

NEWSPAGER

Linking Technology to a Tradition of Caring™

Researchers Put Hopes on Magnetic Attraction

November/December 2006

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Dr. Forbes

Magnets placed both inside and outside a patient's body may efficiently deliver medication to a targeted area, researchers from the College of Medicine have demonstrated in a study presented at the 2006 Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons in Chicago. The study finds that an implanted magnetic stent – a small wire mesh tube used to hold blood vessels open – paired with an external magnet may one day be used to capture and concentrate drugs at specific sites in the body.

“We haven't reinvented the wheel yet, but we are getting very encouraging results,” says Zachary G. Forbes, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery at the College of Medicine.

He and his colleagues believe that the method eventually may be tailored to carry antibiotics used to prevent acute and chronic infections that can occur alongside orthopedic implants and to confine chemotherapeutic agents to malignant tumors. Their first objective, however, is to adapt the system for use in preventing in-stent restenosis (reclosing) of arteries in heart patients.

With approximately 800,000 surgical procedures performed in the United States each year to open up blood vessels that have become hardened by the accumulation of plaque, Dr. Forbes explains that the stents inserted to prop up the vessel walls and keep the arteries open

are always at risk for inflammation and infection. Stents themselves may become blocked over time, thus creating potentially life-threatening risks and increasing the need for more surgeries. Drugs known to interfere with stenosis can be applied to the stent before insertion, but that dose is finite.

Dr. Forbes and his colleagues are hoping to magnetize the stents so that drugs that have been treated with magnetic nanoparticles can be delivered via the bloodstream directly to the stent. The researchers are modifying conventional stents either by adding a thin layer of magnetic material or by incorporating a weak magnetic alloy that will draw and snare drugs armed with magnetic particles to the implants.

“**One belief we have** is that the system of drug delivery could be used for long-term healing by magnetically attracting particles to the stent, thus providing a sort of rechargeable drug delivery system over the life of the implant. Instead of having to restent a blood vessel or perform bypass surgery, we may be able to treat patients simply by magnetically dosing a site with a given drug,” he says.

The system, which has proven successful in animals, makes use of two separate magnetic field sources: an external electromagnet and a magnetized implant such as a stent. When developed for humans, the magnetic stent would be inserted through a noninvasive catheter and placed at a targeted site in the cardiovascular system. The external magnetic field would lead magnetically charged drugs to the stent, and the stent would hold the drugs in place.

Although the procedure needs more testing before it can be used in humans, Dr. Forbes is hopeful that the concept could eliminate further surgical treatments by helping keep heart patients with stents healthier longer. “We think this is something that has great potential to be clinically put into action in the future,” he says.

The research is a joint collaboration among the College of Medicine and Drexel's School of Biomedical Engineering, Science, and Health Systems, and College of Engineering.

Contact: zforbes@drexelmed.edu

December 16: The Annual Day of Trauma

Led by Hahnemann University Hospital and St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, 11 institutions will participate in this year's Annual Day of Trauma: A Surgery Critical Care Symposium, presented by the Trauma Center Directors of Greater Philadelphia.

Program Director Dr. Joseph Karam, Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery, Drexel University College of Medicine, and Director of Trauma at Hahnemann University Hospital, notes that this is no stodgy academic exercise, but an energizing day of give and take in a casual learning environment. Visiting faculty handpicked by the Philadelphia directors are nationally known trauma professionals. Two main speakers and several complex case presentations will spark the discussion. An annual highlight is the Great Debate, pitting four local faculty against a team of visitors.

Details: Saturday, December 16, The Union League of Philadelphia, 140 S. Broad Street. For further information or registration, contact Jennifer Sumter, DUCOM CME Office, at **215-762-2581**.

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Richard V. Homan, M.D.
Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs
Annenberg Dean

Good News to Share

I am pleased to announce that **Anthony R. Rodriguez, M.D.**, has been named **Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity** at Drexel University College of Medicine.

Dr. Rodriguez received his undergraduate degree at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles and his medical degree from Charles R. Drew University of Medicine &

Science/UCLA School of Medicine. After completing his residency in family practice at Abington Memorial Hospital, he stayed in suburban Philadelphia, where he has been in private practice for a decade. During that time, he has participated in medical education, precepting medical students and residents in family medicine, and has been a volunteer faculty member at the College of Medicine. He received the Dean's Special Teaching Award from our predecessor MCP Hahnemann University in 2000.

