

FEBRUARY 2012



DIANNE BARNES

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SAVE THE DATE

**Tuesday, March 20
12:15 p.m.**

**Medical Sciences Building
Kresge Auditorium**

Andrew Filak, MD, senior associate dean for academic affairs at the UC College of Medicine, gives an update on medical education.

HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital Opens at Drake Center

After six months of planning, renovation, and staffing, the new HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital at Drake Center opened its doors. HealthSouth, one of the nation's largest providers of rehabilitative care, reached an agreement with the UC Health rehab facility last May to provide inpatient rehabilitation services at Drake. HealthSouth now operates 40 beds in Drake's east wing.

Long-Term Acute Care vs. Rehab

While it may be confusing to some why Drake Center (known for its expertise in rehabilitation) would move in this direction, the answer is simple—to better serve the community. Drake's core business is long-term acute care (LTAC). Drake operates with an LTAC license which dictates the type of rehab patients it can admit. HealthSouth, on the other hand, operates with a rehab license allowing it to accept more rehab patients at the Drake location than could previously be served at a medically complex (LTAC) level of care.

Drake vs. HealthSouth Admissions

The key to determining where a patient should be admitted—Drake or HealthSouth—is the number three. Patients who can tolerate three hours of therapy a day are eligible for admission to HealthSouth. Patients with complex medical conditions needing a longer recovery time are admitted to Drake, where staff and physicians work with patients to build the strength and endurance they need to get back on their feet and ready for the next level of care.

University of Cincinnati Physicians Relationship

HealthSouth hired a number of Drake nurses, therapists, nursing assistants and health unit coordinators to staff its new hospital. Four University of Cincinnati



(From left) Mark Brodeur, Debbie Hampton, PhD, Brad Carman, Mark Goddard, MD

Physicians' specialists also serve on staff, including: Mark Goddard, MD, medical director; Sheital Bavishi, DO, brain injury; Angela Beninga, DO, spinal cord injury; and Jessica Colyer, MD, stroke. All are faculty in the UC College of Medicine Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation—with Goddard serving as chair—and consult with patients on an as-needed basis.

"HealthSouth has an excellent reputation and values the work Drake is known for," adds Debbie Hampton, PhD, vice president of clinical services and chief nursing officer at Drake. "We at UC Health view them as an important partner in the continuum of care, and we look forward to working together to provide the highest quality care for the best patient outcomes." ●

HEALTHSOUTH AT DRAKE CENTER LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mark Brodeur
Chief executive officer, HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital at Drake Center

Brad Carman
Director, physician relations, Drake Center

Mark Goddard, MD
Medical director, HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital at Drake Center and chair, UC's department of physical medicine and rehabilitation

Debbie Hampton, PhD
Vice president of clinical services/ chief nursing officer, Drake Center

Research at the UC College of Medicine, UC Health

COLLEAGUES,

We face substantial challenges related to research at the UC College of Medicine, but they can be overcome through teamwork, willingness to



change and a shared striving for excellence. If we don't pull together, however, it will be difficult to navigate this tough economic time.

Our research mission is central to the identity, prestige and success of the UC College of Medicine and UC Health. It's really what separates our health system from all of the other health systems in the region: We do groundbreaking research to help our patients get better.

We face a tough fiscal environment that includes the after-effects of national and international recessions, reduced National Institutes of Health funding levels and a \$10 million financial shortfall for the college in the current fiscal year.

Change is necessary if we are to rise above these challenges. Senior leadership at both the college and health system are working on a revised plan for research in 2012. We must be nimble in anticipating and managing economic threats, refining and supporting critical infrastructure and while at

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the same time finding ways to cut costs. Key strategies include a focus on excellence and translation by investing in strong programs, top individual investigators and multidisciplinary programs.

We have formed a research cabinet to help guide strategic planning and

implementation around the research enterprise. This group of faculty and administrators will also review the UC College of Medicine's research infrastructure, graduate education and focus on improved communication among investigators.

The substantial challenges facing research at the college must be addressed as a group. Scientists are used to working in teams, and I encourage each of us to pull together for the good of the UC College of Medicine through good planning, sharing of resources and retooling careers.

