

CENTER *express*

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS HOSPITAL • UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS MEDICAL CENTER

Poison Control Center Marks 25th Year

When a mother from Topeka, a pre-school director from Olathe or an elderly man from Wichita makes a hotline call, fearing someone has been poisoned, the phone rings in the pharmacy of The University of Kansas Hospital.

For more than 25 years, the Mid-America Poison Control Center (MAPCC) has handled nearly half a million calls from Kansans and residents of the Greater Kansas

City metro area who need poison information. The volume of calls has more than doubled in the past 15 years as awareness of the service has increased. Call volume jumped 17 percent between 2001 and 2005 alone.

The program's beginnings were humble, however, with one nurse in a room by the Emergency Department who answered the hotline during office hours on weekdays. A consulting

physician was the director.

Today, MAPCC is staffed around the clock every day of the year. It boasts seven specialists and a medical director, **Jennifer Lowry, MD**, who is the only medical toxicologist in Kansas. **Tama Sawyer, PharmD**, managing director, and **Lisa Oller**, senior specialist, have been with the program nearly 20 years. The center recently received full national certification from the American Association of Poison Control Centers.

While MAPCC has

expanded over the years to handle more than 32,000 poison-related calls in 2006, the nature of the calls hasn't

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Top 10 Poisons for Children 6 and Younger

- Cosmetics
- Cleaning supplies
- Analgesics (pain relievers)
- Topicals
- Cold medication
- Foreign bodies
- Pesticides
- Vitamins
- Antihistamines
- Plants



Organ Donors Save Lives

"To the world, you may be one person, but to one person, you may be the world."

You can make a difference in the lives of up to 50 people with one simple act when you register to become an organ donor.

In Missouri and Kansas, even if you have indicated on your driver's license that you want to be an organ donor, your immediate family must give consent.

That's why it's crucial to

discuss your wishes with your family and loved ones. The organ donation process should not delay or change funeral arrangements.

- Each day, 77 people get an organ transplant – and 19 others die waiting for an organ.
- Each year, there are 6,000 deceased organ donors, 25,000 tissue donors and 40,000 cornea donors who provide 25,000 organ transplants, and 900,000 tissue and corneal transplants.
- In addition to heart, liver and kidneys, needed organs

include the pancreas, lungs and intestines.

- Tissue is needed to replace bone, tendons and ligaments lost to trauma, cancer and other diseases.
- Corneas are needed to restore sight.
- Skin grafts help burn patients heal and often mean the difference

between life and death.

- Heart valves repair cardiac defects and damage.
- More than 87,000 people are waiting for life-saving organ transplants.

eXtra: Visit donatelife.net for more information on organ donation, or visit the donor registry booth outside the cafeteria on Wednesday, April 11, 18 and 25.

Donor Registry Booth

April is National Donate Life Month. Each Wednesday in April, The University of Kansas Hospital will sponsor a donor registry booth from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. outside the cafeteria. You also can get questions answered about organ donation.

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changed: most concern children. Nationwide, about 85,000 children visited U.S. hospital emergency rooms because of suspected poisoning in 2004.

"Poisoning is one of the top public health hazards among children," Lowry said. Last year, 64 percent of the poison exposures handled by the MAPCC specialists involved children 5 and younger.

"We put our Tupperware on the top shelves of our cabinets, but we keep all kinds of toxic chemicals under the sink," she added. "Children will get into what is available to them. It is important that we reverse our thinking so that we can prevent poisonings from occurring."

Exposure to toxic substances can occur through swallowing, inhaling, injecting or contact with the eyes or skin. Snake bites, spider bites, wasp stings and noxious fumes are also poison exposures MAPCC's

hotline can address.

While drain cleaner and pesticides seem obvious poisons, baby oil, mouth wash, cosmetics, chewable vitamins and plants – all items often within reach of children – also can be poisonous.

Prescription and non-prescription drugs account for more than half the direct exposure calls.

When you call the Poison Helpline at 800-222-1222, a pharmacist or registered nurse with specialized training answers. Using comprehensive reference systems, the specialist quickly determines the risk of poisoning.