To our benefit, Dr. Rodriguez, who is noted for his strong student focus and a wonderful sense of humor, has now decided to

expand his academic interests by joining us, while making his practice part-time.

I would also like to express my pride in the seniors who have been elected to membership in **Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society**, based on academic scholarship, leadership and professionalism. Congratulations to the students – and to the faculty who have helped them learn and mentored them.

Here are the Delta/Zeta Chapter Student Inductees:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Genevieve Abbey | Jonathan Gombola | Brendan O'Hare |
| Cheryl Bansal | Isak Goodwin | Robert Rutherford |
| Amar Bhatt | Kamran Haleem | Vilas Saldanha |
| Brent Bose | Jennifer Han | John Sangl |
| Steven Breault | Maryam Haque | David Shafer |
| Lynsey Caldwell | Justin Hoover | Smita Sonti |
| Kristin Christensen | Brian Horst | Mercedes Timko |
| David Creech | Cathy Hwang | Meghan Treitz |
| Michael Curren | Sameer Jain | Jason Turowski |
| Sarah Eakin | April Jung | David Vegari |
| Sahmon Fallahian | Mary Kimmel | Gregory Vorona |
| Teresa Foo | Nitasha Klar | Ammie White |
| Francis Freisinger | Brianne Klimovich | Mark Yinger |
| Natalie Garcia | Silas Marshall | (inducted in |
| Michael Gent | Ethan McKenzie | October 2005) |

Dean's Office: 215-762-3500

Student Activities Center Grand Opening at the Queen Lane Campus



The Student Activities Center at the Queen Lane Campus celebrated its grand opening recently. Pictured are students enjoying the festivities and making use of the center, which includes state-of-the-art educational media and teleconferencing capabilities, in addition to a student lounge, bookstore, student gym, and large multi-purpose room used for lectures, assemblies, dining and entertainment.

Hahnemann University Hospital: Tradition and Innovation in Medical Education

One day nearly 20 years ago, Kathleen Ryan asked for directions from the Schuylkill Expressway to Hahnemann University Hospital. Once she arrived, she never left. As a medical student (HU '91), a resident, and now Director of the Internal Medicine Clerkship and Associate Professor of Internal Medicine at Drexel University College of Medicine (formed by the merger of MCP Hahnemann into Drexel University), Dr. Ryan is proud to be part of Hahnemann's legacy of excellence in medical education.

"We have award-winning faculty members at Hahnemann who take the time to ensure that students are learning and practicing the art of medicine," Dr. Ryan notes. "As a student and resident, I really appreciated the autonomy and respect that the attending faculty gave me in helping to care for their patients."

Now Dr. Ryan continues that tradition while bringing innovations to the internal medicine clerkship she directs. Her students complete unique

"doctoring assignments" that cover skills such as patient education, cost effectiveness and personal awareness. "Combined with good clinical skills, these 'doctoring' skills play an important role in their effectiveness as physicians," she says.

Dr. Ryan is one of more than 300 full-time DUCOM faculty at Hahnemann. Together with an additional 250 volunteer faculty physicians, they teach our third-year students through a total of 400

rotations at the hospital. Hahnemann also provides 828 four-week rotations annually to fourth-year students. In addition, more than 500 Drexel University College of Medicine residents and fellows train at Hahnemann in more than 30 specialties and subspecialties, including internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, cardiology, neurology, psychiatry, anesthesiology and emergency medicine. About 90 of the residents are also DUCOM graduates.

"As an inner city tertiary care hospital, Hahnemann serves a great diversity of patients, many with advanced medical conditions and diseases," says Barbara A. Schindler, M.D., Vice Dean, Educational & Academic Affairs, DUCOM. "Students benefit from this diversity as well as the excellent quality of teaching at Hahnemann." Founded in 1848, the 618-bed hospital handles about 16,000 admissions, nearly 90,000 outpatient visits and more than 25,000 emergency visits annually.

The first hospital in the Delaware Valley to be accredited as a Level 1 Regional Resource Trauma Center, Hahnemann offers students and residents intensive exposure to many types of trauma, including patients with gunshot and stab wounds as well as auto accident victims brought from all over the region by medical evacuation helicopter.