We must continue to strive for excellence. Excellent science will get funded all the time, and being the best is what makes you successful in tough economic times.

STEPHEN STRAKOWSKI, MD
Vice President of Research,
UC Health

Senior Associate Dean for Research and Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience chair,
UC College of Medicine

Future plans aimed at enhancing the research effort include:

- an accessible research database
- a UC College of Medicine "study section" to help us get grants funded
- a program to identify and retain the best and the brightest students, fellows and residents at the UC College of Medicine
- a plan for effectiveness research
- research in the Epic electronic medical records system
- a pilot research program
- enhancing the university's pre-med program
- implementing a shared health system/college clinical research infrastructure

Connected

Connected is a monthly publication for clinicians and associates of UC Health. Send your comments and ideas to CorporatePR&Marketing@uchealth.com.

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UC HEALTH MISSION

- Provide life changing, patient centered medical care
- Drive innovation through groundbreaking research
- Educate and inspire the next generation of health care professionals

UC HEALTH VISION

- To be region's quality health care partner and a national leader in solving complex medical problems

UC HEALTH VALUES

- Respect
- Integrity
- Teamwork
- Excellence



UC Health West Chester Hospital Named ‘Emergency Center of Excellence’

The UC Health West Chester Hospital Emergency Department has been verified as an “Emergency Center of Excellence” by Emergency Excellence (EmEX), an organization specializing in emergency department (ED) benchmarking.

The award was given after a rigorous review of over 100 key performance indicators linked to the seven Pillars of Excellence (Safety, Satisfaction, Space, Staff, Support, Systems and Solvency) by EmEX surveyors.

“As a member of the ED team, I am very proud of this achievement,” said

Kevin Joseph, MD, president and chief executive officer of the hospital and



Joseph

assistant professor at the UC College of Medicine. “This award is validation of our ED team’s delivery of excellent patient care.”

Notable accomplishments

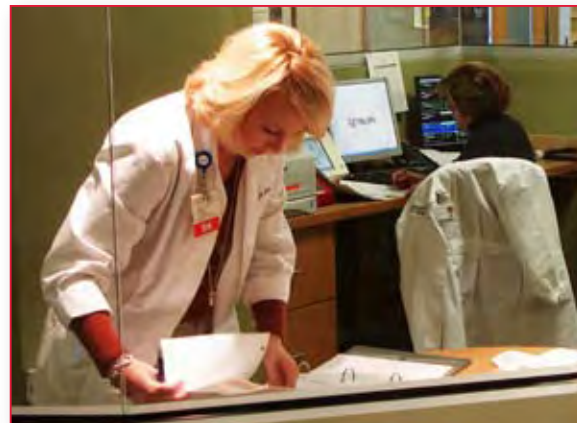
include 98th percentile Press Ganey patient satisfaction scores, a “door-to-doctor” time of 15 minutes and a core measure adherence rate of 98 percent.

Very positive feedback was provided by the EmEx surveyor: “Excellent visit!

West Chester demonstrates Emergency Excellence without a doubt. The patient satisfaction was top notch ... and fortified by their friendly, courteous,

community-oriented staff. The nursing staff is well trained ... and the providers, including doctors, physician assistants and nurse practitioners, demonstrate excellent teamwork and interpersonal relationships. It appeared the relationship between other departments, hospital administration and medical staff was super.”

“Our ED team is dedicated to providing patients with the highest quality care, in a timely manner. This award recognizes the efforts of our physicians, nurses, staff and leadership team on behalf of all patients,” stated Kathy Lebowitz, registered nurse, director of the ED. ●



Wendy Gilkey, registered nurse and manager, case management at UC Health West Chester Hospital

Fast Facts

WEST CHESTER HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

- Nearly 28,000 patients are seen each year within the West Chester Hospital Emergency Department
- Patients are escorted to private rooms for registration and treatment within 10 minutes (on average) of arrival
- Patients are seen by a physician within 14 minutes (on average) of arrival
- The University of Cincinnati Physicians’ emergency medicine doctors who staff West Chester Hospital also staff UC Health University Hospital’s Level I trauma center and Jewish Hospital

UC Health
West Chester
Hospital

Main Entrance



EMERGENCY



HOW WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Heart Team Discovers, Treats Rare Condition

Patient witnesses ‘innovation in action’ from multidisciplinary team

In 2007, Ken Tankersley, a UC anthropologist, then 52, was saying, “I feel like I’m in my 20s,” after receiving treatment for atrial fibrillation—irregular, fast heart rhythm—and heart failure from Neal Weintraub, MD, UC Health cardiologist and UC College of Medicine cardiology division chief.



