

■ Baylor receives Leapfrog Award

Baylor Health Care System (BHCS) was named the inaugural recipient of the Leapfrog Patient-Centered Care Award in January 2008. The award is given to a hospital or health system whose board has most successfully driven the creation of a true partnership between patients and their caregivers. BHCS was recognized for excellence in having an informed board on issues related to quality, safety, and patient experience; in integrating patient advocates into the organization at every level; and in having

a policy for disclosing medical errors to patients and their families. The Leapfrog Group is a voluntary program that seeks to improve health care safety, quality, value, and patient satisfaction.

■ Baylor receives prominent national quality award

The National Quality Forum (NQF) has named BHCS a recipient of the 2008 National Quality Healthcare Award, which recognizes exemplary health care organizations that are role models

PHILANTHROPY NOTES

■ Pallmeyer Estate donates half-million-dollar gift

In January 2008, the Wynonia Pallmeyer Estate distributed a gift of over \$587,000 to the BHCS Foundation. The gift included \$315,925 to support the Karen Fink, MD, PhD, Neuro-Oncology Research and Education Fund. The gift was given in addition to a \$272,000 pledge made in June 2007, which was also fulfilled by the Wynonia Pallmeyer Estate.

■ EveryMan dinner features Tony Romo for prostate cancer awareness

Attendees of the April 30th EveryMan prostate cancer awareness campaign dinner at the Ritz-Carlton will have the opportunity to hear Tony Romo share his experience with the disease. While Tony has not had prostate cancer, his father, Ramiro Romo, discovered he had the disease in October 2007. According to the *Dallas Morning News*, Tony explained: "He's your dad. You've been so close for so long. It can be a scary thing."

EveryMan highlights the need for awareness of the disease and support for prevention, not only from the men in the North Texas community, but also from their children, wives, and other loved ones who are ultimately affected by the disease. For more information about the EveryMan prostate cancer dinner, contact Ben March at 214-820-7410 or Benjamin.March@BaylorHealth.edu.

■ New fellowships bring cardiovascular challenge grant a heartbeat away from its goal

When Dallas philanthropists Ray and Bea Wallace issued a \$5 million challenge grant

to BHCS Foundation—a challenge to raise an additional \$5 million for cardiovascular research and education—their hope was to "inspire others in the community to step up and support this worthy cause."

That hope is being realized. In less than a year, the Foundation has reached more than 70% of the goal amount for the challenge grant. The recent creation and funding of two fellowships have fueled this success.

Long-time Baylor supporter Mar Nell Bell championed a major gift from the A. L. Chilton Foundation to establish the A. L. Chilton Foundation F. Andrew Bell Cardiology Fellowship. "We have been so pleased with the progress Baylor has made in the heart and vascular area. It is our hope that cardiovascular disease can be wiped out in the future," Bell said.

Dallas' Michael George, published author and executive advisor to top companies, also takes a keen interest in medical education. A portion of his gift to the cardiovascular campaign will fund a 3-year cardiology fellowship. George's mother was treated at Baylor. "Baylor saved my mother's life, and I wanted to give back," George said.

George has allocated a portion of his recent gift to fund clinical research. He is particularly interested in the work of Robert F. Hebler Jr., MD, surgical director of the Clinical Cardiovascular Research Center at Baylor. Dr. Hebler is studying the longevity and safety of a new heart valve to determine if new drugs could reduce certain negative side effects for patients undergoing bypass or valve surgery.

ACCOLADES AND APPOINTMENTS

Dennis Factor, MD, a gynecologist at BUMC, was the 2008 recipient of the Dallas County Medical Society's Max Cole Award, given to recognize outstanding service to the profession of medicine and the community. Dr. Factor has held leadership roles with the Dallas County Medical Society, Texas Medical Association, American Medical Association, Southwestern Gynecologic Assembly, Texas Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Texas Medical Association Foundation, and Texas Medical Liability Trust.

John Young, MD, Jeffrey Adcock, MD, and **David Lensch, MD**, recently received the HealthTexas Provider Network Volunteers-in-Medicine Award for Outstanding Volunteerism. All three volunteer at charitable health clinics, serving North Texas communities. HealthTexas donated funds to each clinic served by these physicians in honor of the award. Dr. Lensch practices at Baylor Family Medical Center at Rockwall, Dr. Adcock practices at Baylor Family Medical Center at North Garland, and Dr. Young is one of two internal medicine physicians at North Texas Health Care Associates in Irving.

