley, R.N., at 317-274-4974.

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June 2, 2004

Asthma Sufferers Sought For Drug Study

INDIANAPOLIS — People with mild to moderate asthma are needed for a study of three FDA approved asthma medications.

The study at the Indiana University School of Medicine is comparing Flovent Diskus, Singular and Advair Diskus to determine if the medications are equally effective for reducing the number and severity of asthma attacks.

The 16-week study will require participants to make eight trips to the IU Medical Center.

For additional information, contact Sheryl at 317-274-3948.

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June 1, 2004

Chisholm To Lead National Emergency Medicine Group

INDIANAPOLIS — Carey Chisholm, M.D., has been named president of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine at the group's annual meeting in May in Orlando, Fla. He is director of the Indiana University School of Medicine Emergency Medicine Residency Program and a clinical professor of emergency medicine.

Dr. Chisholm joined the IU faculty in 1989 and has overseen the residency training program in emergency medicine since that time.

A 1980 graduate of the Medical College of Virginia, Dr. Chisholm completed his residency at Madigan Army Medicine Center and went on to serve as director of emergency services at the U.S. Army hospital in Nurnberg, Germany. From 1985-1989, he served as the residency director at the Joint Military Medical Command – Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas.

The Society of Academic Emergency Medicine is the leading organization for the discipline. It is dedicated to improving the care of acutely ill and injured patients by improving research and education.

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May 27, 2004

Sturek Selected To Lead IU Cellular And Integrative Physiology

INDIANAPOLIS — Michael Sturek, Ph.D., has been selected as professor and chair of the Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology, pending approval by the IU board of trustees. He will begin his duties June 1.

Dr. Sturek currently is associate director of basic research at the Center for Diabetes and Cardiovascular Health, and professor of medical pharmacology and physiology at the University of Missouri School of Medicine.

His research focus is vascular biology, primarily in areas associated with diabetes.

Dr. Sturek received his bachelor’s degree from Augustana College. He received a master’s degree in exercise physiology at Purdue University and a doctorate in pharmacology from the University of Iowa. Dr. Sturek joined the University of Missouri faculty in 1987.

He is a member of several professional societies, including the Biophysical Society, the American Heart Association and the American Diabetes Association. He holds several grants including funding from the National Institutes of Health and the American Diabetes Association.

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May 26, 2004

Go Figure: Scientists Gather for Statewide Bioinformatics Conference

INDIANAPOLIS — Scientists from across Indiana will converge at the Indiana University School of Medicine Thursday for the first statewide conference on one of the keys to translating the genomics revolution into better health care: bioinformatics.

Huge amounts of information are being generated by projects to decipher the genetic codes of humans, mice and other animals, as well as hundreds of disease-causing pathogens and other microorganisms, said A. Keith Dunker, Ph. D., director of the Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics at IU School of Medicine.

Bioinformatics -- the merger of advanced computer techniques with biological research -- will make it possible to analyze vast amounts of biological data being generated to find the roles that genetics plays in nearly all human diseases, said Dr. Dunker, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology.

Those genetic instructions direct the complex network of signaling and other interactions in the cell, and when there are errors, diseases such as cancer or Alzheimer’s can result.

While scientists have produced the text of human and other genomes, "it’s written essentially in a foreign language now that nobody understands," Dr. Dunker said. Bioinformatics promises to help translate that language in ways that could improve health care and reduce the costs of treating illness “because we can do it smarter and better."

"Bioinformatics is critically important to the direction of the work that I am doing," said Tatiana Foroud, Ph. D., associate professor of medical and molecular genetics. Dr. Foroud’s work includes research into "complex" diseases in which many genes play a role, such as osteoporosis, alcoholism and Parkinson’s disease.

"The work I have done over the years points to big chromosomal regions with hundreds or sometimes even thousands of genes. With the help of bioinformatics, we try to systematically decrease the number of genes that might be candidates for contributing to the disease," she said.

Bioinformatics was one of six programs created by the Indiana Genomics Initiative, which was funded by $155 million in grants to IU from the Lilly Endowment. Dr. Dunker came to IU School of Medicine in 2003 from Washington State University to head the program and direct the center.

Thursday’s conference is an important opportunity to find out who in the state is using bioinformatics tools and how, and to promote possible collaborations, said Dr. Dunker. Representatives from major Indiana universities and life sciences businesses are expected.
Go Figure: Scientists Gather for Statewide Bioinformatics Conference

The fact that conference registration is at capacity says a lot about the Hoosier life sciences research and industry, said Sean Mooney, Ph.D., a researcher at the IU computational biology center and a conference organizer.

"I think we've hit critical mass and this conference will demonstrate that," said Dr. Mooney, assistant professor of medical and molecular genetics.

The conference begins at 9 a.m. Thursday in the VanNuys Medical Science building at the IU School of Medicine.

For more information on the Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics and Thursday’s conference, see http://compbio.iupui.edu.

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May 20, 2004

**Surgeon Named to Professorship Endowed by ex-Colts QB, Riley**

INDIANAPOLIS — A. Michael Sadove, M.D., will soon huddle up as the James Joseph Harbaugh Jr. Professor of Plastic Surgery at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Dr. Sadove is professor of surgery and chief of the Plastic Surgery Section at Riley Hospital for Children. He also directs the Oral-Facial Clinic and Craniofacial Program at Riley, and holds appointments at Indiana University Hospital and Wishard Memorial Hospital.

The professorship was established by the Riley Children's Foundation (formerly the Riley Memorial Foundation) with a portion of its funding coming from the Harbaugh Hill Foundation, a philanthropic entity launched by Jim Harbaugh, former NFL player who was quarterback of the Indianapolis Colts from 1994 to 1997.

Harbaugh's son was treated by Dr. Sadove at Riley Hospital. In helping establish the professorship with the RCF, it was specified that Dr. Sadove be the first person to hold that position. His appointment is effective June 1, pending the approval of the Trustees of Indiana University.

Dr. Sadove's practice is focused on the plastic surgical care of women and children. His adult services include cosmetic procedures such as facelifts, rhinoplasty, laser surgery and breast surgery (including cancer reconstruction). Children's surgical procedures include facial birth defects, laser surgery for birthmarks, otoplasty and rhinoplasty.

He received his medical degree from the Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine and completed residencies at Presbyterian St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago and the University of Virginia. Dr. Sadove is past president of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Plastic Surgery Section.

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May 19, 2004

**Dad's Day 5K is a Race Against Prostate Cancer**

INDIANAPOLIS — It will be a blue ribbon day when participants take to the streets for the Dad’s Day 5K. The runners and walkers will be stepping out to benefit prostate cancer research and to help those who suffer from the disease.

The run-and-fitness walk kicks off at 8 a.m., Saturday, June 19. The registration and staging area is at the Indiana University Cancer Center Pavilion, 535 Barnhill Drive, on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus.

Proceeds will benefit prostate cancer research at the IU Cancer Center and the Little Red Door, a support agency for medically underserved cancer patients in central Indiana. The Dad’s Day 5K is sponsored by the Central Indiana Prostate Cancer Research Foundation Inc., which promotes fundraising, research and educating the public about the disease.

Prostate cancer is one of the leading causes of death among men, but early detection and treatment can lead to a complete recovery, notes Stephen D. Williams, M.D., director of the IU Cancer Center.

"Survival rates are 90 percent or higher if prostate cancer is caught early," says Dr. Williams. "However, often there are no early warning signs or symptoms of the disease and the only way to detect prostate cancer in its early stages is through a prostate specific antigen blood test and digital rectal exam."

PSA is a protein produced in the cells of the prostate. When the gland enlarges, PSA levels in the blood tend to elevate and might indicate the presence of cancer or benign conditions.

The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be about 230,900 new cases of prostate cancer in the United States in the year 2004, according to the American Cancer Society. About 29,900 men will die of this disease this year, the society predicts.

As pink ribbons have come to symbolize breast cancer awareness, a blue ribbon is the emblem worn by prostate cancer survivors, their families, other advocates – and Dad’s Day 5K participants.

For more information or to register on-line for Dad’s Day 5K, go to [www.indydadsday5k.org](http://www.indydadsday5k.org).

More information about the IU Cancer Center can be found at [http://iucc.iu.edu](http://iucc.iu.edu).

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Dad's Day 5K is a Race Against Prostate Cancer

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May 19, 2004

IU Medical School Scientist Recognized for Lung Research

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indiana University School of Medicine faculty member who is well-known for his research of human lung function soon will be honored for his work by the American Thoracic Society.

Wiltz Wagner, Ph.D., the V.K. Stoelting Professor of Anesthesia and professor of cellular and integrative physiology, biophysics and pediatrics at the IU School of Medicine, will receive the Robert F. Grover Prize from the ATS Pulmonary Circulation Assembly, May 24, at its annual meeting in Orlando, Fla. The Grover Prize is given annually for outstanding contributions in studying the effects of hypoxia and high altitude on the pulmonary circulation.

Dr. Wagner is internationally recognized for his research on the lung. Much of his work has focused on the microscopic gas exchange vessels in the lung and how blood flow is controlled in the lung capillaries. He has pioneered a method -- now being used in other laboratories -- for studying capillary blood flow directly in the living lung.

Techniques developed by his research laboratory for video recording microcirculatory blood flow using fluorescence microscopy, laser illumination, and computer image enhancement have produced exciting new and unique data that are being analyzed by state-of-the-art mathematical techniques.

The most recent analyses have shown that the gas exchange portion of the lung is surprisingly robust. The gas exchange membranes in the lung are among the most delicate in the body, yet are exposed directly to the environment. Dr. Wagner's insight about the robust character of the pulmonary gas exchange vessels suggests a previously unsuspected elegance of design.

After decades of work studying the normal lung and its response to low oxygen, for which Dr. Wagner is receiving the Grover Prize, Dr. Wagner's research team has begun investigating an emphysema model which has promise for showing how gas exchange is disrupted by this disease.

In a related area, Dr. Wagner has developed the only theory that explains why some species develop pulmonary hypertension at high altitude. Testing of the theory has led to travels into the wilds of South America.

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May 19, 2004

Roeske Named Innovator of the Year

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana University School of Medicine researcher Roger Roeske, Ph.D., is the recipient of the second annual Innovator of the Year Award. The presentation will be made Wednesday, May 26, during a reception at the Indiana University Emerging Technologies Center.

Dr. Roeske, a professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, is being honored for his contributions to the research on age-related disease and particularly for his pioneering research that led to the creation of Plenaxis™. That drug offers a promising treatment option for prostate cancer patients; it received FDA approval Nov. 25.

Dr. Roeske, who is the first IU researcher to discover the makings for a drug that made it to market, received a trophy and a $5,000 cash grant. He was selected by IU’s Advanced Research and Technology Institute (ARTI) for his demonstrated success in transferring an IU technology development into a successful commercial application.

"Dr. Roeske demonstrates the quality of research that is ongoing at the School of Medicine," noted Mark Long, president and CEO of ARTI. "His contribution to prostate cancer treatment indicates the high quality of research ongoing at the School and Dr. Roeske's personal commitment to the treatment and cure of this terrible disease."

Dr. Roeske is the second recipient of the annual award. Richard G. Peterson, Ph. D., IU School of Medicine professor of anatomy and cell biology, received the honor in 2003 for his meritorious research in the field of diabetes.

The IU Innovator of the Year Award was made possibly by a gift to IU from the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership. The intention of the program is to recognize innovation by IU faculty members whose research results in economic opportunities for Hoosiers.

The IU Emerging Technologies Center is located at 351 W. 10th St.

For additional information on Dr. Roeske’s research, see http://medicine.indiana.edu/news_releases/viewRelease.php4?art=4 or http://www.biochemistry.iu.edu/personnel/Roeske


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May 18, 2004

Lung Cancer, Other Minimally Invasive Radiation Therapy Treatments Focus of International Radiation Oncology Conference

INDIANAPOLIS — As leaders in the advancement of stereotactic body radiation therapy, Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Radiation Oncology will host an international conference for physicians and researchers.

The third annual Conference on Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy will be May 21-23 at the Adam’s Mark Hotel and Suites, 120 W. Market. The latest options with stereotactic radiation treatments will be presented, including information on a promising lung cancer trial that has received National Institutes of Health funding.

Robert D. Timmerman, M.D., associate professor of radiation oncology at IU, is the principal investigator of the clinical trial, which will treat 35 patients at nine medical centers in the United States and Canada. The centers are members of the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group. This is the third of a series of trials and the first to be conducted nationwide; the first two phases of the study were conducted only at the IU School of Medicine.

This study will treat early-stage non-small cell lung cancer patients with three-dimensional imaging and high doses of radiation to more precisely target and kill cancer cells in the lung. The procedure uses a three dimension computer-generated grid system to more precisely map the location where therapy is directed.

The painless, minimally invasive therapy uses stereotactic body mapping made possible with specially designed equipment that accounts for natural body motion (including breathings) to ensure the precision of radiation beams aimed at the tumor.

The results of the initial phase of the study were published in the November 2003 journal Chest. Forty-seven patients were treated and Dr. Timmerman and his colleagues reported that high doses of radiation were tolerated and 87 percent of those treated had a positive tumor response.

The second phase of the trial is almost complete and results will be reported by IU School of Medicine researchers. The initial two phases enrolled 117 patients, making the study the largest prospective clinical trial of stereotactic body radiation therapy for medically inoperable Stage I lung cancer.

"Initial results for the second phase of the study are very encouraging," said Dr. Timmerman. "We have seen very few recurrences of the cancer. In the phase one portion of the trial we had higher rates of local recurrence at the lower doses of radiation and as the doses increased the recurrence rates dramatically decreased."

Patients enrolled in the second phase were treated with biologically more potent doses than conventionally...
used but patients received only three outpatient treatments compared to 30-35 treatments administered for standard therapy.

Recruitment for the nationwide trial will begin later this summer. Individuals interested in more information about treatments available at IU should contact Tia Whitford at 317-274-1189.

Each of the Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy conferences has been organized by Ronald McGarry, M. D., Ph.D., assistant professor of clinical radiation oncology at IU, who said about 120 physicians and researchers will attend. Stereotactic therapy has a limited number of practitioners and researchers and the IU Department of Radiation Oncology is known as an international leader in the sub-specialty, said Dr. McGarry.

Symposium participants from as far away as Japan will explore the rationale for radiation in the treatment of cancers and discuss new technologies and treatment data.

"Stereotactic therapy is showing great promise for the treatment of difficult cancers such as lung, liver and the spine," said Dr. McGarry. "The specialty is relatively young and is proving to be a viable alternative to conventional surgery and another treatment option for patients who are not good candidates for surgery."

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May 13, 2004

Molecular Scientists to Share Research Interests at Conference

INDIANAPOLIS — More than 100 scientists and students from various academic institutions and some from the private sector will gather and share their research work and interests at the Midwest Regional Molecular Endocrinology Conference, May 19-21.

The three-day conference will be at the University Place Hotel and Conference Center on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus.

"The conference provides a forum for trainees of research institutions to present their work, gives them a view at what's being done at other institutions and brings researchers together for free exchange of ideas," says Robert M. Bigsby, Ph.D., professor of obstetrics and gynecology, and of cellular and integrative physiology at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Some of the discussions will focus on how endocrine processes regulating reproduction and metabolism relate to cancers of the breast, uterus and prostate.

The scientists and students come largely from colleges and universities in Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio and Missouri.