Ken Tankersley has photos of his rare fistula and new “fixed” heart adorning his desk at work.

Unfortunately, Tankersley—who is nationally known for his climate change research—says his work and active life started to suffer again when he noticed the return of irregular heartbeats in 2011.

Weintraub, along with Alexandru Costea, MD, a UC Health electrophysiologist and assistant professor at UC who also helped Tankersley manage atrial fibrillation, decided that an ablation to correct cardiac electrical abnormalities responsible for the abnormal rhythm should be performed.

A pre-surgical CT scan revealed a rare fistula between Tankersley’s right coronary artery and superior vena cava. The congenital defect, essentially connecting an artery and vein, was pressing on the heart’s left atrium causing the right atrium and ventricle to become enlarged due to increased blood flow through the fistula.

Weintraub assembled a group of UC Health cardiac, surgical, radiological and neurological experts to determine the best course of action for Tankersley.

“Our team worked for five hours to close the fistula using a procedure known as a coil embolization,” says Massoud Leesar, MD, a UC Health interventional cardiologist and UC professor. “This team approach also involved Dr. Ross Ristagno from interventional radiology and Dr. Todd Abruzzo from neuroradiology.”

Sangita Kapur, MD, a UC Health cardiopulmonary radiologist and assistant professor at UC, was also involved and helped find the location and size of the fistula.

“It was a landmark procedure,” says Leesar. “Cases like this typically require surgery, but we did this with catheters and devices in the catheterization lab.”

Tankersley says he was conscious throughout most of the procedure

“It was a landmark procedure. Cases like this typically require surgery, but we did this with catheters and devices in the catheterization lab.”

*Massoud Leesar, MD
UC Health interventional cardiologist*

and was able to listen and watch the doctors in action.

“It was amazing to see innovation happening right before my eyes,” he says. “As far as I know, what they did was unprecedented and literally cutting-edge. They were literally inventing as they went, but I knew I was in the very best of hands.”

“This was not a ‘cookbook’ cure, if you will. This cardiology team wasn’t following instructions; they were using their knowledge as they went in order to fix this rare condition. I knew that I was in the best facility with the best doctors, not just locally but nationally,” adds Tankersley

“As far as I’m concerned, my team did nothing less than perform a miracle.” ●

>> **APPOINTMENTS & REFERRALS**

To contact UC Health Cardiology, call 513-475-8521. A full list of cardiac specialists is available at ucphysicians.com.

**TANKERSLEY’S
MULTIDISCIPLINARY
PHYSICIAN TEAM**

Cardiology

Neal Weintraub, MD

Cardiopulmonary Radiology

Sangita Kapur, MD

Electrophysiology

Alexandru Costea, MD

Interventional Cardiology

Massoud Leesar, MD

Interventional Radiology

Ross Ristagno, MD

Neuroradiology

Todd Abruzzo, MD

Epilepsy Center Grows in West Chester to Address Demand

Three new specialists join UC Neuroscience Institute-based team

The UC Epilepsy Center, part of the UC Neuroscience Institute (UCNI) has significantly increased its ability as a regional destination for patients with epilepsy and seizure disorders by adding three new specialists.

Neurologists Robert Simkins, DO, and Phillip White, MD, and neurosurgeon Ellen Air, MD, PhD, joined the UC Epilepsy Center last year, bringing the number of full-time adult epilepsy specialists at UC Health to eight. The UC Epilepsy Center is one of nine centers within the UCNI, a specialty

institute of UC Health.