The specialist then:

- Gives first-aid recommendations.
- Provides treatment advice for less serious poisonings that can be treated at home.
- Arranges referral to the nearest emergency department for evaluation and treatment for poisonings too serious to be treated at home.

Specialists provide non-emergency information about poisons, chemicals and drugs. The center's staff routinely consults with health care providers regarding treatment of more serious poisonings and overdoses.

An MAPCC education coordinator travels throughout Kansas to provide information to groups, as well as materials for both children and adults, including poison prevention activity books, magnets, stickers, fact sheets and brochures.

eXtra: For more information on poison prevention, visit kumed.com/poison.

Brigade Offers Free Youth Football Clinic

Want to be a hero to your football-loving kids? Then sign them up for a free clinic with the Kansas City Brigade arena football team and former Chiefs player Neil Smith.

Sponsored by The University of Kansas Hospital and the Orthopedics and Sports Medicine Department, the event is Saturday, April 14, exclusively for employees' children between ages 7 and 15. Registration begins at 9 a.m. on Brigade Field in Kemper Arena with the clinic from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Participants should wear shorts, a T-shirt and sneakers.

Brigade players, coaches and Smith, who co-owns the team, will lead kids through football drills and offer expertise on football basics. Afterward, they will pose for photos and sign autographs.

Reservations are required and are first-come, first-served by calling 8-8888. For a child to participate, a parent must attend the clinic and sign a waiver.

Orthopedic surgeon **Vincent Key, MD**, is the team physician, and The University of Kansas Hospital is the official health care provider.



Health Center Reopens at New Location

The Silver City Health Center reopened at a new location, 1428 S. 32nd St., Kansas City, Kan., with an open house March 31. From left are **Betsy Topper**, vice president of programs at the REACH Healthcare Foundation; **Vicki Mathis**, health center manager; and **Mary Virden, RN**, center director and clinical assistant professor at the University of Kansas School of Nursing. KU HealthPartners, Inc., operates the clinic for the under-served population in the Argentine district.

eXtracurricular

Please send news, classified ads and calendar items to centerexpress@kumc.edu or contact Marli Murphy at 8-0446. Items must be received by noon on the Monday prior to publication.

Thursday, April 5

BLOOD DRIVE: No appointment necessary, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Stoland Lounge. Visit bloodislife.org for medical eligibility information.

BARTHOLOME Lecture: Gail Agrawal, dean, KU School of Law, 4-5:30 p.m., Reike Auditorium. Call Glenda Gochenour, 8-7098, for information.

Friday, April 6

EDUCATOR'S BREAKFAST Series, "Speaking for Success," visit kumc.edu/som/facdev/educators.html, 7-9 a.m., 1025 Orr-Major.

NEUROLOGY/Neurosurgery Grand Rounds: "Treatment Options for Myasthenia Gravis: UnMuSKing a New Phenotype," Gil Wolfe, MD, 7-9 a.m., Lied Auditorium.

PEDIATRIC GRAND Rounds: "Child Advocacy in the 21st Century," Dan Levy, MD, 8-9 a.m., Wahl Hall West Auditorium.

COMPUTER/electronic equipment drop-off: KUMC and KUPI equipment only, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Hixon Atrium. For a computer disposal form, visit www2.kumc.edu/safety/computer_equipment_drop_off.html.

PSYCHIATRY Grand Rounds: "Diagnosis and Treatment of Pediatric Bipolar Disorder," Robert Kowatch, MD, PhD, Department of Psychiatry, University of Cincinnati, Ohio, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Sudler Auditorium.

LIFE IN THE USA Series: "Resumes and Job Interviews," Julia Shaw and Amber Cordell, designed for international students, noon-1 p.m., 1014 Orr Major. Light snacks provided.

SPRING LEADERSHIP Series: "Networking," Denise Upah, Six Degrees Solutions, noon-1 p.m., Reike Auditorium. Lunch provided for first 100 attendees. Contact Marty Gunion, 8-1312 or mgunion@kumc.edu, for information.