Students in the surgical clerkship benefit from the hospital's expertise in kidney, pancreas and liver transplantation, neurosurgery, and other subspecialties, notes Michael S. Weingarten, M.D., Co-Director of the Surgery Clerkship and Professor of Surgery at DUCOM. Fourth-year students have a unique opportunity to complete a surgical sub-internship in which they work directly with an attending physician for a month. "The sub-internship gives students a chance to live the life of a surgeon and determine if this is what they really want to do," says Dr. Weingarten, who is Chief of Vascular Surgery at Hahnemann.



Hahnemann University Hospital

Students also benefit from exposure to research collaborations between faculty at Hahnemann and the College of Medicine as well as other Drexel University colleges. "Our affiliation allows us to take research to the next level, incorporating nanotechnology and other biomedical technologies," says Dr. Ryan.

I-Pods and cell phones

are among the latest technological tools used to teach clinical skills at Hahnemann. Students download three-minute videos from DUCOM's clinical skills website on various aspects of the physical exam, which they can view just before entering a patient's room. They can also download audio files with a variety of heart sounds. "Our goal is to make education portable and accessible at the place where it's needed most – the bedside," explains Dr. Ryan.

"DUCOM attracts students and faculty whose accomplishments, interests and abilities add to the intellectual atmosphere of a medical center such as Hahnemann," observes Burton Landau, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Medical Education and Professor of Microbiology and Immunology at DUCOM. "The zeal of the students to learn, together with the advanced knowledge and expertise of the faculty, contributes to an environment that strengthens patient care."



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

In the tradition of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann Medical College

'70s

Herb Goodheart, M.D., HMC '71, won first prize in the dermatology division in the annual British Medical Association Book Awards for 2004 for his book *Goodheart's Photoguide of Common Skin Disorders, Diagnosis and Management*. Dr. Goodheart is also a contributing editor for *Women's Health in Primary Care*, for which he writes a monthly column on skin disorders in women. His most recent publication is entitled *Acne for Dummies*, Wiley Publishing, 2006.

Joseph R. Carver, M.D., HMC '72, and Former Resident, has been named Chief of Staff of the Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Carver has been a Clinical Professor of Medicine at Penn since 2003. He currently serves as the Senior Administrative Officer of the Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute and is a member of the Division of Cardiology. He will continue to hold those positions.

'80s

Rachelle Lanciano, M.D., MCP '84, Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Delaware County Memorial Hospital in Drexel Hill, recently received a three-year appointment as Cancer Liaison Physician for the hospital's cancer program. Cancer Liaison Physicians are responsible for spearheading the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC) initiatives with their cancer programs; collaborating with local agencies, such as the American Cancer Society; and facilitating quality improvement initiatives, utilizing data submitted to the CoC's National Cancer Database.

'90s

Katherine L. Ball, M.D., MCP '90, has been appointed to the Emergency Department of the Chester River Hospital Center in Chestertown, Md. Dr. Ball is also a postdoctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Division of Health Sciences Informatics.

Michael Bohrn, M.D., HU '98, an Associate Program Director of the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at York Hospital, York, Pa., was recognized by the faculty and students at Drexel University College of Medicine for his teaching skills. Dr. Bohrn received the Dean's Special Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching. Each year, Drexel students rotating through York Hospital cast a ballot for their favorite instructor, and the College of Medicine's administrators take those votes into consideration when selecting the award's recipient.

Patty S. Ohrum, M.D., MCP '98, a board-certified physician in internal medicine and critical care medicine, is a hospitalist with Team Health at Atlantic General Hospital, located in Berlin, Md.

Stephanie Page, M.D., HU '98, an internist, has joined the staff at Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, Mass., as a hospitalist.

Eric Bruno, M.D., MCPHU '99, a physician who is board certified in emergency medicine, was appointed to the staff of Lehigh Valley Physician Group – Emergency Medicine, Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, Pa.

'00s

Judah Lindenberg, M.D., MCPHU '00, opened a private neurology practice in July, Advanced Neurology & EMG, which is located in Garfield Heights, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland. Dr. Lindenberg is fellowship trained in neurophysiology.

Former Residents

Emelou Sagarl, M.D., Resident COM '03 Surgery and COM '05 Family Medicine, a physician who specializes in family medicine and dermatology, joined Ocean View Family Medicine in Ocean City, Md. The office is the newest satellite of the Peninsula Regional Medical Center of Salisbury, Md. In addition to family medicine, Dr. Sagarl offers a skin rejuvenation program, including chemical peels, microderm abrasion, Botox and acne treatments.