"This has allowed us to open up our specialty programs to more patients so



Privitera

we're getting more referrals," says Michael Privitera, MD, professor of neurology at the UC College of Medicine and director of the Epilepsy Center.

"We've also been able to increase the number of people with epilepsy admitted to our specialized inpatient unit and surgeries for epilepsy at UC Health University Hospital. Our clinical

programs address the full spectrum of seizures and epilepsy: from the new onset clinic to the most advanced medical and surgical treatments for people with medication-resistant seizures."

The UC Epilepsy Center has a Level IV rating from the National Association of Epilepsy Centers—the highest rating for epilepsy care. ●

>> APPOINTMENTS & REFERRALS
UC Health epilepsy specialists can be reached at 513-475-8730.
For a full list of providers, visit ucphysicians.com.

Epilepsy Center Unique Services

Only site in the region (UC Health University Hospital) that offers:

- **24/7 CONTINUOUS VIDEO EEG MONITORING** in every ICU and intra-operative monitoring and ambulatory EEG services at West Chester Hospital
- **DEDICATED INPATIENT EPILEPSY MONITORING UNIT** and specific epilepsy surgery
- A robust **EPILEPSY CLINICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM** in brain imaging, generic drug safety, new antiepileptic drugs and seizures in traumatic brain injury
- A **NEW-ONSET SEIZURE CLINIC** that allows patients to be seen within a short time of their disease presentation and benefit from early subspecialty care. Dedicated time slots are set aside for new onset patients, with the goal of providing an appointment within two to five business days of the referral.



Ellen Air, MD, PhD

- Specializes in epilepsy, movement disorders and pain
- Completed PhD, MD and residency at UC and fellowship at University of California-San Francisco
- Assistant professor of neurosurgery at the UC College of Medicine



Robert Simkins, DO

- Epilepsy monitoring, surgery and refractory epilepsy expertise
- Advanced techniques, including intra-operative neurophysiological monitoring during surgery
- Associate professor of neurology at the UC College of Medicine
- Board-certified in neurology and neurophysiology
- Previously with Dayton Center for Neurological Disorders and Wallace Kettering Neuroscience Institute



Phillip White, MD

- Epilepsy monitoring, surgery and refractory epilepsy expertise
- Advanced techniques, including intra-operative neurophysiological monitoring during surgery
- Associate professor of neurology at the UC College of Medicine
- Board-certified in neurology and neurophysiology
- Previously with Dayton Center for Neurological Disorders and Wallace Kettering Neuroscience Institute

in brief

UC Health Dominates 'Top Docs'

The January 2012 issue of *Cincinnati Magazine* named 179 UC Health specialists as "Top Docs" in their fields, representing 27 percent of the total list. These physicians also serve as faculty at the UC College of Medicine. To compile the list, *Cincinnati Magazine* distributes paper and electronic ballots to all physicians registered with the state medical boards in the magazine's catchment area: Hamilton, Butler, Warren and Clermont Counties in Ohio; Butler, Boone, Kenton and Campbell Counties in Kentucky; and Dearborn County in Indiana. Physicians must receive at least five votes from their peers to be

included on the list. In addition, 29 percent of the physicians on the list were UC College of Medicine graduates and 36 percent completed residency or fellowship training at UC.

Lopez Accepts Expanded Patient Privacy Role

Mary Lopez has been appointed corporate director of privacy and



Lopez

HIPAA for UC Health, University of Cincinnati Physicians and UC.

In her new role, Lopez will oversee the

entire UC Health HIPAA program, expanding the existing hospital-based program to ambulatory services throughout University of Cincinnati Physicians and all UC departments that are subject to HIPAA regulations. This includes creating tailored policies for each component and creating online training programs for employees.

She will also serve as the primary point person for questions and complaints from patients, staff and physicians related to patient privacy.

Lopez joined the UC Health system in 2002 as a legal consultant and was promoted to corporate director of privacy and HIPAA in 2003. Prior to entering health care law, she worked as registered nurse at Tristate hospitals for 23 years. She holds a juris doctorate from the UC College of Law and has operated a private health care law practice since 2002. Lopez also holds a nursing degree from St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing and a

bachelor's degree in elected studies from Thomas More College. She reports to Gary Harris, UC Health vice president of risk management, and Santa Ono, UC provost.