Raphael Schiffmann, MD, joined the Kimberly H. Courtwright and Joseph W. Summers Institute of Metabolic Disease as director on January 15, 2008. The Institute of Metabolic Disease is part of Baylor Research Institute, an affiliate of BHCS. Dr. Schiffmann is a nationally and internationally recognized expert on neurogenetic disorders, with a focus on lysosomal storage diseases. Before his appointment with Baylor Research Institute, Dr. Schiffmann was a lead investigator in the Developmental and Metabolic Neurology Branch in the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

for achieving meaningful, sustainable quality improvement in health care. The criteria for the award included effective prioritization of performance improvement goals, a well-designed and deployed "dashboard" to measure and manage whole system performance, data-driven improvement of chronic care, commitment to

transparency, and demonstrated results on publicly reported performance measures. "NQF's panel of judges was deeply impressed by BHCS's focus on quality measurement and improvement and their commitment to building a culture of transparency," said Janet Corrigan, president and chief executive officer of NQF. "In a strong pool of applicants, Baylor stood out as an exemplary model for raising the bar of health system performance to achieve higher levels of quality, safety, and efficiency for the patients they serve."

■ **Radiology residency program shows top performance**

The residency program in diagnostic radiology at Baylor University Medical Center (BUMC) ranked number one out of 186 programs for its oral board pass rate over the last 5 years. In addition, compared with residents in similar stages of training in the USA and Canada, the BUMC trainees showed outstanding performance on their American College of Radiology In-Training exam: the first-year class ranked 99%, the second-year class, 91%; and the third-year class, 97%. Similarly, on the American Board of Radiology written exams, the senior class ranked number 10 of 201 programs on the diagnostic written exam, and the junior and sophomore classes ranked number 6 of 201 programs on the physics exam. Dr. Ken Ford, program director, commented: "Please take time to congratulate the residents on their outstanding achievements. Also, I want to thank the staff for their hard work and diligence in making our program one of the best in the nation. Our diagnostic and physics staff conferences, and the residents' hard work, are paying dividends."

■ **Baylor purchases land in Terrell for future medical campus**

BHCS has purchased land in Terrell, Texas, for a future health care site. Approximately 53 acres were purchased in Terrell at the northwest corner of I-20 and Spur 557. While there is no specific plan for the future development, this significant capital investment was made to develop a regional medical campus over the long term.

"Over the next year, Baylor will study the needs of the community to determine the types of services and facilities to offer," said Gary Brock, BHCS chief operating officer. "It is estimated that Terrell's population will grow 15.3% between 2006 and 2011. This is an exciting time to expand our presence in Terrell, offering advanced medical services based on the community need."

Currently, BHCS has a facility in Terrell through HealthTexas Provider Network, Baylor's affiliated physician organization. The Family Medical Center of Terrell has served the community for more than 20 years.

■ **Mammography program named Center of Imaging Excellence**

The BUMC Darlene G. Cass Women's Imaging Center has been designated a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence by the Commission on Quality and Safety and the Commission on Breast Imaging. The center also is accredited by the American College of Radiology in mammography, stereotactic breast biopsy, breast ultrasound, and ultrasound-guided breast biopsy.

■ **Baylor Dallas' VAD program receives seal of approval**

BUMC became the first hospital in the USA to receive the Gold Seal of Approval from the Joint Commission for its ventricular assist device (VAD) program. This certification means that the program follows national standards

and guidelines that can significantly improve outcomes for patients.

"This distinction reflects the dedication of the physicians, nurses, and all staff who provide quality care for our heart patients," said Clyde Yancy, MD, FACC, FAHA, FACP, medical director of Baylor Heart and Vascular Institute. "Without the VAD program, many of our patients would have died waiting for transplantation," added Shelley Hall, MD, FACC, medical director of the heart transplant program at BUMC. "And VADs give patients with advanced heart failure a chance for a longer life when they are not candidates for transplantation."

■ **Baylor receives grant for diabetes care project**

The BHCS Institute for Health Care Research and Improvement's Robert M. Mayberry, MS, MPH, PhD, director of health equity research, has been awarded \$65,000 from the International Diabetes Federation to support an innovative diabetes care research project. Dr. Mayberry's project, entitled "Motivational Interviewing to Maximize Utilization and Effectiveness of