Featured speakers are William W. Chin, M.D., vice president of discovery biology research and clinical investigation at Eli Lilly and Company, and Geoffrey L. Greene, Ph.D., associate director of the Ben May Institute for Cancer Research in Chicago.

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May 11, 2004

**Academic Interaction Shapes Physicians, Journal Reports**

INDIANAPOLIS — No one would dispute the importance of courses, laboratories, syllabi and textbooks – the formal curriculum on the education of doctors. This month, medical educators report on their efforts to change the informal curriculum of a medical school – the effect that students’ interactions with peers, faculty and others in the academic medical center, has on their qualities as future physicians, their values and how they interact with others.

Their research findings appear in the May issue of the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*.

The Indiana University School of Medicine has been a national leader in the refinement of the formal curriculum. Over the past four years, the School has designed and implemented a competency-based curriculum assuring that each graduating student has a sound foundation of knowledge and skills for their future careers in practice.

Now the school’s faculty is tackling the more difficult challenge – improving the informal curriculum, the “lessons” they teach by their daily actions. In doing this work, the school’s goal is to use the social environment of the academic medical center to improve the practice of medicine, to enhance the expression of professionalism and to teach by example. They are learning to pay closer attention to the interactions between physicians and students, physicians and patients, and students and patients.

“Competence is the buzz word in medical education today, but few medical schools actually do anything to teach or assess it in the full sense. At our school we are hoping to make our competency-based curriculum (the formal curriculum) such an integral part of our culture that it will mirror the hidden curriculum. We need to make them indistinguishable,” says Stephen Leapman, M.D., the IU School of Medicine executive associate dean for educational affairs.

“The IU School of Medicine is an ideal laboratory for this process because it has an outstanding formal curriculum that teaches students how best to care for their patients,” says Anthony Suchman, M.D., an internist and consultant from Rochester, New York, who is the first author of the *Journal of General Internal Medicine* paper.

What’s most significant about the project, according to Dr. Suchman, is that this is the first time any medical school has tried to transform its entire culture in the service of improving medical education.

“The organizational culture behind the scenes (in the classroom and on the wards) has to mirror what’s happening between the patient and the doctor in the office or at the bedside,” says Dr. Suchman. “Medical schools have been working for decades to teach technical skills to medical students and residents, but unlike most Fortune 500 companies, they haven’t spent time training students about the ‘customer’s
experience’ of care – the organizational and social context of their actions.”

Traditional approaches to medical education taught physicians in training to focus on the liver, blood chemistries or X-rays, which are objective, rather impersonal things. The competency-based curriculum at the IU School of Medicine strives to teach students the science while also paying attention to the social context and the quality of relationships. But it’s not enough to do that in the formal curriculum alone, according to Dr. Suchman. The whole culture of the medical school – the way people treat the students and treat each other – has to consistently demonstrate collaborative, respectful relationships. To have a whole school attempting to make this culture change is truly unique, he says.

This study was funded by The Fetzer Institute of Kalamazoo, Mich.

(The IU School of Medicine is the nation’s second largest medical school with approximately 280 physicians graduating annually and nearly 1000 residents and fellows.)

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May 10, 2004

Medical Alumni Learn New Teaching Tools, Honor Classmates

INDIANAPOLIS — Education is a lifelong process for physicians and many will continue on that path when they return to the Indiana University School of Medicine campus for the 57th annual Spring Medical Alumni Weekend, May 14 and 17.

The “Innovations in Medical Education” program provides new learning opportunities for the veteran doctors. In one session, they participate in an exercise that hones the skills of medical students. The technique, called Objective Structured Clinical Examination, places medical students in various scenarios with actor-patients in which they are monitored for their diagnostic skills, clinical techniques and interaction with patients.

Alumni also will get hands-on training with some of the latest teaching tools and technology in medical education. Virtual patient simulators – human-like robots programmed electronically to respond to treatment – allow the doctors to place bronchial tubes. The simulators also can programmed to experience cardiac arrest, choking and other life-threatening incidents.

While Spring Medical Alumni Weekend offers the usual fare of activities and class reunions, it also is a time to honor IU School of Medicine graduates who have excelled in their fields.

Distinguished Medical Alumni Awards will be presented to William S. Dalton, M. D., Ph.D., Temple Terrace, Fla.; and Donald B. Rudy, M.D., Glencoe, Minn. The award is made to alumni who are highly regarded in their medical fields.

Dr. Dalton, an oncologist, is CEO and director of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute at the University of South Florida in Tampa. A 1976 graduate of the IU School of Medicine, where he earned a medical degree and doctorate in toxicology and medical life science, he also is the former dean of the University of Arizona College of Medicine. He has won many teaching awards and professional honors.

Dr. Rudy, a 1955 graduate, was in private family practice and general surgery at the Glencoe Medical Clinic for many years. During that time, he participated in many volunteer medical missions to Kenya, Mozambique and Liberia as part of his participation in the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. After his retirement in 1994, he continued his overseas missions to Jamaica, Peru, Liberia, Sudan, Angola and Kenya.

This year’s Glenn W. Irwin Jr. Distinguished Faculty Service Award recipient is Paul B. Nelson, M.D., professor and director of the School’s Section of Neurosurgery. Dr. Nelson, the former executive associate dean of clinical affairs, has been on faculty since 1992.

His surgical expertise is in treating brain and pituitary tumors, and spinal disorders of patients at the IU

Medical Alumni Learn New Teaching Tools, Honor Classmates

Medical Center. The award is named in honor of Dr. Glenn Irwin Jr., who served as dean of the School from 1965 to 1973.

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
May 10, 2004

Child Safety Leaders Lauded for Their Efforts

INDIANAPOLIS — Each year, more than 6,000 children in the United States are killed and 120,000 injured in unintentional mishaps, many of which are avoidable. But there are adults in Indiana who are committed to eliminating those grim statistics.

Their efforts were recognized by the Indiana Safe Kids Coalition, located at the Indiana University School of Medicine, at a special ceremony, May 6, in Indianapolis.

"Prevention of unintentional injuries is something in which every adult everywhere should fully participate," notes Keisha Nickolson, coalition project manager. "Many people and organizations in Indiana go above and beyond the call to protect children and our annual awards program is one small way to recognize their large efforts."

Recipients of the coalition’s 2004 Child Safety Advocate Awards:
American Medical Response-Fort Wayne. The ambulance service is a community leader in promoting child safety awareness. Last year, more than 1,700 youngsters were served by AMR, and its workers volunteered 150 hours for block parties and community fairs.

James Berger-Fort Wayne. This St. Joseph Fire Department member assists the local Safe Kids in various activities throughout the year. A flight paramedic and registered nurse, Berger developed an injury prevention program and he recently obtained a grant to develop a mobile safety-oriented display that includes a large-screen display and interactive robot.

Dave Cherrone-South Bend. A fire marshal for Clay Fire Department, Cherrone has been a leader in promoting safety programs in his community for more than 30 years. He is responsible for creating the "Mobile Children's Fire Safety House," which allows educators to bring mobile training buildings to schools and other venues to teach children about fire safety.

Patricia Hawkins-Indianapolis. Hawkins coordinates the "Buckled is Best" program and an active volunteer in coordinating events for Child Passenger Safety Week, child safety seat clinics and health-and-safety fairs in Marion, Hamilton and Johnson counties. She assists with special education courses for nurses at hospitals and clinics.

William Kraus-South Bend. This South Bend Police Department sergeant is a child passenger safety instructor and helps safety technicians hone their skills. He has traveled extensively throughout the state to conduct classes.

For more information about the Automotive Safety Program for Children at the IU School of Medicine, visit its Web site at www.preventinjury.org.
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May 7, 2004

**IU Psychiatrist Honored Nationally for Service to Mentally Ill**

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indiana University School of Medicine faculty member has been awarded the Exemplary Psychiatrist Award from the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

Alan D. Schmetzer, M.D., professor of psychiatry, received the award May 4 during the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association in New York City. He was among 16 other mental health-care professionals nationwide to receive the honor.

"Exemplary psychiatrists are caring professionals who go the extra mile to help their communities," says Michael J. Fitzpatrick, acting national executive director of NAMI. "They share our commitment to improve the quality of life for people living with brain disorders, ensuring dignity, raising public awareness and working to increase access to needed treatment and services."

Dr. Schmetzer, who specializes in the treatment of chemical dependencies and psychiatric emergencies, is superintendent of the LaRue D. Carter Memorial Hospital. He graduated from the IU School of Medicine in 1972.

The 2004 NAMI awards went to practitioners for developing or directing innovative training programs which demonstrate consumer and family-driven best practices.

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May 5, 2004

Let The Picture Tell The Story: IU Radiologists Seek Best Images For Hip Replacement Patients

INDIANAPOLIS — A new generation of CAT scans are the most reliable form of imaging for detecting fractures and other problems in patients with hip replacements, according to a study by radiologists at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The researchers found that multidetector computed tomography (MD-CT), also known as CAT scans, is superior to standard film X-rays, the most common form of imaging used for patients who have undergone hip replacement surgery.

MD-CT scans excel over single detector CT scans in some areas because they provide a significant speed advantage and produce better quality images.

Hip prostheses generally are effective for 10 to 15 years, said Joshua Farber, M.D., vice chair of clinical affairs in the Department of Radiology and lead author of the study, which will be presented May 5 at the American Roentgen Ray Society Annual Meeting in Miami Beach, Fla.

“As the Baby Boomers age, the problem of wear and tear on hip prosthesis and other prosthetic devices will become a larger issue,” said Dr. Farber. “Because of the health and cost implications of replacement surgery, it is important that physicians have the most accurate images possible.”

Dr. Farber and his colleagues at IU used both plain film X-rays and MD-CT to diagnose problems in 45 patients who reported pain in their replaced hip. The radiologists found that MD-CT scans were 100 percent accurate in detecting bone loss near the prosthesis, compared to standard film that was only 67 percent accurate.

An added benefit of MD-CT scans was that it could precisely pinpoint where the bone loss had occurred so that surgeons could more easily repair the problem, said Dr. Farber.

The study showed that MD-CT was 100 percent accurate in detecting fractures near the prosthesis, compared to 94 percent for plain films. MD-CT also was 61 percent accurate in detecting whether the prosthesis had come lose, compared to 54 percent for plain films.

IU radiologists currently are looking at the possible advantages of MD-CT over X-ray to determine which is better for diagnosing wear on the plastic liner between the metal components of the prosthesis and particle disease. Particle disease is caused when the prosthesis wears away and particles of plastic get into the surrounding tissue causing inflammation.

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Let The Picture Tell The Story: IU Radiologists Seek Best Images For Hip Replacement Patients

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May 4, 2004

Depressive Symptoms in Middle-Aged Inner-City African-Americans Higher Than Expected

INDIANAPOLIS — Middle-aged African-Americans who live in the inner city have a higher than expected level of depressive symptoms which can lead to additional health problems, according to research from the Indiana University School of Medicine and the Regenstrief Institute, Inc.

To better understand depression in older urban African-Americans, Douglas Miller, M.D., professor of medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine and a Regenstrief Institute, Inc. research scientist, and colleagues looked at depressive symptoms in middle-aged, inner-city African-Americans. They found that more individuals in the study had clinically relevant elevations in their depressive symptoms than expected.

This study, one of very few focused on 50–64-year-olds, appears in the May 2004 Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.

The researchers studied nearly one thousand African-Americans living in a low-income St. Louis neighborhood as they were poised to enter their senior years and begin to encounter the disabilities that usually come with advanced age.

"We wanted to see them as they started on the path of disability and studied their depressive symptoms because of the major impact of these depressive symptoms on physical as well as mental health," said Dr. Miller. “Surprisingly, we found that middle-aged inner-city African-Americans had substantively higher levels of depressive symptoms than that found in the general U.S. population," said Dr. Miller.

Not only is depression linked with lower quality of life but it also appears to predispose people to a series of other medical problems such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease, stroke and death. This study, which looked at depressive symptoms but was unable to identify whether the individuals had been diagnosed with a clinical diagnosis of depression, found that risk for increased depressive symptoms was closely tied to decreasing social support, being severely underweight or obese, or being hospitalized in the previous 12 months.

"Identifying the risk factors in this population for depressive symptoms that diminish quality of life and lead to poor physical health is not enough. We have to design programs targeted at preventing depressive symptoms that specifically meet the health and cultural needs of inner-city African-Americans, which are not necessarily the same needs as inner-city Caucasians or of suburban or rural African-Americans,” said Dr. Miller.

This paper is part of the African American Health study project, a population-based study of poor, inner-city St. Louis residents and of individuals living in a suburb just northwest of St. Louis. AAH is funded by the
Depressive Symptoms in Middle-Aged Inner-City African-Americans Higher Than Expected

National Institute on Aging.

Dr. Miller is associate director of the Indiana University Center for Aging Research.

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April 27, 2004

Summer Tips from the Indiana University School of Medicine

INDIANAPOLIS — **Sunscreen isn’t a survivor.** If your child sweats a lot, reapply sunscreen as often as every two hours even if the sunscreen is labeled as waterproof, says Patricia Treadwell, M.D., professor of dermatology and pediatrics at the Indiana University School of Medicine. Keep children younger than six months away from direct sunlight and in the shade as much as possible. When in the sun for a long time, dress children in light colored clothing that covers as much of the body as possible. Use sun-blocks with titanium dioxide rather than chemical blockers as they are less likely to be absorbed by young children’s sensitive skin.

**Don’t get too hot-hot-hot when it’s hot-hot-hot.** Drink plenty of fluids and check the temperature before venturing out in the summer to avoid heat exhaustion or heat stroke, advises Thomas A. Jones, M.D., assistant professor of family medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine. Loss of fluids and salt from excessive sweating which are not replenished, increase the risk for heat exhaustion or the more severe heat stroke. If sweating intensely, feeling nauseated and dizzy and experiencing a weak pulse, try to promptly rehydrate with diluted Gatorade and move the person to a cool and shaded area. A high temperature, weakness, rapid pulse, severe confusion or seizures may indicate onset of heat stroke which occurs when the body’s normal attempts to cool itself fail. If you suspect heat stroke, call 911 immediately and try to cool the person’s body with wet clothing and fanning until the ambulance arrives.

It doesn’t matter if they are retro or wrap-around, check the label before you buy sunglasses and purchase ones that block 98 percent of ultraviolet A and B rays, says Clark Springs, M.D., assistant professor of clinical ophthalmology at the Indiana University School of Medicine and medical director of IU Eye located in Carmel, IN. Prolonged exposure to UV rays can affect the eyes adversely and even lead to cataracts. Sunglasses that do not block enough UV rays can cause even greater eye damage than no glasses because the darkened lenses make the eyes dilate more.

**Spread out your summertime alcohol consumption** by sipping drinks and eating before or while drinking to avoid impairment, says James Klaunig, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and toxicology at the Indiana University School of Medicine. Dr. Klaunig says the more food in your stomach, the more slowly the alcohol will be absorbed into your bloodstream and the less likely you are to become intoxicated. If you are going to drink, do so conservatively, limiting yourself to one or two drinks interspersed with nonalcoholic beverages or food over a period of time.