Anurag Walia, M.D., Resident COM '06 Neurology, has joined the Department of Neuroscience at Orange Regional Medical Center in Middletown, N.Y. Dr. Walia is also affiliated with Crystal Healthcare in Middletown.

Alpha Omega Alpha, see Dean's Desk, page 2.



Dr. Hodgson

Sheila E. Hodgson, M.D. WMC '64 planned her legacy with Drexel University College of Medicine and its students in mind. Dr. Hodgson, who passed away last year [NewsPager, August 2005], was a radiation oncologist at the Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute, part of The Ohio State University Health System. She was also an Associate Professor Emeritus in the university's Department of Radiology.

Dr. Hodgson's significant bequest of \$4.5 million established *The Sheila E. Hodgson Endowed Scholarship Fund for Female Medical Students*, with preference given to those especially interested in tumor-related issues. Her generosity enhances the College of Medicine's ongoing mission of educational excellence.

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In the tradition of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann Medical College



In Memoriam:

William E. Birmingham, HMC '45

Herbert P. Harkins, M.D., HMC '37

Betty Jane Harder, M.D., WMC '52

Lucy Edenborough Mathis, M.D., WMC '54

Helen C. Oels, M.D., Ph.D., WMC '57

Barbara A. Carson, M.D., WMC '70, passed away at her home in Fairfax, Va., on September 12, 2006. A Philadelphia native, Dr. Carson attended Germantown High School and later completed her M.D., internship and residency at Woman's. After touring the United States, Dr. Carson became an Associate in Internal Medicine at the Guthrie Clinic, Sayre, Pa., during which time she also held the titles of Instructor and then Assistant Professor of Medicine at Hahnemann Medical College. Dr. Carson later moved to Virginia where she joined the Group Health Association as an Associate in Internal Medicine. She subsequently founded a practice with Fran DuRocher, M.D., where she remained until her retirement in 2004. In addition to Dr. Carson's passion for medicine, her interests included music, piano playing, painting, traveling, and watching tennis, golf, and football. Donations may be made to: The Trust Fund of the Alumnae Association of WMC/MCP, Barbara A. Carson (WMC Class of 1970) Scholarship, P.O. Box 543, Pottstown, PA 19464.

Melissa Anthony Warfield, M.D., WMC '55, died at her home in Norfolk, Va., on September 29, 2006. After graduating from Woman's, Dr. Warfield completed a residency in pediatrics and a fellowship in hematology and oncology, and returned to Norfolk as a full-time pediatrician with the King's Daughters Clinic. Here she was essential to the founding of the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters, where she was the first full-time physician. In 1961, Dr. Warfield founded the Pediatric Residency Program at the hospital, which flourished under her leadership for 19 years. She contributed her efforts to medical education through the founding of the Eastern Virginia Medical School, where she was appointed with the first group of faculty as full professor and continued to serve until her retirement in 1995, both as a professor in the Department of Pediatrics and as co-director of the Human Values in Medicine Program. A supporter of the Girl Scouts, Dr. Warfield loved nature, woodcarving and travel.

Celebrating Our Bond at Monmouth Medical Center



Attending an alumni reception September 19 at Monmouth Medical Center are (l-r) George Davis, M.D., HU '73; Eric Burkett, M.D., HU '71, Monmouth's Vice President of Medical Affairs; Martin Uram, M.D., next to his wife, Susan Greenberg, M.D., MCP '78; Stephen Chidylo, M.D., HU '87; Ryan Duffy, third-year student; Gabriel Flaxman, third-year student; Vice Dean Barbara Schindler, M.D., WMC '70; Alan Haratz, M.D., HU '79; Pooja Sharma, third-year student; Arthur Greenbaum, Esq., Monmouth Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees; Dean Richard V. Homan, M.D.

American College of Surgeons



Gathered at the alumni reception held in Chicago at the American College of Surgeons' Clinical Congress are (l-r): Drs. Richard Tomolomis and James Kilway, both HU '96; Dr. Kilway's father, also James Kilway; and Dr. William Meyers, Chairman of Surgery, Drexel University College of Medicine.

Continued →



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

In the tradition of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann Medical College

Alumni Weekend Class Representatives Needed!