Clinical Research Pilot Funding Applications Due March 1

The Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training is now accepting applications from junior faculty for the next round of Clinical Research Feasibility Fund (CRFF) pilot grants.

Applicants must already have an active Clinical Translational Research Center-approved protocol or submit one for review with their proposal. The CRFF provides one-year start-up funding of up to \$20,000 for pilot studies, potentially renewable for one additional year. One or two grants will be awarded this cycle. Applications are due at noon Thursday, March 1, 2012.

For complete details, visit cctst.uc.edu/node/5395 or email christina.keller@cchmc.org.

'Update on Women's Health' CME Event March 2

Health professionals are invited to attend the continuing medical education (CME) event "Update on Women's Health", 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday, March 2, 2012, at the Kingsgate Marriott, 151 Goodman Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio. Lisa Larkin, MD, who recently joined UC Health as director of midlife women's health and medical director of the UC Health Women's Center, is the event organizer. She is also an associate professor in the UC College of Medicine's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.



Larkin

The CME agenda includes presentations and discussions on menopause, breast cancer and bone health. Registration is \$125 (\$50 for students/residents) and includes 6.25 category-1 CME credits, lunch and refreshments. Registration and more information at updateonwomenshealth.com.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the UC Health-University of Cincinnati Physicians winter blood drive for Hoxworth Blood Center in December. Through your efforts, 71 units of blood were collected. All employees who participated in the blood drive were entered into a random drawing for prizes. The winners were: **Nikki Brookbank** (surgery), **Marsetta Baker** (patient billing office) and **Deborah Meyer** (ENT).

JOIN THE UC HEALTH HEART MINI-MARATHON TEAM!

UC Health is recruiting teams for the 2012 American Heart Association Mini-Marathon. This year's health and fitness expo takes place Saturday, March 17, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Duke Energy Center, hall C. More than 50 organizations, including UC Health, will provide health screenings and educational information. The marathon takes place Sunday, March 18, from 6 a.m. to noon, with race start times staggered throughout the morning. Races range from the 1K Steps for Stroke to a 15K marathon and kid's events.

To sign up:

- visit heartmini.org
- select "Find a Company" in the left navigation
- search for "UC Health"
- select a team under "UC Health"
- click "join team" and complete registration



UC Health neurologist Brett Kissela, MD (far right), with stroke survivors at the 2010 1K Steps for Stroke Walk.

Outpatient Cancer Services Move to New Space

Hematology oncology opens larger clinic focused on patient comfort

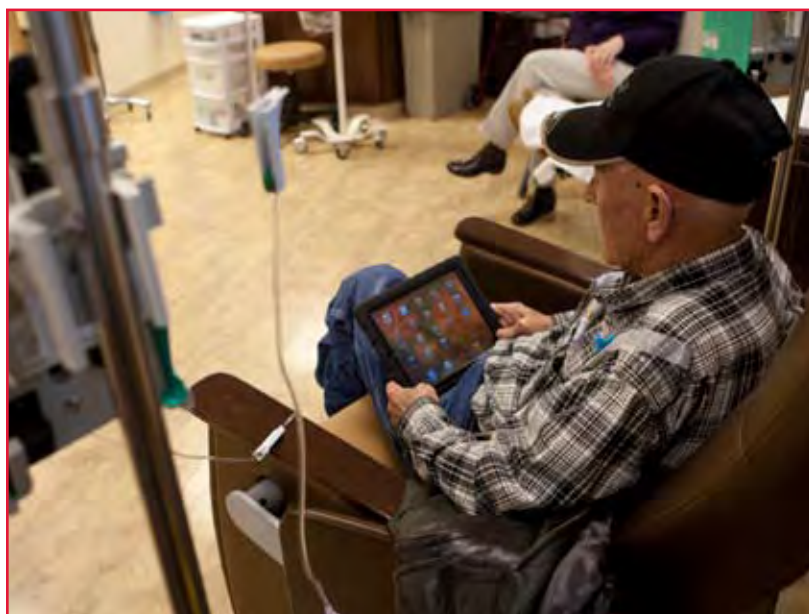
UC Health Hematology Oncology has relocated and expanded its outpatient care and infusion services on the West Chester medical campus, giving referring physicians and patients from Northern Cincinnati communities more convenient access to comprehensive cancer care.