RECENT GRANTS

- **INSERM unit 899: Collaborative program to develop vaccines targeting dendritic cells for the prevention and treatment of chronic viral diseases**
Principal investigator: Jacques Banchereau, PhD
Sponsor: INSERM (The Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Medicale)
Funding: \$220,110
Award period: January 1, 2008, to December 31, 2008
- **Subpopulations of human dendritic cells**
Principal investigator: Jacques Banchereau, PhD
Sponsor: National Cancer Institute
Funding: \$292,811
Award period: March 1, 2008, to February 28, 2009
- **Altered CD8⁺ T cell compartment in systemic lupus erythematosus patients**
Principal investigator: Jacques Banchereau, PhD
Sponsor: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease
Funding: \$363,160
- **Development of a novel assay to measure patient immune responses**
Principal investigator: John Connolly, PhD
Sponsor: Plexera BioScience LLC
Funding: \$50,000
Award period: October 15, 2007, to October 14, 2008
- **Effect of a competency-based clinical pharmacotherapy curriculum on medication errors and quality of care**
Principal investigator: Rajasree Nair, MD
Sponsor: Texas Academy of Family Physicians Foundation
Funding: \$5000
Award period: January 10, 2008, to December 31, 2008
- **Improving islet isolation by pancreas preservation**
Principal investigator: Hirofumi Noguchi, MD, PhD
Sponsor: Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International
Funding: \$109,905
Award period: March 1, 2008, to February 28, 2009

Self-Management Education for Adults with Type 2 Diabetes," is a randomized controlled trial that will measure the differences in sustained self-management behaviors and glyce-mic control of racially/ethnically diverse persons with type 2 diabetes who have received motiva-tional interviewing versus usual diabetes self-management education. The program known as "Bringing Research In Diabetes to Global Environments and Systems" (BRIDGES) funds translational research projects in diabetes. Dr. Mayberry's project was selected among more than 100 applications submitted.

■ **Baylor All Saints receives chest pain center accreditation**

Baylor All Saints Medical Center at Fort Worth received full accreditation as a chest pain center with percutaneous coronary interven-tions from the Accreditation Review Committee of the Society of Chest Pain Centers. It became the 383rd accredited chest pain center in the nation. The chest pain center's protocol-driven and systematic approach to patient manage-ment allows physicians to reduce time to treatment during the critical early stages of a heart attack, when treatments are most effec-tive, and to better monitor patients when it is not clear whether they are having a coronary event. Such observation helps prevent a patient from being sent home too early or needlessly admitted.

■ **Hyperbaric medicine center receives accreditation**

The Louise Gartner Center for Hyperbaric Medicine located within the BUMC Comprehensive Wound Care Center received full

accreditation from the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society in January 2008. BUMC is one of only three centers in North Texas to earn this distinction. BUMC's Hyperbaric Oxygen Department opened in 2002 and annually de-livers approximately 2300 patient treatments using hyperbaric oxygen therapy. A variety of conditions can be treated by hyperbaric oxygen, including enhancement of healing in selected problematic wounds, air or gas embolism, car-bon monoxide poisoning, decompression ill-ness, clostridial myositis and myonecrosis, crush injury, compartment syndrome and other acute traumatic ischemias, exceptional blood loss, intracranial abscess, necrotizing soft tis-sue infections, chronic refractory osteomyelitis, delayed radiation injury (soft tissue and bony

necrosis), compromised skin grafts and flaps, and thermal burns.

■ **Baylor Grapevine earns recognition for encouraging breastfeeding**

Baylor Regional Medical Center at Grapevine has earned the Texas Ten Step designation from the Texas Department of State Health Services and the Texas Hospital Association for improving the health of newborns and in-fants by encouraging breastfeeding. Baylor Grapevine met the program's goal of having 75% of its mothers breastfeeding before they went home from the hospital with their new-born. In fiscal year 2007, Baylor Grapevine had 3166 births, the second highest number of births at a BHCS hospital.

UPCOMING CME PROGRAMS

The A. Webb Roberts Center for Continuing Education of Baylor Health Care System is offering the following programs:

- **Controversies Regarding Care of the Tiny Baby**, April 4, 2008, at CityPlace Conference Center
- **Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation: Past, Present, Future**, April 5, 2008, at BUMC
- **The Perinatal and Neonatal Journey: Justice for All**, September 26–27, 2008, at Hilton Park Cities

For more information, call 214-820-2317.

In addition, **Focus on Research** forums at BUMC offer CME credit. The following speakers will be featured:

- **Karen McCain, PT, DPT, NCS**, April 15, 2008
- **Robert P. Perrillo, MD**, May 20, 2008
- **Karolina Palucka, MD, PhD**, June 17, 2008

The forums will be held in Beasley Auditorium, 1 Truett, at noon. For more information, contact Robert Reed Obenour at 214-820-4090.