**Go slow on those fruit juices!** It’s easy to drink too much fruit juice, especially on a hot day; but while they can be healthy, fruit juices are not low-calorie drinks, advises Sara Blackburn, D.Sc., R.D., associate professor of clinical nutrition and dietetics at the Indiana University School of Medicine. To lower the calories, make spritzers from fruit juice and sparkling water and add artificial sweeteners for a sweeter taste. Diabetics should refrain from fruit juice and eat whole fruit instead. Even though they contain sugar,
Summer Tips from the Indiana University School of Medicine

consuming soft drinks with ice is an excellent way of replacing fluids lost due to perspiration because the sugar and the electrolytes work together to get the water inside the cells.

There is no such thing as a healthy tan, says Jeffery B. Travers, M.D., Ph.D., chairman and associate professor of dermatology and Kampen-Norins investigator at the Indiana University School of Medicine. A tan is the body's response to skin damage by the sun or artificial ultraviolet light. Although sunlight is essential for life on this planet, and we all need a bit of sunlight for vitamin D production, exposure to the sun has been directly linked to skin cancers. In addition, excessive sunlight will cause increased "photo-aging," including wrinkles and pigmented spots and can make some types of skin rashes worse.

Don't let the bugs bite! Use repellents regularly and wear clothing that covers your body fully to avoid insect bites when you are outside this summer, advises Thomas A. Jones, M.D., assistant professor of family medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine. If you stay out for a long time, reapply the repellents frequently especially after heavy sweating or water activities. To keep away mosquitoes, repellents containing DEET are the most effective. Appying ice to an insect bite gives temporary relief; but, if the bite area becomes infected or redness increases over the next day or two, it may be a good idea to check with your doctor.

Want to keep your supple skin? Jeffrey Travers, M.D., Ph.D., chairman and associate professor of dermatology and Kampen-Norins Investigator in Dermatology, says the best time to apply moisturizers is after swimming or bathing, while the skin is still damp and hydrated. That is because moisturizers work not by adding moisture to the skin, but by helping keep the skin’s moisture from evaporating. If your skin is dry, oil-based moisturizers may be necessary. Severely dry skin calls for heavy creams and thick ointments.

Whether on land or in the air, diabetics need to take extra precautions when out and about. Diabetics should not walk on hot surfaces such as the beach, board walk, or parking lot without shoes or sandals, warns Charles Clark, M.D., a professor of medicine and pharmacology-toxicology and associate dean for continuing medical education at the Indiana University School of Medicine. Airline passengers with diabetes should notify security screeners about their condition and the supplies they are carrying. If traveling with insulin pumps and syringes, these supplies should be carried with a professionally printed prescription identifying the medication. Diabetics may wish to consult http://www.diabetes.org/pre-diabetes/travel/when-you-travel.jsp for additional information.

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April 27, 2004

Moms, Medical Degrees Make for Merry Month of May

INDIANAPOLIS — “M.D.” Those initials will carry special meaning Sunday, May 9 – Mother’s Day and Medical Degrees.

It’s certain there will be proud mothers and fathers looking on that day when 258 students receive their medical degrees from the Indiana University School of Medicine. A special ceremony at 4:30 p.m. for the new physicians will immediately follow the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis graduation exercises. Both the IUPUI and IU School of Medicine ceremonies will be at the RCA Dome, 100 S. Capitol Ave.

“When members of the Class of 2004 began their studies they were challenged to understand the scientific basics of the practice of medicine, to be compassionate and to maintain the dignity of the profession,” said D. Craig Brater, M.D., dean of the IU School of Medicine.

“Their graduation is a sentinel event as they enter residencies to further develop their knowledge and skills in their chosen specialties,” added Dr. Brater, who will preside over the conferring of doctoral degrees in medicine and related sciences, and masters’ degrees in public health and medical science.

More than half of those matching to residencies will do so in Indiana. Forty-one percent of the graduates will enter primary-care programs, which include internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology and combined internal medicine-pediatrics. That’s 2 percent more than those entering primary care specialties in 2003.

Immediately following the IUPUI commencement, the graduates will reassemble on the floor of the RCA Dome to receive their diplomas and special hoods signifying the completion of their degrees. The group of new physicians will then recite the Physician’s Oath.

The IU School of Medicine, the second largest medical school in the United States with more than 1,100 students, has nine medical education centers throughout the state for first- and second-year students. IU medical education centers are located in Gary (IU-Northwest), Bloomington (IU campus), Evansville (University of Southern Indiana), Terre Haute (Indiana State University), South Bend (University of Notre Dame), West Lafayette (Purdue University), Fort Wayne (Indiana University-Purdue University campus/Fort Wayne), Muncie (Ball State University and Ball Memorial Hospital), and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

All IU School of Medicine students complete their final two years of study at the IUPUI campus. Students receive clinical training during that time, in addition to further classroom and laboratory studies.

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Moms, Medical Degrees Make for Merry Month of May

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
April 21, 2004

Infants With Eczema Sought For Clinical Study

INDIANAPOLIS — Is there a correlation between eczema and asthma in children? Dermatologists at the Indiana University School of Medicine are enrolling infants in a study to determine if a medication to treat eczema can prevent or delay the onset of asthma.

The cream medication, Elidel, already is FDA approved for treatment of eczema in children two years of age and older.

To participate in the study, infants must be between three months and 18 months of age, have had eczema for less than three months, and have a parent or sibling with a history of eczema, allergies or asthma.

Eczema affects more than 17 percent of children in the United States. Nearly half of those with the condition develop it by the time they are six months old. Babies with eczema and a family history of allergic diseases have a 50 percent chance of developing asthma as they age.

Children with eczema experience sleep disturbances, have difficulty adjusting at school and may be excessively shy or dependent.

For more information, contact Sheryl at 317-274-3948, or visit www.atopicmarchstudy.com.

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April 19, 2004

Personalized Treatment Goal of IU Breast Cancer Study Funded by $10 Million Department of Defense Grant

INDIANAPOLIS — Advances in medical technology and a $10 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense will allow researchers to study methods for individualizing treatment for women with advanced breast cancer. The funding, awarded to the Indiana University School of Medicine, is for a five-year, international study.

The grant is the maximum awarded by the Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs and creates the Center of Excellence for Individualization of Therapy for Breast Cancer at the IU Cancer Center. The Hoosier Oncology Group, a consortium of oncologists, is a key participant in the study.

It is hoped that by the conclusion of the study, physicians will be able to tailor breast cancer treatments to minimize side effects while improving the response based on the patient’s chemistry and tumor type.

George W. Sledge Jr., M.D., the Ballvé Lantero Professor of Oncology, is the principal investigator for the study that will utilize the skills of researchers and clinicians from across the country. Kathy Miller, M.D., assistant professor of medicine, will direct the clinical trials program.

The main objective of the study is to use the emerging technologies of genomics, proteomics and pharmacogenetics to predict individual response to standard therapeutic treatment and new drug therapies for patients with advanced breast cancer.

“Individual drugs for advanced breast cancer routinely fail to benefit the majority of women treated. As a result women with advanced disease are faced with progressively less active, progressively more toxic therapy,” said Dr. Sledge. “The tragedy of modern therapy is not just its toxicity; rather, it is that so many experience so much toxicity for so little benefit.”

Women being treated at multiple sites in Indiana and across the country, as well as in Canada and Peru, South America, for advanced breast cancer will be able to contribute a biopsy of their tumor and a blood sample.

Physicians affiliated with the Hoosier Oncology Group will enroll study participants. The HOG is an association of more than 400 researchers and physicians dedicated to improving therapy for cancer patients through clinical trials. The HOG was created in 1984 by oncologists at the IU Cancer Center and is now affiliated with the Walther Cancer Institute.

Tumor samples will be analyzed for their genetic composition in the laboratory of Jenny Chang, M.D.,
associate professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine. The proteins released by the tumor cells provide insight into activities and function of the cells, which can lead to new targets for developing more effective drugs. That analysis will be completed by Robert Hickey, Ph.D., associate professor of medicine, and Linda Malkas, Ph.D., Vera Bradley Professor of Oncology and professor of medicine, both at the IU School of Medicine.

Individual responses to chemotherapy agents will be tabulated by pharmacogeneticist Brian Leyland-Jones, M.D., professor of oncology at McGill University. The data will be analyzed by biostatistician Constantin Yiannoutsos, Ph.D., a statistician at the HOG and an associate professor of medicine at the IU Cancer Center.

“A decade ago, the technology that will be used by the researchers literally did not exist,” said Dr. Sledge, who is a HOG investigator. “One of the benefits of a Center of Excellence grant is that it encourages collaboration with the best scientists from many universities, bringing together the best minds available to concentrate on a problem.”

Using genomics, proteomics and pharmacogenetics technology, researchers will isolate the mechanisms that make tumors unique and the therapeutic agents they best respond to, producing individualized treatments.

They will seek answers to questions such as what gene is turned on to produce the malignancy, what protein controls the process and creates the resistance to drug therapy.

By identifying the tumor type and genetic profile of the patient, Dr. Sledge said it is hoped that within five years, physicians will be able to tell patients which breast cancer drugs will produce the least side effects and best action to kill the tumor cells.

Although this study will look only at patients with advanced disease, it eventually will have a direct impact on treatment for early stage breast cancer, which was diagnosed in 267,000 women in 2003, according to American Cancer Society estimates.

“In essence, we are developing the right recipe for matching the right drug to the right woman,” explained Dr. Sledge.

Women with personal knowledge of the devastating disease will have a role in the research project. An important aspect of the grant, according to Dr. Sledge, is the role breast cancer advocates will play in patient education. Grant funding is available to assist with development and printing of brochures and other literature to be given to the study participants.

The groups involved are the Research Advocacy Network and the Young Survivors Coalition. Both advocacy groups played a role in determining which new drugs would be tested during the study.

"The DoD Breast Cancer Research Program is pleased to support this innovative project by Dr. Sledge, his collaborators, and the Indiana University Medical Center to address a critical issue in breast cancer - the individualization of therapy for women with breast cancer," said Colonel Kenneth A. Bertram, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. “The goal of this project is to utilize newly defined characteristics of both tumors and patients to determine tumor response to chemotherapy in order to allow patients, clinicians and researchers to develop individualized and improved treatment..."
This grant is one of several received by IU cancer researchers from the DoD program. Over the past ten years, IU medical research programs have received in excess of $22 million in funding from the DoD Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs to investigate breast cancer and other cancer diseases.

For more information about the IU Cancer Center, go to http://iucc.iu.edu.

Additional information about the Hoosier Oncology Group can be found at http://hog.walther.org/hog_index.html.

For more information on the DoD Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs, see http://cdmrp.army.mil.

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High-Tech ‘Phrenology’ To Identify Children With Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana University School of Medicine is taking a close look at the faces of children with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism is paying for it to do so.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, the only preventable birth defect, can have a devastating impact on its victims, but in some cases the effects are so minimal children are denied needed assistance and benefits. The NIAAA awarded IU two grants totaling $784,334 to conduct the research and manage the data.

To better define the visual characteristics of the syndrome, IU researchers will use sophisticated technology and facial recognition techniques to examine the faces of children from across the globe.

“Some children exhibit classic features of FAS and other children have a more mild, less visually obvious version of the disorder, which may not be as recognizable but still can result in learning disabilities and behavioral disorders,” said Tatiana Foroud, Ph.D., associate professor of medical and molecular genetics at the Indiana University School of Medicine and the principal investigator of the study.

Telltale signs of children with FAS are small eyes spaced far apart, an underdeveloped face, a smooth surface between the nose and upper lip, and growth retardation. The study will establish key points for recognition of FAS. To accomplish this, the talents of several disciplines are needed.

Jeffrey Huang, Ph.D., assistant professor, and Shiaofen Fang, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Computer and Information Science, are experts in facial recognition technology. They have been working with the National Institute of Justice and the U.S. Department of Defense for 10 years developing and improving technology for identity verification processes. Their expertise in facial scanning and computer science will be used to produce a model from which differences in facial patterns can be identified and then used to assist with diagnosis.

Each child is photographed from three angles. Key spots which serve as “compass points” on the face and head in each photograph to allow Drs. Huang and Fang to manipulate the images creating a three-dimensional computer image. From that model standardized measurements can be established. Those measurements include distance from ear to ear, facial arcs, and others that will result in a proportional scale.

By creating the 3-D model, scientists can apply this assessment tool to children from various cultures. That is where the expertise of Richard Ward, Ph.D., professor of anthropology and of oral-facial genetics at the IU School of Dentistry, and Elizabeth Moore, Ph.D., a medical anthropologist and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome research analyst at St. Vincent’s Hospital, is needed.
Their role is to assist with the identification of the cultural differences in facial structures, oversee the photography and develop the pattern for stitching the three photographic images together into a view that can be used to create a 3-D model.

Craig Stewart, Ph.D., director for Research and Academic Computing and of the Indiana Genomics Initiative Information Technology Core, and an adjunct associate professor of the Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics, is in charge of the computational aspects of this research project. Dr. Stewart is the principal investigator for one of the two NIAAA grants obtained by IU to conduct this study. Children from areas with a heavier than average alcohol use are participants in this study. They include children from South Africa, Finland, Moscow and the Plains Native Americans, as well as groups from Buffalo, N.Y., and San Diego.

“Behavioral and cognitive problems are real issues for children with FAS,” said Dr. Foroud. “If successful, using facial differentiation as a diagnostic tool may standardize FAS assessments and allow all children with the disorder to receive the services they need.”

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April 15, 2004

Alcoholism Risk Linked to Gene Involved in Brain Chemistry

INDIANAPOLIS — A research team headed by Indiana University School of Medicine scientists has identified a gene that is strongly linked to an individual’s risk of developing alcoholism.

The gene identified, GABRA2, is one of several genes that produce parts of the receptor for the brain’s primary inhibitory neurotransmitter, GABA. GABA is a chemical messenger that carries information between nerve cells; when GABA binds to the GABA-receptors on a nerve cell, it inhibits the firing of that cell. GABA is known to be involved with some of the body’s responses to alcohol consumption, such as loss of physical coordination, effect on mood, and alcohol withdrawal symptoms.

Alcoholism, which affects nearly 14 million Americans and can cause many social and health problems costing society an estimated $185 billion annually, is what scientists call a “complex” disease, meaning that many genes as well as environmental factors play a role in whether a person develops the disease.

While there is not one single “gene that causes alcoholism” the statistical link between this gene and the risk for alcoholism is powerful, said Howard J. Edenberg, Ph.D., Chancellor’s Professor at the IU School of Medicine. Edenberg was the lead researcher for the study, which appears in the April issue of the American Journal of Human Genetics.

“Statistically, this is very strong evidence that this gene affects the risk of alcoholism,” said Edenberg, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology and of medical and molecular genetics.

As researchers identify genes and brain signaling pathways associated with alcoholism -- and learn how they vary from one person to another -- opportunities should arise for development of more precisely targeted drugs, and for individualized approaches to prevent and treat alcoholism, Edenberg said.

“We may be able to target therapies and preventative treatments based on individual characteristics,” he said.

The research was done as part of the Collaborative Study on the Genetics of Alcoholism, a 15-year-old project that involves scientists at nine institutions across the country and is funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, part of the National Institutes of Health.

The research team’s analysis involved 2282 individuals from 262 families selected for study because they contained at least three alcoholic members. Earlier genetic analyses by this team implicated a particular section of chromosome 4 as affecting both the risk for alcoholism and certain types of brainwave patterns that have been linked to alcoholics. Within that region are genes that make proteins enabling GABA to
Alcoholism Risk Linked to Gene Involved in Brain Chemistry

signal to nerve cells and so do its work in the brain.