Alumni Weekend is May 4 – 6, 2007 and we are still in need of Class Representatives for the following classes:

1952 WMC	1992 MCP & HU
1977 MCP & HMC	1997 MCP
1982 HU (25-Year Reunion!)	

Class Representatives work with the Offices of Alumni Relations and Institutional Advancement to send out letters recruiting fellow graduates from their classes to attend the weekend's activities, as well as endorse the solicitation of the class reunion gift, seeking contributions to a class scholarship fund.

If you are interested please contact: Patty Comey at **215-255-7341** or pcomey@drexelmed.edu.

Send alumni notes to Patty Comey at pcomey@drexelmed.edu or mail to: College of Medicine Office of Alumni Relations Suite 11489, 1601 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102

Alumni Relations Office: **215-255-7341**

Toll Free: **866-373-9633**

Website: <http://www.drexelmed.edu/med/ia/alumni/>

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 13, 2006

The Holiday Pops

Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, Philadelphia

Saturday, January 27, 2007

14th Annual Pediatric AIDS Benefit Concert

College of Physicians, Philadelphia

February 2007

American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Alumni Reception

San Diego

Thursday, February 22, 2007

Tutankhamun & the Golden Age of the Pharaohs

The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia

March 2007

American College of Cardiology Alumni Reception

New Orleans

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Monty Python's Spamalot

The Academy of Music, Philadelphia

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at **215-255-7341** or visit www.drexelmed.edu/alumni

New Award Added to Marion Spencer Fay Honor

For the first time in the half-century history of the Marion Spencer Fay Award to distinguished women scientists and physicians, two citations will be presented by the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership at this year's ceremony on December 4.

In addition to the selection of epidemiologist M. Cristina Leske, M.D., MPH, DSc, of the State University of New York School of Medicine at Stony Brook, for the traditional Marion Spencer Fay honor, a Lifetime Achievement Award will go to cancer researcher Janet Davison Rowley, M.D., of the University of Chicago.

Dr. Leske is noted for her international work in epidemiological research in cancer and ophthalmology, and her example as a role model for women in medicine. Dr. Rowley's award will recognize a lifetime of work in science and medicine, and her pioneering cancer research that established the field of cancer genetics.



Dr. Leske



Dr. Rowley

The honors will be awarded Monday, December 4, at 4:30, at a ceremony at Philadelphia's Pyramid Club. Prior to the presentations, Dr. Leske will deliver a lecture on her work on the prevention of blindness and the delivery of eye care.

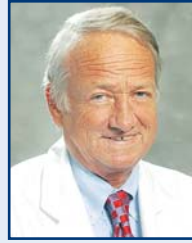
For an invitation, please call **215-255-7373**.

Presentations & Publications



Dr. Eskin

Bernard Eskin, M.D., Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, recently authored a textbook entitled *The Menopause – Endocrinologic Basic and Management Options, Fifth Edition*, published by Informa Healthcare (October). The textbook includes new approaches to healthcare issues for the maturing woman.



Dr. Schwartzman

Robert J. Schwartzman, M.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Neurology, recently authored two textbooks. The first, entitled *Differential Diagnosis in Neurology* and published by IOS Press Inc., offers the clinician a framework for diagnosis of neurological disease built on knowledge and experience in the field. The second, entitled *Neurological Examination*, and published by Blackwell Publishing, offers an illustrated guide to all aspects of the neurological exam.



Dr. Loll

Patrick J. Loll, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was invited to give a presentation entitled “Three-Dimensional Structure of Cyclooxygenase as an Explanation for Platelet-Specific Effects” at the International Experts’ Forum held at the Royal Society of Medicine in London on October 7.



Dr. Stein

David E. Stein, M.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, and Chief, Division of Colorectal Surgery, published an article entitled “Minimally Invasive Surgery for Colorectal Cancer – An Update,” which appeared in the publication *US Oncological Disease 2006*.

Compliance Corner

The Effective Compliance and Ethics Program and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines



Edward G. Longazel
Chief Compliance Officer

The question most frequently posed to the corporate compliance office staff is “Why do we have a Compliance and Ethics Program?” The answer always includes a discussion about reinforcing our organizational culture and relying on each individual’s sense of fairness, honesty and integrity to meet the challenges in a highly competitive environment. Additionally, there are regulatory and legal reasons for the program, as we function under complex and rapidly changing laws and regulations.