The new space—located at 7626

University Drive, Suite 201, adjacent to UC Health West Chester Hospital—provides on-site chemotherapy drug mixing. Staff also have the ability to perform complete blood counts and full metabolic panel blood tests onsite, providing results within minutes. Imaging studies can be done same-day on the medical campus as well. ●

Open House, Feb. 22

Physicians and staff are invited to tour the new UC Health Hematology Oncology space at West Chester Hospital Medical Office Building South on Wednesday, Feb. 22, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. For more information or to RSVP, call 513-475-8010.



The hematology oncology outpatient treatment area at West Chester Hospital Medical Office Building South features:

- 15 massage chairs for infusion services
- Two private infusion rooms with flat-screen TVs
- Six clinical exam rooms
- WiFi and iPads for entertainment during treatment
- Patient/family snack and beverage area
- Procedure room for in-house bone marrow biopsies
- Conference room with audiovisual capabilities for family consultations and physician group meetings

>> **APPOINTMENTS & REFERRALS**

To reach hematology oncology for appointments and referrals, call 513-584-8500.

To reach the University Pointe Surgical Hospital Imaging Center, call 513-475-7458.

We're all UC Health

Dianne Barnes

Patient Information Clerk, UC Health University Hospital

WALKING INTO a large, unfamiliar place to see a hospitalized loved one can be daunting. But not when you have a friendly, smiling face waiting to greet you.

That's exactly what Dianne Barnes, patient information clerk, has provided patients and visitors of UC Health University Hospital for more than 35 years. "When you say 'Good morning' to someone, or ask them 'How are you?' it truly helps and lets them know we care," says Barnes.

In the course of a regular day, Barnes says the front desk clerks experience "everything and anything." The area is staffed from 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, with Barnes and her colleagues being responsible for a variety of critical tasks, including greeting visitors, providing customer service (giving directions and patient room numbers), receiving lost items and arranging transportation.

Barnes says on any given day the clerks could assist between 300 to 400 people. The information desk will routinely help people trying to get to various points on UC Health's Clifton campus, including the Holmes Building, the UC Health Physicians Office, Hoxworth Center and the Barrett Center.

"There is never a dull moment. It's a nonstop area and someone is always in need of help," says Barnes.

She is motivated, though, by a desire to help others: "You get to know visitors who come by often to check on someone," she says. "Usually I'll ask how their loved one is doing. They are so thankful!"

Barnes believes service is at the core of UC Health and helps set the organization apart. To illustrate this service, Barnes tells a story from several years ago.



"There is never a dull moment. It's a nonstop area and someone is always in need of help."

Dianne Barnes

It was evening when a man came in stating his wife was in labor and asking for a wheelchair. Barnes gave him one and waited as he went outside. Eventually, she went outside to check on the situation. "He turned around and said the baby was coming!," recalls Barnes. The man then asked her to catch the child. Without much time to react, Barnes helped catch the couple's child and wrapped him in a blanket.

"To this day, the family still visits and sends cards," says Barnes. ●



uchealth.com

Inpatient and outpatient services available in the following communities:

OHIO

- ADAMS COUNTY
- ANDERSON
- BROWN COUNTY
- CLIFTON
- FAIRFIELD
- FOREST PARK
- HARPER'S POINT
- HARTWELL
- KENWOOD
- KETTERING
- MASON
- MONTGOMERY
- MT. AUBURN
- RED BANK
- SPRINGDALE
- TRENTON
- WEST CHESTER
- WESTERN HILLS
- WILMINGTON
- WYOMING

KENTUCKY

- FLORENCE
- LEXINGTON
- MAYSVILLE
- SOUTHGATE

INDIANA

- AURORA
- BATESVILLE
- GREENSBURG
- MADISON
- NORTH VERNON
- RUSHVILLE