The researchers analyzed tiny differences in the sequences of the genes and determined that differences in just one of the GABA-receptor genes, GABRA2, were associated with alcoholism. The same gene was associated with the brainwave patterns.

Edenberg is director of the Center for Medical Genomics at IU, where the genotyping for this study was performed. The Center’s resources were funded in large part by the Indiana Genomics Initiative, as well as the state of Indiana’s 21st Century Research and Technology Fund.

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April 8, 2004

IU Focuses On Genetics During National Parkinson’s Awareness Month

INDIANAPOLIS — April is National Parkinson’s Awareness Month, but to Tatiana Foroud and her small group of dedicated genetics researchers, every month is Parkinson’s Awareness Month.

Dr. Foroud, associate professor of medical and molecular genetics at the Indiana University School of Medicine, is the principal investigator for two clinical trials, both aimed at identifying the genes that cause the debilitating disease.

One of the trials is international – Parkinson’s Research: The Organized Genetic Initiative (PROGENI) – and the other, PROGENI CARES, is an Indiana offshoot of the larger trial.

“The prospect of identifying the most common genes involved with the onset of Parkinson’s disease is exciting for the development of future treatments for this devastating disease,” said Dr. Foroud, who is overseeing the national and statewide studies.

PROGENI researchers nationwide recently received an $8.26 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to continue the study for five more years. The study began in 1998 with a $6 million NIH grant initiating the largest nationwide study ever conducted on the genetics of the neurodegenerative disease.

That phase of the study succeeded because of the willingness of individuals with Parkinson’s disease and their families to participate. The success of the second phase also is tied to the enthusiastic participation of patients with Parkinson’s disease. Many who have enrolled in the clinical trial, which requires a little time and a blood sample, say they are more than willing to participate in hopes of helping their children and grandchildren. They are looking to the future.

That future may be brighter as researchers in the Parkinson’s Study Group identify the genetic cause of the disease, which can lead to earlier detection, and the development of more and better treatment options. With gene identification, scientists will have a target for developing medications to treat the illness that usually strikes people in their late 50s or early 60s.

In the past decade, through the careful comparison of genes in patients with Parkinson’s disease, researchers have identified changes in three genes. Individuals with these genetic mutations generally develop the disease at an earlier age. Most people, however, develop Parkinson’s at an older age, so the search continues.

“In the next five years, with help from patients, their families and loved ones nationwide, we hope to find the gene that affects families with multiple members,” said Dr. Foroud. “We also hope to determine the exact role of the parkin gene, which was previously thought to only be involved with juvenile Parkinson’s.”
During the initial phase of PROGENI, 600 sibling pairs were enrolled; an additional 300 sibling pairs with Parkinson’s disease are needed for the current phase. Participants in the trial answer health questions, undergo a clinical examination and donate a blood sample from which DNA is extracted. Siblings do not need to live in the same part of the country since the study is being conducted at multiple sites in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico.

PROGENI CARES, the study for Indiana residents, seeks individuals with Parkinson’s disease and a friend or in-law of the same gender and approximately the same age as the person with Parkinson’s. Dr. Foroud hopes to enroll 500 individuals with the disease and 500 unrelated individuals without the disease for this study.

Names and all personal information are kept confidential.

For additional information or to participate in either clinical study, call 888-830-6299, or see http://progeni.iu.edu.

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April 7, 2004

**Trip Through Time: Public Health Concerns Change Little In 50 Years**

INDIANAPOLIS — In 1948, Indiana was the first state in the nation to forge a physical and working relationship between its state public health agency and an academic medical center. This cooperative relationship was achieved, in part, with the construction of a $2 million public health building on the western edge of the Indiana University School of Medicine campus.

That building, which housed the Indiana State Department of Health until 1996, is now vacant, but the contents of its cornerstone time capsule shed interesting light on that era in the field of public health.

The contents of the 6x9x12-inch lead box, inserted in the then state-of-the-art office and laboratory building, were revealed April 7 in connection with the observance of National Public Health Week, April 4-10. “Eliminating Health Disparities” is the theme of this year’s observance.

"In 1948, the fear of infectious diseases focused attention on the public health system," said State Health Commissioner Greg Wilson, M.D. "The events of the last several years and the increasing complications of chronic disease again have emphasized the importance of public health in our daily lives."

Half a century ago, infectious diseases were a larger threat to public health. Through advances in pharmaceutical science and public health many of those diseases provide less risk to patients than they did in 1948.

Included in the time capsule was a chart of 20 communicable diseases but only one – smallpox – is no longer naturally occurring and another – polio – now is rare in the United States. Some others, such as diphtheria and scarlet fever, are much less common now than in 1948. Other infectious diseases on the chart that remain common today are chickenpox, Rubella, the common cold, streptococcal sore throat and meningitis.

"The more things change, the more they stay the same," said Stephen Jay, M.D., chairman of the IU School of Medicine Department of Public Health, who spearheaded the unearthing of the time capsule. "According to documentation in the time capsule, public health concerns in 1948 included physical fitness, food safety, safe drinking water, venereal disease and tuberculosis. All of those issues remain relevant today."

Another public health concern that persists today is physical fitness. The time capsule included an art deco poster that admonished, “Get Fit and Exercise – Relax.” It promoted the Indiana Physical Fitness Program.

The Ten Commandments of Medical Ethics were listed on a colorful poster included in the assortment of health bulletins, copies of the American Journal of Public Health, vials of streptomycin for treating tuberculosis and a new drug, penicillin. An early version of a bandage, Stick Band made by the Seamless Rubber Co. was included, as well as a 70 mm photo of a florigram of the lung.
Numerous color slides and black and white photographs were included depicting everyday life of public health workers and Hoosiers, as well as scenes from the IU School of Medicine campus.

Items from the time capsule will be on display at the Indiana State Department of Health, 2 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Later they will be housed at the Indiana State Archive. Copies of a DVD of the contents of the time capsule will be available at the IU-Bloomington and IUPUI libraries.

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April 5, 2004

Cantor Receives Named Professorship

INDIANAPOLIS — Louis B. Cantor, M.D., has been named the first Jay C. and Lucile L. Kahn Professor of Glaucoma Research and Education at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Dr. Cantor, who retains his current title of professor of ophthalmology, received his undergraduate and medical degrees from IU. He completed an internship at St. Vincent Health Care Center and his residency at the IU Department of Ophthalmology. He completed a glaucoma fellowship at the Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia.

Dr. Cantor joined the IU medical school faculty in 1985. He is director of the Glaucoma Service and ophthalmology residency program director.

The Kahn professorship was established in 2003 by the estate of Lucile Kahn. The Kahns were longtime residents and active philanthropists in the Indianapolis community. Mrs. Kahn, who died in 2002, was interested in supporting excellence in research and education at IU School of Medicine and established a scholarship, funding for Alzheimer’s disease research, and an endowed position in ophthalmology.

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April 2, 2004

Sound Medicine Adds New Senior Producer, Begins Fourth Season

INDIANAPOLIS — Nora Hiatt, producer and writer of award-winning documentaries, has joined Sound Medicine as its senior producer and writer. Sound Medicine is a medical and health information radio program co-produced by Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio 90.1 FM.

“We are excited about the program’s potential with Nora in this role,” says Executive Producer Pamela Perry, director of the IU School of Medicine Office of Public and Media Relations. “She already has had a noticeable impact on the program.”

Changes to the program include a timely summary of breakthroughs in medicine and medical science and a line-up of guests representing a broader scope of medical science and research of interest to the audience. Also in the plans are field reports from patients, health professionals and health writers.

"Each week, Sound Medicine assembles some of the brightest physicians and most accomplished experts in the field of medicine to discuss the health issues that impact the daily lives of our listeners and their families," said Alan Cloe, executive vice president of the WFYI TelePlex. "As we embark on Sound Medicine’s fourth season, public radio listeners can look forward to several new reporting techniques that will only enhance the show's ability to offer timely medical news."

The April 10 show will include a discussion of the impact of obesity on breast cancer and Indiana’s role in the U.S. surgeon general’s first report on tobacco use 40 years ago. The April 17 show will focus on the ethics of embryonic stem cell research.

Hiatt is an independent producer and writer of documentaries including “Tempting Faith,” a documentary on government funding of faith-based social services, scheduled to air nationwide on PBS affiliates in 2003; “Faith and Community,” an 11-part series about religion’s role in American culture, produced by The Polis Center; and, “A Place to Call Home: Homelessness in Indianapolis,” which aired on WFYI-TV in 2000. She also wrote the Emmy Award-winning documentary “Victories: The Jean Deeds Story,” for the Discovery Channel. She produced newscasts for television network affiliates in Indianapolis and San Francisco from 1977-1985.

The host of the program, Barbara Lewis, is a veteran broadcast journalist in television and radio, both in Indiana and California, and one of the program’s organizers.

She is joined each week by one of four teaching physicians and research faculty in the IU School of Medicine. They are Ora Pescovitz, M.D., executive associate dean for research affairs and the Edwin Letzter Professor of Pediatrics; David Crabb, M.D., the John B. Hickam Professor of Medicine and chairman...
Sound Medicine Adds New Senior Producer, Begins Fourth Season

of the IUSM Department of Medicine; Kathy Miller, M.D., assistant professor of medicine and a member of the IU Cancer Center; and, Steve Bogdewic, Ph.D., IUSM assistant dean for primary care education, professor of family medicine, and a licensed marriage and family therapist.

The program will focus on issues in medical ethics four times this year with the co-host role filled by Eric Meslin, Ph.D., director of the IU Center for Bioethics, professor of medicine and professor of philosophy at the IU School of Liberal Arts.

*Sound Medicine* is available on the Web at [www.soundmedicine.iu.edu](http://www.soundmedicine.iu.edu) and features each week’s program with links to the audio file of each show.

The fourth season of *Sound Medicine* has been made possible through grants from two of its founding underwriters, Clarian Health Partners and IU Medical Group.

**Editor’s Note:**

On April 1, *Sound Medicine* enters its fourth season on public radio stations throughout Indiana including WFIU-FM (Bloomington), WSBT-FM (Muncie), WBNI-FM (Fort Wayne) and WFYI-FM (Indianapolis). In turn, WSBT broadcasts the program to Anderson on WBSB, WFIU broadcasts to Terre Haute, Columbus and Kokomo, and WBST broadcasts to Hagerstown on WBSH, to Marion on WBSW, to Muncie on WBST, and to Portland on WBSJ.

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*News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine*
April 2, 2004

IU Physicians, Students Forge Bonds With Hondurans

INDIANAPOLIS — Nearly 1,800 miles separate the Hoosier capital from Honduras, but physicians and medical students are working to bridge that distance and the two cultures through a new program at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The Indiana University Department of Family Medicine has established the International Medicine Honduras Project in partnership with the Honduran government and physicians there. The project focuses on cross-cultural medical education and providing clinical, research, and outreach opportunities for IU medical students and residents.

“Our overall goal is to improve the quality of life for the underserved populations in rural Honduras, especially for the elderly and children,” says project director Javier F. Sevilla Martir, M.D., assistant professor of clinical medicine. “Both of these groups are at particular risk for malnutrition, anemia, and other illnesses associated with extreme poverty.”

Only a small percentage of Honduras’ 6 million people have access to health care of any kind. Most Hondurans cannot afford doctors, medications or transportation to health care facilities, which may be located far from where they live.

Dr. Sevilla, a native of Honduras, is leading a six-member team of medical faculty, residents, and students to that Central American nation in early April. They will work with Honduran health professionals for a week in Las Lajas, a community in the south of the country, and then labor at selected rural and urban clinics throughout the country.

Three of the students, all of whom graduate from the IU School of Medicine on May 9, will complete rotations honing education and clinical skills in areas such as obstetrics/gynecology, general and tropical medicine, and general pediatrics and pediatric intensive care.

Department of Family Medicine faculty and students have traveled to Honduras on other occasions. During a visit in October 2003, IU Family Medicine Chair Douglas B. McKeag, M.D., M.S.; Gaylen M. Kelton, M.D., medical director of the IU-Methodist Family Practice Center; and Dr. Sevilla met with the Surgeon General of Honduras, who expressed interest in the establishment of the Family Medicine residency program and issued a letter of support.

To advance the program, the IU Department of Family Medicine will continue to work as a consultant to develop a family medicine residency program in Honduras and help establish family medicine as a core area of study for medical students in that country.
IU Physicians, Students Forge Bonds With Hondurans

“The support of the IU School of Medicine and academic medicine professionals in Honduras, plus the ability to procure and transport donations of medical equipment and other supplies from Indianapolis to rural communities in Honduras, is an integrative model that offers wonderful opportunities for participation and growth,” Dr. Sevilla says.

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April 1, 2004

IU Pediatric Residency Director Appointed Riley Scholar

INDIANAPOLIS — Jerry L. Rushton, M.D., director of the Pediatric Residency Program at the Indiana University School of Medicine, has been named the Omer Foust Scholar in Pediatric Medicine.

An assistant professor of pediatrics, Dr. Rushton’s clinical practice is at Riley Hospital for Children and the Riley Outpatient Clinic. His interests have been in child and adolescent Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, depression and mental health disorders in primary care.

He is a 1993 graduate of the IU School of Medicine, where he also completed his residency. Dr. Rushton was a Robert Wood Johnson fellow at the University of North Carolina, where he earned a master’s degree in public health. He later served on faculty at the University of Michigan before returning to IU and Riley in 2003 to assume a leadership role in pediatric education and the School’s residency program.

Dr. Rushton’s new position, established and endowed by the Riley Children’s Foundation (formerly the Riley Memorial Association), is named in honor of Omer H. Foust, who served as the foundation’s executive director from 1972 to 1991, and also as director of special projects.

The Riley Children’s Foundation supports Riley Hospital, Camp Riley for Youth with Physical Disabilities and the James Whitcomb Riley Museum Home.

For more information about the IU School of Medicine pediatrics’ programs, go to http://pediatrics.iupui.edu. More information about the Riley Children’s Foundation can be found at http://www.rileykids.org.

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IU Pediatric Residency Director Appointed Riley Scholar
March 29, 2004

Trippel Receives NASA Recognition

INDIANAPOLIS — Stephen Trippel, M.D., has received a NASA Space Act Award from the agency’s Inventions and Contributions board.

The award recognizes scientists whose inventions or scientific and technical contributions have helped NASA achieve its aeronautical and space goals. Dr. Trippel’s research involved the enhancement of tissue engineering by the transfer of a growth factor gene.

Dr. Trippel is a professor of orthopaedic surgery at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

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Grant Boosts IU Women’s Center Hispanic Health Outreach

INDIANAPOLIS — A $100,000 award from a private trust will help the Indiana University National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health to expand greatly its health outreach to local Hispanic women and families.

The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust recently made the award to the Center, which will enable it to hire a full-time bilingual outreach coordinator and to boost the growing program. The funding also will be used to develop brochures and videos and to train lay health care educators.

“This generous gift allows us to reach more Latino families in the Indianapolis area,” says Rose S. Fife, M.D., director of the Center, located at the Indiana University School of Medicine. “Further, few health care providers or, indeed, lay people in central Indiana speak Spanish fluently if they are not of Hispanic heritage. The need to develop information tools and related resources in our area is paramount.”

The Center of Excellence was among 22 Indiana nonprofit organizations receiving grants from the charitable trust in late March. The trust is named for Nina Mason Pulliam, a journalist and philanthropist, and is designed to help women, children and families primarily in Indianapolis and Phoenix, Ariz.