The Federal Sentencing Guidelines provide a framework for federal judges who are considering the extent of penalties to impose on an organization found to have systematic infractions of the laws governing federal payments such as healthcare claims or grants. The guidelines actually require that the judge consider the quality of an organizational compliance and ethics program and follow a formula that reduces the penalties (known as the culpability score). An effective compliance and ethics program that satisfies the guidelines requirements may lead to a 90 percent reduction in the penalties that the judge could have assigned without the effective program.

The steps required for an effective compliance and ethics program include the development of a program with policies and procedures, assignment of a compliance officer with appropriate authority, and implementation of the following elements: auditing and monitoring procedures, a confidential hotline with a no-retaliation policy, discipline and reward programs, and a regular evaluation of program effectiveness. The compliance office must have adequate compliance program resources and direct access to the governing authority or an appropriate subgroup of the governing authority.

Remember...we never guess...we ask!

CONFIDENTIAL HOTLINE: 866-936-1010; WEBSITE HOTLINE: www.drexelmed.edu, click *Faculty and Staff Resources*, then *Compliance Hotline*. TRAINING REQUESTS: 215-762-2023

Suite 11484, 1601 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Bulletins:

Scans May Discover Lung Cancer Sooner

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States, killing more than 160,000 people a year. Researchers in New York report that detecting lung cancer early with annual CT scans and treating it early could save millions of lives. The study, published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, involved more than 31,000 people in seven countries, including smokers and non-smokers. The scans found 484 lung cancer patients, 412 at an early stage. After three years of being tracked by the researchers, most patients who had been diagnosed with cancer were still alive, and the study projected that more than 80 percent of those with early-stage cancer would live at least 10 years after their cancer was diagnosed. However, the study has been met with controversy from some because of the lack of comparison groups that did not receive the scans to demonstrate clearly that there is any benefit from annual CT exams.

A Shortfall of Future Family Physicians

The number of U.S. medical graduates going into family medicine fell by more than 50 percent from 1997 to 2005. According to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), population growth and rising numbers of elderly people in Nevada, Arizona, Florida, Texas and Idaho will make the need in those states most critical. The AAFP anticipates a serious shortfall of family physicians in the five states by 2020, and estimates the number of family doctors must grow by 39 percent during the next 14 years to keep up with the nation's needs, the Associated Press reports.

Free Basic Care for the Uninsured

With the number of uninsured people in the United States reaching a record 46.6 million last year, up by 7 million from 2000, a small number of hospital systems around the country have decided to change the system. For many patients with chronic diseases who are unable to afford health insurance, officials have found that it would be less expensive in the long run to provide free preventive care than to absorb the high cost of repeated emergencies, the *New York Times* reports. Time will tell.

Calendar:

- November** *Lung Cancer Awareness Month*
National Healthy Skin Month
American Diabetes Month
- Nov 11 *Towards a Healthy Family/Hacia una Familia Saludable*
Bilingual-bicultural conference, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Julia de Burgos Middle School
4th Street and Lehigh Avenue, Philadelphia
Free and open to the public.
- A Conversation About Women's Health**, 11 a.m. - Noon
At *Healthy Family* conference listed above.
Sponsored by Institute for Women's Health & Leadership
Contact: 215-255-7373
- Nov 16 *Great American Smoke Out*
www.cancer.org
- Nov 18 **Black Tie White Coat Ball**
Benefiting research, prevention, treatment
of HIV/AIDS in women and children
Contact: Ellen Plower, 215-255-7327
- December** *National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month*
- Dec 1 *World AIDS Day*
- Dec 4 **Marion Spencer Fay Award**
The Pyramid Club, 4:30 p.m.
Contact: 215-255-7373
- Dec 16 **The Annual Day of Trauma**
Contact: Jennifer Sumter, 215-762-2581
- January** *National Blood Donor Month*
National Glaucoma Awareness Month
- Jan 10 **Helen I. Moorehead-Laurencin M.D. Sex and Gender
Research Advancement Day**
Queen Lane, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Reception follows
Contact: 215-255-7373
- Jan 27 **14th Annual Pediatric AIDS Benefit Concert**
Produced by DUCOM students
College of Physicians, Philadelphia
Contact: Marie Hartman, 215-991-8219