“The trust will be part of this community for many years to come and, more importantly, through the legacy of your work,” says trustee chairman Frank E. Russell, referring to the Center and recipients of other similar grants.

The IU National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health advocates state-of-the-art health care for Indiana women in multiple ways, including education, creation of clinical programs, research, community outreach and professional development. For more information about its programs, go to www.iupui.edu/~womenhlt.

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March 25, 2004

Fridell To Lead Pancreas Transplant Program

INDIANAPOLIS — Jonathan A. Fridell, M.D., has been named director of pancreas transplantation at The Clarian Transplant Center.

Dr. Fridell has been a member of the Indiana University School of Medicine faculty since 2002. An assistant professor of surgery, his specialty is transplantation of the pancreas, liver, kidney and intestine. He also performs organ procurement for transplantation and harvested the first small intestine and the first multi-visceral grafts transplanted in August 2003 in Indiana. Dr. Fridell also performed the first combined liver-pancreas transplant in the state in May 2003.

He received his medical degree at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. He completed surgical residency training and a master’s degree in experimental surgery at McGill, and completed a fellowship in clinical transplant surgery at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

He is a member of several professional associations including the American Society of Transplantation, the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the Canadian Society of Transplantation and the International Pancreas and Islet Transplantation Association.

As one of the top transplant centers in the country, Clarian ranked fourth nationally in 2003 in number of solid organ transplants performed. It performs more transplants than all other Indiana transplant centers combined, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing. Additionally, the transplant center is the only health system in the state to perform heart, lung, kidney, liver, pancreas and intestine transplants.

For additional information, see “Clinical Services” at www.clarian.org, or phone 800-382-4602 or 317-274-4370.

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March 25, 2004

$15 Million Awarded to IU-Moi HIV/AIDS Program

INDIANAPOLIS — A five-year, $15 million award has been made to the HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment program created by the Indiana University School of Medicine, the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital and the Moi University Faculty of Health Sciences in Kenya. It is the second largest federally funded award to be received by the medical school.

The funding is part of a $125 million award to Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and administered by the Centers for Disease Control. Columbia leads a consortium of university programs aimed at reducing the spread of AIDS in Africa, which includes the IU-Moi program for HIV/AIDS.

IUSM medical students, post-graduate physicians and providers of HIV care will participate in the program.

Robert Einterz, M.D., assistant dean for International Programs in the School of Medicine and director of the IU-Moi program, believes the program benefits both IU and its students. One of his goals is to help IU realize its role as a global citizen by reaching out to sub-Saharan Africa to halt the mounting number of deaths and illnesses due to HIV/AIDS.

He also believes that participating in the IU-Moi program stimulates medical students' curiosity and provides new context for diseases they typically do not see in their most extreme and life-threatening stages in the U.S.

“In addition,” says Dr. Einterz, “by developing this program, we’re reinforcing the values that we teach our students and that most people want in their physicians,” says Dr. Einterz.

In February 2004, the IU-Moi program for HIV/AIDS received a one-year, $1.6 million grant and $500,000 for medications awarded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. That program is administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development. IU School of Medicine anticipates additional funding from USAID for the IU-Moi program over the next five years.

The USAID and CDC funding will allow the IU-Moi program, named the Academic Model for the Prevention and Treatment for HIV/AIDS (AMPATH), to provide preventive and medical care to more than 30,000 adults and children at eight sites in western Kenya, including six new clinics in rural communities. It also funds the building of six new rural treatment sites, an enterprise program that assures sustainable economic security for affected Kenyan families, two farms that supply high quality macro-nutrition to HIV-infected families, installation of an electronic medical record system to support patient care, teaching and research, and additional laboratory services needed to serve a wide region of western Kenya.

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$15 Million Awarded to IU-Moi HIV/AIDS Program

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March 25, 2004

Clark Named Fulbright Senior Specialist

INDIANAPOLIS — Charles M. Clark Jr., associate dean for Continuing Medical Education at the Indiana University School of Medicine, has been named a Fulbright Senior Specialist by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars.

The program selects outstanding scholars to visit international academic institutions at their invitation for up to six weeks to present lectures or to consult on scientific studies. CIES reviews potential scholars for the quality of their previous scientific accomplishments and their potential to contribute to international scholarly activity.

Dr. Clark, who also is a professor of medicine and of pharmacology, was invited in 1999-2000 by the National University of La Plata, Argentina, to consult on a newly initiated research study in Corrientes, Argentina, and to present lectures in his area of expertise, the delivery of health care and the education of people with diabetes. The Fulbright grant will permit him to complete the analysis of this program and to initiate a new program in Corrientes.

Dr. Clark also has been invited to visit the University of La Plata in June.

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March 25, 2004

**Future Docs Pay ‘House Calls’ to Needy Homeowners**

INDIANAPOLIS — The days of doctors visiting their patients at home are rare, but Indiana University School of Medicine soon will be calling on certain city residents to deliver a healthy dose of help with their homes.

Several students will participate in the School’s annual “Spring House Calls” program Saturday morning, April 17. The event teams the future physicians with needy homeowners in the Haughville and Blackburn neighborhoods, just minutes away from the medical school’s location on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus.

Early in the morning, students will converge at the community hub, Christamore House, and receive their work assignments. From there they will set out with garden tools, lawnmowers and weed trimmers to visit homeowners with whom they have been matched. In addition to the yard work, students will make minor property repairs and plant flowers.

“Many people enter medicine with a desire to serve and to impact society; this event provides an opportunity for students to do both before they receive their medical degrees,” says Emily Willen, a second-year medical student who is helping organize this year’s project. “Students eagerly anticipate this chance to set the books aside in order to interact with community members outside of the typical clinical setting. There is a great sense of satisfaction at the end of the day because participants see the immediate results of a few hours work.”

Spring House Calls was started in 1996 and is an annual program sponsored by the School’s Office of Medical Service-Learning. Since then, more than 700 students have volunteered nearly 6,000 hours of service to the near-Westside community.

“Students participating in Spring House Calls and other similar volunteer programs learn more about the value of community service and this makes them better doctors and advocates for policies that improve health care delivery to the public,” says Patricia Keener, M.D., professor of pediatrics and assistant dean of OMSL.

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March 23, 2004

IU Diabetes Program Receives Funding To Continue National Study

INDIANAPOLIS — The largest diabetes patient study ever undertaken is beginning its second phase and Indiana University School of Medicine will continue to be part of the $4.2 million effort to find the most effective ways to treat adults with diabetes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced that the original six sites involved in the study have won funding for an additional five years of research. The IU medical school will receive nearly $625,000 each year for the duration of the second part of the nationwide study.

The Translating Research Into Action for Diabetes (TRIAD) study was initiated in 1998 to assess the quality of diabetes care and identify the factors that affect quality and outcomes of care as it is delivered in managed care settings. The new phase of TRIAD continues to look at those factors and now will assess changes in quality of care during the past five years.

“IU School of Medicine diabetes researchers have long been interested in identifying interventions that can help people at risk for the disease make lifestyle and treatment choices to avoid or delay onset of diabetes,” said David G. Marrero, Ph.D., professor of medicine and principal investigator of the study. “Our participation in TRIAD is an asset to our program and our patients and we are pleased to be a part of this significant study.”

Nearly 12,000 people representing a diverse group of age, gender, ethnicity and socioeconomic factions were enrolled in the initial study at the six participating centers. At IU School of Medicine, 1,400 individuals participated. During this phase of the study, investigators at IU will enroll 1,500 individuals.

The study focuses on individuals enrolled in managed care plans and the Indiana residents previously participating were either members of IU Medical Group or Wishard Advantage. Dr. Marrero said other managed care plan members, who are at risk for diabetes, also will be recruited.

“Diabetes is a huge health problem nationwide,” said Dr. Marrero. “TRIAD is designed to bridge the gap between research and practice to improve the level of care for people with diabetes.”

Individuals will be interviewed, their lifestyle choices relating to diabetes management will be evaluated and their medical charts will be reviewed to see if American Diabetes Association guidelines and other quality assessment measurements are met.

According to the CDC, about 18.2 million people in the United States have diabetes. The majority of those have type 2 or adult-onset diabetes, which is associated with older age, obesity and physical inactivity. It is estimated that one in three Americans will develop diabetes during their lifetime.
IU Diabetes Program Receives Funding To Continue National Study

For additional information about diabetes and the TRIAD study, see the CDC’s Website at www.cdc.gov/diabetes, or call 1-877-232-3422.

In Indiana, individuals interested in more information or participating in the trial may call Susanna Williams, MPH, at 317-278-0907.

The other recipients of TRIAD funding were University of Michigan, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, University of California-Los Angeles, Pacific Health Research Institute and Kaiser Research Foundation Institute.

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
March 22, 2004

**Stem Cells Appear Not To Turn Into Heart Cells**

INDIANAPOLIS — Two studies published in the online issue of Nature report no evidence to suggest that hematopoietic stem cells, which usually produce blood cells, can turn into heart cells after injection into the heart. These studies raise a cautionary note for interpreting the results of ongoing clinical studies in which hematopoietic stem cells are injected into the heart after a heart attack.

Loren Field, Ph.D., professor of medicine and of pediatrics at the Indiana University School of Medicine and senior author of one of the Nature papers says “these studies demonstrate that the stem cells tested do not form new heart muscle when injected into damaged organs. This suggests that the functional benefit seen in clinical trials may arise from other mechanisms (for example increased blood vessel formation), and raises the possibility that there may be alternative and perhaps more efficacious ways to accomplish this.”

Both research teams injected bone-marrow-derived hematopoietic stem cells into the damaged hearts of living mice and used marker proteins to monitor the injected cells. They report that although some of the transplanted cells appeared to survive, they did not appear to differentiate into new heart muscle cells. Instead they matured into cells of the traditional blood lineage.

Dr. Field's study was funded by the National Institutes of Health.

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March 18, 2004

Soon-to-be Docs Set Sights on Residences Nationwide

INDIANAPOLIS — On the eve of spring, 253 Indiana University School of Medicine students achieved a milestone by matching to residency programs across the nation where they will continue their medical training.

This year's IU School of Medicine soon-to-be graduates fared well on National Resident Match Day, March 18, a program that coordinates thousands of medical students' and U.S. hospital programs' preferences. During their senior year, students apply and interview for their preferred residency positions throughout the nation; their selection is administered through the National Resident Matching Program of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

"As is always the case, a few students did not initially match with their preferred programs," says Dennis Deal, director of Academic Records-Medical Student Academic Affairs. "In the past few days, almost all of those students secured first-year residency positions. This speaks well of the caliber of IU medical students participating in the annual match."

The National Residency Matching Program, with the results released each year during the third week of March, is the main pathway by which most medical school graduates enter their residency training under the supervision of veteran physicians.

Students in the Class of 2004, who will receive their medical degrees on Mother's Day, May 9, accepted residency positions in 29 states, including Indiana. Among the Match Day highlights:

• 51 percent of the students will pursue at least part of their residencies within Indiana
• 91 students will be residents at IU Hospital, Riley Hospital for Children and other Clarian Health facilities
• 41 percent of IU School of Medicine graduates will enter primary-care programs, which includes internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology, primary and combined internal medicine-pediatrics

The IU School of Medicine, the second largest medical school in the United States with more than 1,100 students, has nine medical education centers throughout the state for first- and second-year students. IU medical education centers are located in Gary (IU-Northwest), Bloomington (IU campus), Evansville (University of Southern Indiana), Terre Haute (Indiana State University), South Bend (University of Notre Dame), West Lafayette (Purdue University), Fort Wayne (Indiana University-Purdue University campus), Muncie (Ball Memorial Hospital), and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

All IU School of Medicine students complete their final two years of study at the IUPUI campus. Students receive clinical training in that time, in addition to further classroom and laboratory studies.
Soon-to-be Docs Set Sights on Residences Nationwide

Additional information the National Resident Matching Program can be found at www.nrmp.org.

Ryan Duhn
Memorial Health University Medical Center
(Savannah, GA)
Radiology-Diagnostic

Megan Tarr
University of Chicago Hospital Obstetrics-Gynecology

Brian Samuels
University of Alabama (Birmingham)
Ophthalmology

Jackie Whitesell
University of Michigan Hospital (Ann Arbor)
Neurology

Leah Sieck (& Julia)
Indiana University School of Medicine Radiology-Diagnostic

Photos: Rocky Rothrock, Office of Visual Media

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
March 3, 2004

Pediatric AIDS Expert Guest Lecturer At Medical School

INDIANAPOLIS — A UCLA physician involved in the early studies of drug therapies to reduce mother-to-child transmission of the AIDS virus will visit the Indiana University School of Medicine campus as guest lecturer.

Yvonne J. Bryson, M.D., is the 2004 Doris H. Merritt, M.D., Lecturer in Women’s Health. The event is sponsored by the IU-based National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health. The April 20 lecture will be at the Ruth Lilly Auditorium in the Riley Outpatient Center on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus.

Bryson, who directs the division of infectious diseases at UCLA School of Medicine, was one of initial investigators of nevirapine, an anti-HIV drug that slows down and helps prevent damage to the immune system, thereby reducing the risks of patients developing AIDS-related illnesses. Specifically, her studies in the late 1990s demonstrated that nevirapine reduced AIDS transmission to their unborn children.

The lectureship is named for Doris H. Merritt, M.D., IU distinguished professor emerita who served in many important capacities during her 40-plus-year medical career, much of it spent as a pediatric physician, faculty member and administrator at the IU schools of Medicine and Nursing, the National Institutes of Health and Purdue University.

The lectureship offers continuing medical education credits. For more information about the event, contact Tina Darling at 317-630-2243.

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March 3, 2004

21st Century Funding Supports Gene Therapy Research For Joint Damage

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana University School of Medicine, in collaboration with Purdue University and Zimmer Holdings, Inc., has been selected by the State of Indiana’s 21st Century Research and Technology Fund to develop gene therapy treatments for joint damage.

Stephen B. Trippel, M.D., IU professor of orthopaedic surgery, submitted the proposal, “Gene Therapy for Joint Damage: Development and Commercialization of New Treatments for Articular Cartilage and Meniscal Damage.” Funding is not disbursed until the recommendations of the 21st Century Fund selection committee are confirmed by the Indiana State Budget Committee. The state may approve $2 million or almost half of the total estimated cost of the project.

The researchers hope to develop a method to restore articular and meniscal cartilage damaged by injury or aging. Articular cartilage is the smooth cartilage that produces the “gliding” effect of joints. Meniscal cartilage serves as a cushion and a stabilizer.

Researchers will use a gene for a naturally occurring substance in the body that promotes cartilage growth. By developing a means to put that gene into cartilage cells, they hope to increase the body’s ability to produce new cartilage to replace the damaged tissue.

The collaboration utilizes the expertise of both universities and Zimmer, an international orthopaedic products company headquartered in Warsaw, Ind. Dr. Trippel’s research has been successful in improving cartilage growth in the laboratory through gene transfer, and Zimmer has expertise in cell-based therapy with cartilage cells and innovative materials that can potentially be applied to cartilage repair. Purdue will lead the effort to test the effectiveness of the gene therapy.

The initial phase of the research is expected to take two years.

Dr. Trippel said this multidisciplinary, multicenter project seeks to fulfill the goals of Indiana’s life sciences initiative.

“Indiana University, Purdue University and Zimmer will be doing research that without the 21st Century funding would not be done,” said Dr. Trippel. “It will create jobs in academic laboratories and at Zimmer and afford educational opportunities for students at both universities. If the gene therapy technology is successful, it could result in many jobs and revenue for the state.”

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March 3, 2004

**Women's Health Issues Focus of Forum**

INDIANAPOLIS — Health care professionals and nonprofessionals alike have the opportunity to learn some of the latest medical developments and issues affecting women’s health from Indiana University School of Medicine physicians at an upcoming seminar.

“Dimensions in Women’s Health: Knowledge, Expertise and Communication” is sponsored by the National Center of Excellence for Women’s Health at the IU School of Medicine. The event is Friday, May 7, and will be at the University Place Conference Center and Hotel, 850 W. Michigan St., on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus.

Topics to be covered at the day-long event:

- Clinical developments in the treatment of osteoporosis
- Controversies in hormone replacement therapy
- Developments in the clinical management of heart disease
- Contraceptive options
- Sexual dysfunction and how it’s treated in clinical settings
- Identifying female patients at risk of domestic violence

“IU physicians as well as guest speakers will provide provocative and timely information, all of it geared to enhance the skills of women’s health care providers and better the general public’s understanding of these issues,” says Rose S. Fife, M.D., Center of Excellence director and associate dean for research. “This event is unprecedented, too, because it’s the first time we have geared a program to serve health care professionals and general public at the same time.”

The seminar offers continuing medical education credits for health care providers. For more information, call 317-274-8353. Registration is required 72 hours before the event.

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March 1, 2004

**Fat: It Isn't Always Bad For The Heart**

INDIANAPOLIS — Unwanted fat may have a bigger effect on the heart than physicians previously thought.

Researchers at the Indiana University School of Medicine have discovered that cells in human fat actually may help the body grow new blood vessels to repair both muscle and heart tissue. These cells, called stromal cells, are immature fat cells. Their findings are reported in the March 1 online issue of Circulation, the scientific journal of the American Heart Association.

Jalees Rehman, M.D., principal author of the paper and a fellow at IU’s Krannert Institute of Cardiology and the Indiana Center for Vascular Biology and Medicine, said fat may be a “renewable resource” for individuals with poor circulation. Although he does not promote obesity, Dr. Rehman said stromal cells have properties that can have a therapeutic effect on individuals with heart disease, chronic angina, leg cramping and other conditions caused by poor circulation.

“A lot of people can grow their own blood vessels and when they have blockages in their arteries, their bodies naturally compensate,” said Dr. Rehman. “People who cannot grow blood vessels are the ones who may benefit from this research. An example would be individuals who have severe chest pains from angina, which is caused by reduced blood flow to the heart.”

Another key group of individuals that could benefit from delivery of their own readily available stromal cells are those with legs cramps or those who are facing leg amputations due to poor circulation, said Dr. Rehman.

Fat contains large numbers of stromal cells, which have stem cell-like properties, said Keith L. March, M.D., Ph.D., principal investigator of the study and director of the Indiana Center for Vascular Biology and Medicine and Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation Professor.

Stem cells are nature’s building blocks for tissue and are most commonly found for medical purposes in bone marrow and umbilical cord blood. In addition to their stem cell-like properties, stromal cells in fat tissue make significant amounts of growth factors that enhance angiogenesis, the natural growth of blood vessels.

Drs. Rehman, March and the IU team identified several growth factors found in the stromal cells which cause the angiogenic effect.

Scientists worldwide are actively seeking factors that control angiogenesis to develop treatments for heart disease, stroke and dementias. Cancer researchers also are interested in controlling angiogenesis to stop the growth of blood vessels that feed malignant tumors.
“Of particular interest to the team was the way we predict the cells will react in the body,” said Dr. March. “These cells release even more growth factors when placed in low oxygen conditions similar to those experienced by patients with poor circulation.”

Dr. Rehman said the team called the cells “intelligent factories” because they can sense a need for more blood vessels and begin “manufacturing” the substances necessary to make those vessels.

“Instead of treating patients with a single growth factor, you could treat them by strategically placing their own stromal cells which respond to low oxygen and adapt to that need,” said Dr. Rehman. “For instance, if an individual who has impaired blood flow to the heart climbs a flight of stairs every day, his body will sense a need for more oxygen to the heart and the stromal cells would respond by releasing more growth factors.”

“The process wouldn’t work overnight but with time they would produce needed blood vessels to supply oxygen to the heart or to the legs,” said Dr. March. “Stromal cell treatment ideally would allow the bodies of individuals with impaired circulation to compensate in the same way as the bodies of people who can grow their own blood vessels.”

Other than the obvious health advantages, patients may find the treatment beneficial because the easiest way to collect the stromal cells is through standard liposuction. Patients may find the treatment slimming long before they gain the cardiovascular health to make workouts feasible.

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News Release Archives | Media Relations | IU School of Medicine
March 1, 2004

Not Just Talk: Seminar Gives High School Science Students Hands-on Lab Experience

INDIANAPOLIS — Forty-eight of Indiana’s top high school science students will gather Sunday at Indiana University School of Medicine for a two-day immersion into scientific laboratories and technologies that could produce tomorrow’s cures for disease.

The fifth annual Molecular Medicine in Action program March 7-8 will enable the students to work alongside some of the nation’s top researchers from the Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research, the Indiana Center for Biological Microscopy, and the IU Center for Bioethics.

“The genomics revolution has given researchers new tools and avenues of research to discover the causes of disease and ways to treat it,” says program director Mark Kelley, Ph.D., associate director of the Wells Center. “Working side-by-side with our scientists, our program gives students a realistic and meaningful hands-on experience.”

Under the supervision of IU scientists, the students will rotate through workstations to isolate DNA, learn how to identify mutations in chromosomes, how to sort cells for research, and how to insert genes into cells. Students also will learn how to use the latest microscopic imaging techniques that enable researchers to study living cells. And they’ll get a solid grounding in the basics of bioethics.

It’s hoped that the Molecular Medicine in Action Program will get students excited about science careers and demonstrate that they can pursue those careers in Indiana. It’s also meant to build closer ties between the IU School of Medicine and Indiana’s science teachers and students. For the third consecutive year, a portion of the laboratory work -- DNA isolation -- will be made available to high school students across the state through an interactive television network.

“Our goal is to share the excitement of what genetic science promises,” says Dr. Kelley, the Jonathan and Jennifer Simmons Professor of Pediatrics.

Support for this year’s program comes from the Riley Children’s Foundation, Pfizer Inc., Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research, Pathology Multimedia Education Group and Information Resources & Educational Technology, IU School of Medicine, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Indiana Association of Biology Teachers and the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers.

For information about Molecular Medicine in Action on the Web:

Molecular Medicine in Action program: www.iupui.edu/~wellsctr/MMIA/index.htm
Molecular Medicine in Action animations: www.iupui.edu/~wellsctr/MMIA/htm/animations.htm
Aster Gebrekidan  Arsenal Technical High School
Allison Calahan  Avon High School
Jesse Bright  Ben Davis High School
Jon Meyer  Bethany Christian High School
Sarah Schumacher  Bluffton High School
Edward Dropcho  Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory High School
Sam Durham  Brownstown Central High School
Jun Yin  Carmel High School
Laura Campo  Castle High School
Morgan Kaminski  Cathedral High School
Autumn Glass  Columbus East High School
Tia Harrison  Crawfordsville High School
David Nan, III  DeKalb High School
Ashley Siniard  Edgewood High School
Nicole O'Neill  Evansville Day School
Abby Stephens  Evansville Harrison High School
Katie Burton  Fountain Central High School
Felicia Hutchison  Franklin Central High School
Martina Holder  Greensburg Community High School
Heather Pence  Hamilton Southeastern High School
Whitney England  Hagerstown Jr./Sr. High School
Michael Drazer  Hebron High School
Jennifer Lachowiec  Highland High School
John Greco  Homestead High School
Lindsay Wyatt  Huntington North High School
Lukasz Wylezinski  Jefferson High School
David Holt  Leo Jr./Sr. High School
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Not Just Talk: Seminar Gives High School Science Students Hands-on Lab Experience
February 27, 2004

Medical Honor Society to Recognize Students March 30

INDIANAPOLIS — Forty-two Indiana University School of Medicine students will be welcomed into the Indiana chapter of the Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society.

AOA is the only national honor medical society in the world and elects outstanding medical students, graduates, alumni, faculty and others to its ranks. The IU School of Medicine inductees will be recognized at a banquet March 30 at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown.

James N. Thompson, M.D., president and CEO of the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Inc., will be the featured speaker at the ceremony. He is the former dean of the Wake Forest School of Medicine and former director of the American Board of Otolaryngology, and is a graduate of DePauw University and the Ohio State University School of Medicine.


Class of 2005 members: Ronald M. Brooks, Eric A. Goebel, Elizabeth L. Guequierre, Jamie Webb Kennedy, Andrew Labelle, Nicholas A. Rogers, Geoffrey M. Schutlz, Laura M. Tormoehlen, Alyssa D. Wait, Jeffrey M. Wells and Matthew A. Will.

Also to be inducted are physicians affiliated with the School, including Margaret Gaffney, M.D., and Thomas Klausmeier, M.D. (alumni); Mary R. Ciccarelli, M.D., and Patrick J. Loehrre Sr. (faculty); and Darel E. Heitkamp, M.D., and Nerissa C. Kreher, M.D. (house staff).

The IU School of Medicine, the second largest medical school in the United States with more than 1,200 students, has nine medical education centers throughout the state with the main campus located at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

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Medical Honor Society to Recognize Students March 30

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February 26, 2004

**Svirsky Named Fellow Of American Institute For Medical and Biological Engineering**

INDIANAPOLIS — Mario A. Svirsky, Ph.D., professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery at the Indiana University School of Medicine, has been elected to the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering College of Fellows.

He was inducted Feb. 27 during the Institute’s annual meeting at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. Dr. Svirsky’s membership acknowledges "his contribution to understanding speech perception, speech production and language development in cochlear implant users."

Dr. Svirsky, also an adjunct professor of biomedical engineering, has published extensively on speech perception, speech production and language development, with a particular focus on cochlear implants. He currently serves as co-chair for the Conference of Implantable Auditory Prostheses and as editor-in-chief of the journal Ear and Hearing.

He has been active in various professional societies including the American Auditory Society and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and was recently named a fellow of the Acoustical Society of America and a member of Collegium Oto-Rhino-Laryngologicum Amicitiae Sacrum, an international academy of researchers who study the function and diseases of the ear, nose and larynx.

He received his doctorate in biomedical engineering from Tulane University in 1989 and has been a faculty member at the IU School of Medicine since 1995.

The number of individuals granted membership in the AIMBE College of Fellows is limited to 2 percent of all individuals active in medical and biological engineering. It is the highest status attainable in AIMBE.

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February 24, 2004

Minority Mentor Honored With IUPUI Diversity Award

INDIANAPOLIS — A faculty member who has devoted much of his time at the Indiana University School of Medicine to help minorities become physicians and to pursue other careers in medical care and research has been awarded the 2004 Joseph T. Taylor Award for Excellence in Diversity by Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

William Agbor-Baiyee, Ph.D., M.P.A, director of Medical Student Affairs’ special programs, recently was presented with that honor, which recognizes IUPUI faculty members who are active in or responsible for innovative programs that deal with race, class or gender issues.

He directs the Master of Science in Medical Science program, which helps disadvantaged and underrepresented minority students seeking admission to medical school. Since 1995, the MSMS program has contributed significantly to increase the number of African-American and Hispanic students attending the medical school. He also heads the School’s pre-matriculation program, which introduces and prepares minority and non-traditional students before they begin their studies.

Agbor-Baiyee also was cited for his work as the chair of the Indiana Area Health Education Center, whose goal is to improve the distribution and diversity of health care professionals in medically underserved areas throughout the state. Agbor-Baiyee chairs the Diversity Committee of Indiana AHEC.

“Dr. Agbor-Baiyee’s active participation in numerous School and IUPUI committees continually raises awareness about diversity issues,” said William F. Bosron, Ph.D., assistant dean for graduate studies who nominated Agbor-Baiyee for the award. “He is an effective ambassador for diversity because he is committed to create opportunities for minority students.”

The award was presented to Agbor-Baiyee Feb. 20 at the 15th annual Joseph T. Taylor Symposium on the IUPUI campus. Taylor, an African-American, joined the IUPUI faculty in 1962 and eventually became the dean of its School of Liberal Arts. He was a moving force in Indianapolis, serving on key community and governmental committees and civil rights’ task forces.

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Minority Mentor Honored With IUPUI Diversity Award
February 23, 2004

Med Students Trade Stethoscopes For Stage Lights

INDIANAPOLIS — Students at the Indiana University School of Medicine have learned a lot about how the human heart works in their studies. Soon, they will put their wholehearted efforts into a program that helps the needy and homeless.

The curtain will rise on the 13th annual Evening of the Arts at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 27, at the University Place Conference Center auditorium on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus. The program puts medical students into the spotlight, displaying their vocal, instrumental and dance talents.

Artwork and photography produced by the medical students will be on display and sold that evening at a silent auction.

Proceeds from Evening of the Arts will help people served by Wheeler Mission, Horizon House Day Center, Salvation Army, Genessaret Free Clinic, St. Thomas Clinic and Indianapolis homeless programs.

“We have a lot of fun putting Evening of the Arts together and entertaining the public, but the event also reminds us that as aspiring physicians we must be committed to serve our communities and people,” says Micah M. Bhatti, who co-chairs the event with fellow medical student James Smith.

Many medical students say they were called to medicine because they want to serve and help others. And even though medical school keeps students extremely busy with classes, hospital rotations and studying, IU School of Medicine students remain dedicated to their calling by volunteering at homeless shelters and clinics, and participating in the Evening of the Arts benefit. Students have commented that volunteering at the clinics is a rewarding experience that really puts medicine and service into perspective.

Tickets go on sale March 8 and are $12 for adults and $10 for students. They can be reserved via email at iusmeota@iupui.edu. Tickets also will be sold at the door.

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Med Students Trade Stethoscopes For Stage Lights
February 18, 2004

More Minorities in Medicine is His Mission

INDIANAPOLIS — When Robert Patterson’s nephew was born several years ago, he recalls agreeing with his brother’s comment that the size of the infant’s hands held promise for a great career in professional basketball or football. “Today, I would look at those hands and see the future of a great surgeon,” says Patterson, a third-year medical student at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Patterson is passionate about urging African-Americans and other minorities to become physicians as he is on track to do. He does so through the American Medical Association-sponsored “Doctors Back to School” program he recently helped get off the ground locally. Accompanied by other medical students and minority physicians, he visits at least one public school in Indianapolis each month and explains to students what medical school is like, encouraging them to become physicians or to seek other careers in health care.

Patterson’s efforts to promote medical education among minorities and diversity issues have caught national attention. In late March, he will receive the 2004 AMA Foundation Leadership Award at a national leadership conference.

“Many of these kids are used to seeing physicians in a different light,” says Patterson, a native of Gary, Ind. “We want them to understand they have great potential to become doctors and have the opportunity to join those of us who are taking that journey. It’s vital we encourage these young people at an early age, even at the elementary school level.”

But it’s more than a journey; it’s a necessity, made evident by the statistics, says Patterson. African-Americans make up slightly more than 12 percent of the U.S. population, yet only 2.5 percent of the nation’s physicians are black. In similar comparison, Hispanics account for 12.5 percent of the population, but represent only 3.5 percent of doctors.

“More minorities practicing medicine, particularly in underserved areas, translates into better health and improved mortality rates among minority groups,” says Patterson. “Our primary responsibility is to become highly competent physicians. We also have a responsibility to our colleagues to help them develop the cultural sensitivity necessary to effectively treat patients from a variety of racial and cultural backgrounds.”

After receiving his undergraduate degree, Patterson earned an MBA in marketing at IU-Bloomington. He worked in pharmaceutical sales and health care for a few years before moving to Chicago to complete a pre-medicine academic program. He briefly taught physics at Indianapolis’ Manual High School before his acceptance into medical school in 2000.

With a dizzying schedule of clinical rotations and studies, and his involvement in the “Doctors Back to School” program and other community service projects, the energetic Patterson also finds time to serve on
More Minorities in Medicine is His Mission

the School of Medicine’s Diversity Council, and as president of the Student National Medical Association, the nation’s largest and oldest organization representing the interests and concerns of minority medical students.

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February 18, 2004

20 Years Of Lithotripsy Celebrated at IU, Methodist

INDIANAPOLIS — Twenty years ago, Methodist Hospital made medical history as the site of the first lithotripsy treatment of a kidney stone patient in the United States. The anniversary will be marked with a media opportunity and open house Monday, Feb. 23, and guests will include the first lithotripsy patient and the German physicist involved in development of the clinical lithotriptor.

James Lingeman, M.D., of Methodist Hospital performed the procedure and continues to be a leader in the field of kidney stone treatment.

Dr. Lingeman, who also is a volunteer clinical professor of urology at the Indiana University School of Medicine, has collaborated with IU medical school faculty including Andrew Evan, Ph.D., professor of anatomy and cell biology. They are nationally recognized for their research making lithotripsy a safer, more effective treatment.

Monday’s event begins at 10:30 a.m. at the Palm Tree Atrium at Methodist Hospital where those attending will tour where kidney stone patients are treated. A minimally invasive procedure for kidney stone treatment will be performed. The group then will travel to the IUPUI campus to Dr. Evan’s laboratory in room 5055 of the Van Nuys Medical Sciences Building for a look at lithotriptor research models and a demonstration of a kidney stone being crushed.

Along with the former patient, special guests will include Brock Faulkner from Dornier MedTech America Inc., and Bernd Forssmann, a German physicist who was one of the developers of the first clinical lithotriptor, the Dornier HM3, which is now used by Dr. Lingeman to treat patients and by Dr. Evan for research improving lithotripsy techniques.

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February 16, 2004

Clinical Trial Takes Aim at Prostate Cancer, Seeks Volunteers

INDIANAPOLIS — A vaccine designed to stimulate the immune system and relieve the pain in prostate cancer patients is the focus of a clinical trial at the Indiana University School of Medicine and other medical centers nationwide.

The investigational vaccine is called Provenge® and IU researchers are studying how it works in advanced prostate cancer patients. The study harvests white blood cells of the immune system, exposes them to a stimulatory molecule that helps them recognize and kill prostate cancer cells and then returns the cells to the body.

The vaccine also is designed to delay and diminish the pain caused when prostate cancer cells have spread to bones.

Five men have been enrolled in the IU study, but the institution is seeking permission to recruit 10 more patients, said urologist Thomas Gardner, M.D., assistant professor, who is leading the trial at the School of Medicine. Dr. Gardner was selected for this role because of his research using gene therapy to treat men with metastatic prostate cancer.

“Prostate cancer vaccines to date are all similar, but Provenge seems to generate a more consistent response,” Dr. Gardner said. “There also has been some indication of improved survival among patients in earlier studies of this investigational procedure.”


To be eligible for the IU study men must have metastatic prostate cancer that has progressed while on hormone therapy; have a Gleason Score of seven or lower, have no current cancer-related pain and meet other criteria. For more information about the IU trial, call 317-630-6044.

Provenge is manufactured by Dendreon, a Seattle-based biotechnology firm. More information about the vaccine can be found at www.dendreon.com/technology/den_vaccines.html.

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February 16, 2004

Relearning To Hear: Gradual Adaptation System May Improve Cochlear Implant Success

SEATTLE — Cochlear implants can provide a return to the world of sound for some deaf patients, but learning to “hear” with them can require much effort. Scientists at Indiana University School of Medicine are developing ways to speed that process. Mario Svirsky, Ph.D., professor of Otolaryngology -- Head and Neck Surgery, discussed his work at the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

Cochlear implants are surgically implanted devices that stimulate the auditory nerve to enable profoundly deaf persons to sense and understand speech. Adults who have lost their hearing must somehow match the signals provided by the implants to the speech sounds they heard and stored in memory before losing their hearing. To do so, they must overcome two simultaneous forms of distortion introduced by the implants -- the sound has lower frequency resolution and is shifted to a higher pitch.

Svirsky and his Indiana University School of Medicine colleagues tested whether a training regimen that gradually introduced subjects to the frequency shift could improve their ability to comprehend speech. The experiment was done with an "acoustic simulation" of a cochlear implant, which allows listeners who have normal hearing to hear sounds that are degraded and frequency-shifted in a way similar to that found in cochlear implants. They found that subjects introduced to the frequency shift in a gradual way adapted sooner than those who were introduced to the full frequency shift from the beginning.

Brain scans performed by Thomas Talavage, Ph.D., assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering at Purdue University, showed systematic changes in cortical responses in one of the subjects, who was tested before and after several hours of exposure to the degraded speech.

Svirsky and Talavage concluded that human listeners can learn to understand an extremely impoverished and frequency-shifted acoustic signal, and this learning process can be facilitated by gradual exposure.

(A multimedia document in Microsoft Word format explaining and summarizing Svirsky’s presentation is available at the Public and Media Relations web site).

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Relearning To Hear: Gradual Adaptation System May Improve Cochlear Implant Success
February 16, 2004

Moore Named Hulman Professor

INDIANAPOLIS — David H. Moore, M.D., has been named the Mary Fendrich Hulman Professor of Gynecologic Oncology. His appointment was approved Feb. 1 by the IU trustees.

Dr. Moore, director of gynecologic oncology at Indiana University School of Medicine, joined the IU medical school faculty in 1993. He completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at IU and completed a fellowship in gynecologic oncology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is an IU School of Medicine graduate.

The Mary Fendrich Hulman Chair was established in 1990 by Mari Hulman George in honor of her mother. George has identified health care as a field of special philanthropic interest. The holder of the professorship must teach in or be engaged in research areas associated with gynecologic oncology.

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February 13, 2004

Parkinson’s Disease Genetic Study Progresses With $8 Million Grant

INDIANAPOLIS — Success in the location of genes potentially involved with the onset of Parkinson’s disease has been rewarded with $8.26 million grant renewal from the National Institutes of Health.

Indiana University School of Medicine will serve as the coordinating center for this grant as it did for the initial funding.

The original grant for $6 million in 1998 initiated the largest nationwide study ever conducted on the genetics of the neurodegenerative disease. The study, called Parkinson’s Research: The Organized Genetic Initiative (PROGENI) enrolled 600 sibling pairs with the disease from 58 Parkinson’s Study Group centers in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico.

During the first five years, PROGENI researchers determined that a gene known as the parkin gene may indicate a risk factor for developing Parkinson’s disease in older adults when one of the two gene pairs is abnormal. Previously, it was believed that the parkin gene only was involved in the development of juvenile Parkinson’s disease and only when both copies of the parkin genes were abnormal.

Researchers also narrowed the field of potential genes and believe they have found a gene on chromosome two that may be important in the development of the disease in families with multiple affected members.

“We also have tantalizing hints on the X chromosome, which may be of more importance to men with the disease,” said Tatiana Foroud, Ph.D., associate professor of medical and molecular genetics at the Indiana University School of Medicine and the principal investigator for the nationwide PROGENI study.

The discovery of multiple genes that may have an impact on the onset of Parkinson’s disease on patients who develop the disease at different ages and in families with multiple affected members is a new development.

“That’s how far we’ve come,” said Dr. Foroud. “Five years ago, we had to seriously argue that Parkinson’s was genetic to obtain the grant funding. Today, we have proof.”

The second phase of the study will recruit an additional 300 sibling pairs with Parkinson’s disease. Participants in the trial will answer health questions, undergo a clinical examination and donate a blood sample from which DNA is extracted. Siblings do not need to live in the same part of the country since the study is being conducted at multiple sites. (See the Web site listed below for study sites.)

“Our mission in the next five years is to find the gene on chromosome two that affects families with multiple
members afflicted with Parkinson's," said Dr. Foroud. "We also intend to nail down what the parkin gene does."

In addition to the nationwide study, the IU School of Medicine is conducting a related study called PROGENI CARES for residents of Indiana. This study allows friends and same-sex in-laws of individuals with Parkinson's disease to help find the affected genes. Dr. Foroud and her fellow researchers are seeking 500 individuals with Parkinson's disease and 500 unrelated individuals without the disease. Each person must be willing to donate a blood sample. Names are kept confidential and the DNA is stored with no personal identification, such as date of birth or Social Security number.

The discoveries may have an enormous impact on early detection, treatment and on the development of new and more effective drugs for treatment of Parkinson's disease, she said.

For additional information or to participate in either clinical study, call 1-888-830-6299, or see http://progeni.iu.edu/.

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February 12, 2004

**Adult Diabetics Sought For Clinical Study**

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University School of Medicine seeks participants for a clinical trial for people with type 2 diabetes.

The 54-week study will evaluate an oral medication that is given along with insulin. Participants must be between 30 and 65 years of age, be insulin dependent and taking less than three medications for high blood pressure. Participants must be willing to perform daily glucose testing.

The study medication, glucose meter and glucose strips are provided to participants, who will be required to make 10 trips to the IU Medical Center during the study.

For additional information, contact Sheryl at 317-274-3948.

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February 11, 2004

Preschool Eye Screenings May Prevent Lifelong Vision Disabilities

INDIANAPOLIS — Early detection of eye abnormalities in children can make the difference between good sight and a lifetime of vision problems.

The Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Ophthalmology and the Indiana Lions Foundation know that by the age of six, children’s eyesight is fully developed and treatment options more limited. The Lions, well known for their service projects involving eye health, and the IU ophthalmologist have launched a free statewide vision screening program for preschool children called Operation Kidsight.

The unique program utilizes photoscreening, a relatively new technology that uses light reflected off the eye to screen for eye abnormalities. The reflection is recorded on a Polaroid film image. Light is reflected from the camera strobe in a horizontal flash and in a second vertical flash onto the film, which provides the image of two sets of eyes.

Ophthalmologists trained in the technology can tell by the light reflections if the child is at risk for some serious eye problems that affect 3 percent to 5 percent of the population. Conditions such as juvenile cataracts, amblyopia or lazy eye, and strabismus or misalignment of the eyes can be detected. The technique has been shown to be 85 percent to 90 percent accurate.

“Operation Kidsight will assist with early detection of eye problems at a time when children are more amenable to treatments such as patching, eyedrops, glasses and surgery,” said Daniel E. Neely, M.D., assistant professor of ophthalmology and medical director of the program. “This can prevent permanent blindness.”

The Indiana Lions Foundation and the IU Department of Ophthalmology will be conducting screenings statewide over the next few years. The first Operation Kidsight screening in Central Indiana will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, at the Riley Outpatient Center, Riley Hospital for Children, 575 West Dive, Indianapolis.

No appointments are necessary; preschool-age children and a parent or guardian should report to conference room C on the lower level of the center to register for the screening. An information table staffed by Lions volunteers will be near the gift shop on the first floor to direct participants to the photoscreening location.

For additional information on Operation Kidsight and the eye conditions it will be screening, see www.lionsfoundation.org. For additional information on the The PhotoScreener™, see www.photoscreener.com/home.html.

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Preschool Eye Screenings May Prevent Lifelong Vision Disabilities

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Grant Expands IU-Kenya AIDS Program

February 5, 2004

Grant Expands IU-Kenya AIDS Program

INDIANAPOLIS — The success of a two-year program to treat HIV/AIDS in adults and children in Kenya has attracted a one-year, $1.6 million grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development. The announcement was made today by Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The program, Academic Model for the Prevention and Treatment for HIV/AIDS (AMPATH), was created by the Indiana University School of Medicine, the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, and the Moi University Faculty of Health Sciences in Kenya.

The new grant will allow IU and Moi physicians to increase the number of HIV-infected people they treat in Kenya from 2,000 to 15,000, and to establish HIV treatment and prevention programs in two additional rural communities over the next five years.

AMPATH is a model program that attracted the U.S. Aid funding after successfully enrolling and treating more than 1,500 patients using modern HIV/AIDS therapy. It also instituted a successful mother-to-child-transmission prevention program in which more than 90 traditional birth attendants have been trained to care for HIV-infected women using prevention interventions. The program has educated community support groups about HIV, the importance of prevention and the need for testing.

Faculty and students also have established a practical, low-cost, high-production 10-acre farm in Kenya to provide high quality macro-nutrition to HIV-infected families.

AMPATH is opening a new facility in May 2004 in urban Kenya for teaching, research and patient care. A second new building will be opened in the rural community of Mosoriot for treatment, counseling, teaching and research. These and other treatment facilities will feature an electronic medical record system to help physicians track patients and provide better care.

In addition to the increase in patients treated and the two new rural programs, the new U.S. Aid funding will:

- replicate the farm model in two rural sites;
- develop an enterprise program that will assure sustainable economic security for affected Kenyan
families;
● make the AMPATH electronic medical record system capable of replication in and outside Kenya to support patient care and the uniform reporting of results, teaching and research;
● fund the additional laboratory services needed to serve a wide region of western Kenya.

The grant will support a full range of educational programs for medical students, post-graduate physicians and providers of HIV care in Kenya to assure continuation of quality care.

“We could not have made it to this point without the years of support of many private donors in Indiana,” says Robert Einterz, M.D., director of the AMPATH program and the IU School of Medicine assistant dean for international affairs.

“The tireless efforts of IU faculty physicians like John Sidle, Bill Tierney and Joe Mamlin have inspired us to keep at this over the past 14 years.”

Drs. Einterz, Tierney, Sidle and Mamlin currently are in Africa working with their Kenyan colleagues on the program. The co-directors of the program are Haroun N.K. Mengech, PB ChB, director of the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, B.O. Khwa-Otsyula, MB ChB, dean of Moi University Faculty of Health Sciences and Joseph P. Mamlin, M.D., professor of medicine at Moi University Faculty of Health Sciences and IU emeritus professor of medicine.

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IU Pulmonologists Seeks Patients For Chronic Disease Clinical Trial

INDIANAPOLIS — Sarcoidosis can be as hard to treat as it is to spell. That is one of the reasons the Indiana University School of Medicine is participating in a clinical trial for patients with the complex disease.

Sarcoidosis is a disorder marked by the presence of small nodules of inflamed tissue in organs or muscles. It usually involves the lungs, but also can be present in the skin, eyes, muscles, heart, kidney, nerves and brain. The cause of sarcoidosis is unknown and there is no known cure. Symptoms can vary from virtually none to a multitude including abdominal and chest pain, arthritis, enlarged liver or spleen, dry mouth, migraines, depression, hallucinations, joint pain, low-grade fever and other conditions.

The prevalence of sarcoidosis is difficult to determine since some individuals do not have symptoms and the nodules can disappear with time. It is nearly eight times more common in African-Americans and 13 times more common in Scandinavians than in the general Caucasian population.

David Wilkes, M.D., associate professor of medicine and of microbiology and immunology and director of the Center for Sarcoidosis and Immunologic Lung Disease at IU Department of Medicine, is the principal investigator for a placebo-controlled trial evaluating the effectiveness of Remicaide® in patients with lung involvement. Remicaide already has FDA approval for treatment of Crohn's disease and rheumatoid arthritis.

The 52-week clinical trial is taking place at 25 medical centers in the United States and Europe. To participate, individuals must be over the age of 18 and have had sarcoidosis with lung involvement for at least a year. Participants also need to be receiving 10 mg a day of prednisone or other corticosteroid and one or more immunosuppressants for at least three months prior to screening for this trial.

For additional information or to enroll in the trial, contact Sheryl at 317-274-3948.

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February 3, 2004

IU School of Optometry and IU School of Medicine Share $150,000 Grant From Pulliam Charitable Trust

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — The Indiana University School of Optometry and the School of Medicine's Department of Ophthalmology have received $150,000 from the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. The funds will be used for the Eye Care Community Outreach program.

The ECCO program has three primary goals:

(1) To raise public awareness of the value of adult, youth and infant visual health.

(2) To provide easier access to, and to deliver, vision care services to medically underserved, low-income and uninsured men, women and children by coordinating the resources of health centers, hospitals, primary schools, day care centers, youth centers, social service organizations, churches and other community organizations.

(3) To identify and refer individuals receiving eye care who are in need of additional medical and social services.

The IU School of Optometry and the School of Medicine's Department of Ophthalmology were among 23 Indiana nonprofit organizations receiving grants and commitments totaling $1,541,000 from the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust at the Trust's check presentation event held Nov. 14 at the Indiana State Museum. This was the third of three funding rounds for the Trust in 2003.

"Our funding helps people in need, protects animals and nature, and enriches community life in Arizona and Indiana, the states Mrs. Pulliam called home," explained Harriet Ivey, president and CEO of the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. "Ten grantees are first-time recipients of the Trust's giving. Grants range from $9,000 to $150,000," Ivey added.

"As the Trust completes its sixth year of funding, we are most pleased with the long-term impact of our grant dollars and the relationships and programs established with our family of grantees," said Trustee Carol Peden Schatt. "Nina would have been so proud of the work her dollars are supporting today."

"The Trust will be a part of this community for many years to come during the next 44 years of the Trust's 50-year life and, more importantly, through the legacy of your work," Trustee Chairman Frank E. Russell stated.

Trustee Nancy Russell updated the audience about the Nina Mason Pulliam Legacy Scholars program, which opens doors of higher education for men and women who are often overlooked for traditional college scholarships.
"We are very pleased that many of our Nina Scholars are referred from nonprofit organizations the Trust supports," Russell said. "Beginning in 2001, each year the Trust has sponsored five new students at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis and 12 new students at Ivy Tech State College, Central Indiana Campus. Since the Trust began making grants in 1998, it has committed $41,617,393 to 272 nonprofit organizations in Indiana."

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New Class of Alzheimer's Disease Drug Shows Promise For Severe Patients

INDIANAPOLIS — Memantine, the first of a new class of medications for Alzheimer's disease patients, slows symptomatic cognitive decline when used in combination with a more common dementia drug, according to a study published in the Jan. 21 issue of *The Journal of the American Medical Association.*

The report is good news for Alzheimer's disease patients with moderate to severe disease, according to Martin Farlow, M.D., professor of neurology at the Indiana University School of Medicine and one of the study's authors.

"This is the first and only medication approved for treatment of patients with moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease," said Dr. Farlow. "The results are significant because it is the first to show a positive effect in patients when treatments with different pharmacological mechanisms are used in combination."

Memantine was tested in combination with donepezil, a acetylcholinesterase inhibitor commonly used for patients with mild to moderate stages of disease, at 37 U.S. sites. The Indiana University Alzheimer's Disease Center, where Dr. Farlow is an associate director, was one of those sites. The 404 study participants selected at random to received increasing doses of memantine, starting with five milligrams a day and increasing to 20 milligrams a day, or a placebo. Eighty percent of the participants completed the study.

Results indicated that cognitive function, ability to perform activities of daily living and behavior were significantly improved in the group receiving memantine compared to those receiving placebo, said Dr. Farlow.

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January 16, 2004

IU Cancer Center Seeks Applicants for 2004 Summer Research Program

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana University Cancer Center is accepting applications for summer internships for high school and undergraduate students pursuing biomedical or behavioral science careers.

The Indiana University Cancer Center Summer Research Program provides a hands-on research opportunity for students to work with a mentor for nine weeks during the summer. Mentors are Indiana University faculty affiliated with the IU Cancer Center. Participant selection is based on interest in biomedical or behavioral science, grades, and personal interviews.

High school students applying must have completed at least their junior year and have maintained a grade point average of at least 3.0. Undergraduates applying for the program must have completed 24 hours of college credit, be majoring in a biomedical or behavioral science and have maintained a grade point average of 3.2.

Information about the program and applications are available through the center's Web site at http://iucc.iu.edu/srp/. The deadline for submitting applications is March 1. Applicants will be notified by April 1. The summer program runs June 7 through Aug. 6.

For additional information, contact Gwendolyn L. Johnson, Ph.D., program administrator, IU Cancer Center, at iuccsrp@iupui.edu.

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December 15, 2004

IU Cell Repository May Hold Answer To Alzheimer’s Disease Genetic Questions

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana University School of Medicine will play a strategic role in a National Institute on Aging initiative to isolate the genes responsible for late-onset Alzheimer’s disease.

The National Cell Repository for Alzheimer’s Disease (NCRAD), the only NIA-funded repository in the country, is at the IU School of Medicine. Under the direction of Tatiana Foroud, Ph.D., associate professor of medical and molecular genetics, the repository stores genetic material, including DNA and cell lines, collects clinical information about Alzheimer’s disease from participants, and distributes these materials to qualified Alzheimer’s disease researchers.

The NIA initiative is an expansion of the Alzheimer’s Disease Genetics Study. The initiative, announced this past fall, uses the expertise of the NIA-supported Alzheimer’s Disease Centers, of which IU is one, and Alzheimer’s Associations across the country. The associations are the largest private voluntary health organization in the United States and a critical partner in the initiative.

The groups will draw on their network of families located throughout the United States to recruit 1,000 families for the study over a three-year period. To participate in the initiative, a family must have at least three living members who can donate blood, including:

- Two living siblings (brothers or sisters) who developed Alzheimer’s disease after age 60, and
- Another living family member over age 50 who may have memory loss or a family member over age 60 who does not have memory loss.

Participation is not limited to families with only three participants; the larger the number of affected brothers, sisters and close relatives with Alzheimer’s disease in any one family, the better the chance of finding the sought-after risk factor genes, researchers say.

The Alzheimer’s Disease Genetics Study is critical to the discovery of the risk factor genes responsible for late-onset Alzheimer’s disease. This has been an ongoing objective at IU since the formation of the IU Alzheimer’s Disease Center and NCRAD in 1989, says Dr. Foroud.

“As the U.S. population ages, Alzheimer’s disease is going to become more common and, at this time, there aren’t many effective treatments and no cure,” says Dr. Foroud. “Through this initiative, we hope to develop better options for families.”

People participating in the study will be asked to undergo a neurological examination or collection of medical records and donate a blood sample which will be made into a cell line (a family of cells grown in the
IU Cell Repository May Hold Answer To Alzheimer’s Disease Genetic Questions

laboratory) enabling the participant’s DNA to be available to qualified scientists over many years. Medical, demographic and family history information also will be collected. The informed permission granted to researchers by participants will allow the information and blood sample to be used by the research community only on a confidential and carefully-guarded basis.

More information on Alzheimer’s disease and the federal Alzheimer’s Disease research effort is available from the NIA through its Alzheimer’s Disease Education and Referral (ADEAR) Center at www.alzheimers.org, or by calling 800-438-4380. Of particular interest related to the AD Genetics Initiative are the AD Genetics fact sheet and the booklet, with CD ROM animation and illustration, Alzheimer’s Disease: Unraveling the Mystery.

“While the new genetics initiative is focused on recruiting families with two or more living brothers and sisters with Alzheimer’s disease, we also are eager to recruit families having more distantly related members with the disease, such as half siblings, cousins, etc.,” says Dr. Foroud. “Our research effort is not limited to the parameters established for the Alzheimer’s Disease Genetics Study.”

Although the stepped-up initiative requires more family members with disease involvement, the IU School of Medicine research will allow more families to contribute and furthers the goal of finding answers to this devastating disease, Dr. Foroud noted.

Confidentiality is guaranteed for participants, Dr. Foroud says. NCRAD uses a unique identifier for each sample so no name or other personal identification, such as date of birth or Social Security number, could be released unintentionally. Currently, the repository has more than 3,000 samples.

To participate in either research effort at IU, families should contact NCRAD toll-free at 800-526-2839, or by email at alzstudy@iupui.edu. For more information on NCRAD and the genetics study, visit the NCRAD Website at www.ncrad.org.

The site contains information for families and researchers and answers frequently asked questions on the cell repository as well as general questions about Alzheimer’s disease.

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January 15, 2004

IU School of Medicine Biochemist First To Produce Marketed Drug

INDIANAPOLIS — Roger Roeske, Ph.D., had no idea he would be the father of a drug for prostate cancer when he began his research on contraception nearly 30 years ago.

The drug, Plenaxis™ received FDA approval for the treatment of prostate cancer Nov. 25 and is to be on the market early this year.

Dr. Roeske, a professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, will go down in IU history as the first faculty researcher to discover the makings for a drug that made it to market. In the world of pharmaceutical research, that is a unique accomplishment. Praecis Pharmaceuticals Inc., the manufacturer of Plenaxis, holds the exclusive license for some of the compounds developed by Dr. Roeske.

Dr. Roeske's National Institutes of Health-funded research was directed at finding a more effective contraceptive agent. The compounds developed in his laboratory successfully blocked hormones involved in conception but the side effects were severe.

"Like so many things, this project started in a different direction," said Dr. Roeske. "By shifting the focus of the project, the early research was purposeful and provided the momentum for developing a much needed product."

Through the initial research by other scientists, hormones were isolated that signaled the pituitary gland, which, among other things, regulates sperm formation. Those hormones led Dr. Roeske to develop the compound that serves as the basis of abarelix, the generic name for Plenaxis.

Abarelix is a gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) antagonist and blocks the body's ability to produce testosterone, the hormone that enables most prostate cancers to grow. By blocking testosterone production, fewer cancer cells are formed, minimizing the amount of disease and enabling therapeutic agents to be more effective.

Indiana University participated in two of the clinical trials sponsored by Praecis Pharmaceuticals. Michael Koch, M.D., professor and chairman of the Department of Urology at IU School of Medicine, says Plenaxis may soon replace many of the other prostate cancer drugs on the market because it offers patients benefits that others do not.

"Most of the drugs we currently use cause an increase in male hormones in the first few weeks after treatment," says Dr. Koch. "This has a very serious downside in patients with prostate cancer. Plenaxis is unique in that this initial increase in testosterone does not occur."
Dr. Roeske was in his mid-40s when he began the research and, today, at 76 is still active teaching at the IU School of Medicine and working in his state-of-the-art lab. He acknowledges that the scientific tests and equipment available to researchers today would have made his mission 30 years ago much easier.

With one drug to his credit, Dr. Roeske continues his search for compounds that will impact age-related diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease. He is also studying the interaction of drugs and hormones with cell membranes.

His work is a credit to Indiana University and exemplifies the best of bench-to-bedside research, says Dr. Koch.

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January 9, 2004

IU Researcher Receives International Honors For Career Of Discovery

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indiana University School of Medicine physician-researcher is the first recipient of the prestigious Pasteur-Weizmann/Servier International Prize in Biomedical Research awarded in Paris.

Merrill D. Benson, M.D., professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, of medical and molecular genetics and of medicine, was recognized in December for his pioneering research on protein deposits, called amyloids, which play a role in the development of a variety of diseases including Alzheimer and Huntington diseases and multiple myeloma.

The award, which carries a prize of 150,000 euros, is to be presented every three years to a top level researcher, scientist or physician who has gained international recognition for a major biomedical discovery which led to a therapeutic application.

Neurobiology was selected as the specialty for the first award and the theme "The amyloidosis: from molecular medicine to therapeutics" was selected for the award presentation.

Amyloid is the accumulation of protein fibers in tissues where they disrupt normal organ function. Amyloidosis refers to the disease which is caused by protein deposits and, depending on the type of amyloid protein, may include heart failure, kidney failure, liver failure, neuropathy or, in the case of Alzheimer disease, dementia. There are more than 20 human proteins that can accumulate in virtually all tissues and organs and each causes a specific disease.

Dr. Benson is internationally recognized for the discovery of mutations in a number of proteins which cause inherited types of amyloidosis, and the relationship of protein structure to the function of the protein in health and disease. His particular interest has been in the multisystem forms of amyloidosis associated with immunoglobulin (antibody) deposits, inflammatory amyloidosis (for patients with rheumatoid arthritis) and hereditary amyloidosis. He also has made important discoveries in research on the amyloidosis of Alzheimer disease and other types of protein deposition diseases associated with the central nervous system.

The Pasteur Institute was formed in 1888 by Louis Pasteur, who is best known for developing a vaccine for rabies. It is one of the leading research institutes in France. The Weizmann Institute of Science is a leading research and academic institution based in Israel. France’s Servier Institute promotes all forms of research and scientific knowledge for the purpose of medical progress.

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Media Contact:

http://www.medicine.indiana.edu/news_releases/viewRelease.php4?art=2&print=true (1 of 2)
January 6, 2004

Surgery On the Cutting Edge at Mini Medical School

INDIANAPOLIS — Surgery has come a long way from the days of a blade being sterilized over a flame and a patient being anesthetized with several shots of rotgut whiskey. Today’s surgeons combine their skills with some of the latest technology to ensure their patients’ safety and successful recovery.

Are you ready to scrub for the latest topics and issues in surgery? That is the direction surgeons at the Indiana University School of Medicine will take participants at the winter series of IU Mini Medical School, Feb. 10 through March 16. Each of the two-hour weekly sessions meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays in the lower-level auditorium at the Riley Outpatient Center on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus.

Tentative topics and speakers include:

Feb. 10: The History and Future of Surgery
Keith Lillemoe, M.D., and Jay Grosfeld, M.D.

Feb. 17: The Skinny on Bariatric Surgery
Clark Simons, M.D.

Feb. 24: Robots and Computers Lend A Helping Hand
David Canal, M.D., and Don Selzer, M.D.

March 2-9: The Organ Trail: New Pathways In Transplantation
A. Joseph Tector, M.D. (other guest speakers may present at these sessions)

March 16: You’re So Vein: Vascular Surgery
Stephen Lalka, M.D., and Matthew Johnson, M.D.

One of the main goals of the twice-annual IU Mini Medical School is to introduce and explain to the public – in everyday language – the latest developments and topical issues in health care and research.

Cost to attend the six-week series is $40 per person and advanced registration is required. For information or to register, call 317-278-7600. When registering, refer to Course No. 033N01A200.

IU Mini Medical School is sponsored by the IU Medical Group and Indianapolis radio station WIBC, and is offered by the IU School of Medicine Faculty Community Relations through the IUPUI Division of Continuing Studies.

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