GOOD FRIDAY Service: 4:45 p.m., Spencer Chapel.

"LUCKY POT" Pot Luck Dinner: For international students and others, bring a dish to share, 5-8 p.m., 1005 Student Center.

Sunday, April 8

EASTER MASS, 10 a.m., Spencer Chapel.

EASTER SERVICE: Non-denominational, 11:30 a.m., Spencer Chapel.

Tuesday, April 10

GI GRAND Rounds: "Metabolic Liver Diseases," 5-6:30 p.m., B018 School of Nursing.

Wednesday, April 11

BROWN BAG Lunch Series: "Mind Over Mood," Myra Hyatt, for older adults, noon-1 p.m., 200 Landon Center on Aging.

INTERNAL MEDICINE Grand Rounds: "Review of the Past,

Present and Future Directions of Esophageal Adenocarcinoma," Suman Kambhampati, MD, clinical assistant professor, VA faculty, Division of Hematology/Oncology, 8-9 a.m., 3015 Sudler Auditorium.

Thursday, April 12

CANCER AND Developmental Biology Seminar: "Genetics of Neutropenia," Marshall Horwitz, MD, PhD, University of

Washington School of Medicine, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Lied Auditorium.

CAREGIVER Support Group: Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders, Phyllis Switzer, second Thursday of every month, 2-3:30 p.m., 145 Landon Center on Aging.

Workshop on Grant Funding Highlights SRF

An interactive workshop, "Strategies for Successful Grant Funding," is among highlights of the annual two-day Student Research Forum (SRF) Thursday and Friday, April 12-13.

The workshop will be from 9 a.m. to noon Friday in the Beller Conference Center, Kansas Life Sciences Innovation Center. Topics and speakers include:

- **Lauren Aaronson, RN, PhD**, professor, School of Nursing, "Demystifying the NIH: Opportunities for New Investigators"
- **Patricia Pohl, PhD**, associate professor, Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences, "Grant Sources and Support: Looking Beyond NIH"
- KUMC faculty panel, "Advice and Strategies"

To reserve lunch, send e-mail to srf@kumc.edu with WORKSHOP RSVP in the subject line.

The 2007 SRF will showcase research from a record-setting 130 KUMC students. Visit kumc.edu/student/GSC/SRF/srfhome.html for a schedule of events.

Historic Starvation Experiment Is Lecture Topic

"Fasting for Freedom and Science: Ancel Keys and the Minnesota Starvation Experiment, 1944-1945," is the topic of the Hixon Hour Lecture from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Thursday, April 12, in Clendening Auditorium.

The guest speaker is **Sarah Tracy, PhD**, associate professor of honors and the History of Medicine director, Medical Humanities Program, University of Oklahoma. A reception will follow in Clendening Foyer.

The Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine sponsors the event. Call **Glenda Gochenour**, 8-7098, for more information.

Diversity Event Focuses on Racism and Classism

"Racism or Classism, You Tell Me," a workshop in the Diversity 2007 series, will be noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 11, in B018 School of Nursing.

Charles Romero, KUMC Diversity coordinator, will discuss issues of socio-economic class privilege, discrimination and exclusion and how to build a learning environment that fosters respect and inclusion. For more information, contact Romero, 8-8011.

Occupational Therapy Doctorate Set

The KU School of Allied Health will offer an advanced practice clinical doctorate in occupational therapy (OTD) this fall.

The program will prepare graduates for careers in

academia, advanced practice or professional leadership and administration. The Department of Occupational Therapy Education will begin accepting applications this spring.

With 20 programs and more than 500 students, the School of Allied Health is among the largest schools of its kind in the U.S.

eXchange

Vehicles

2005 FORD Freestyle Limited, 4-door all-wheel drive, dark gray with black leather interior, all options, great condition, \$17,995 OBO. 816-419-965.

2002 SATURN SL2, 37K, automatic, fully loaded, rear spoiler, tinted windows, 4-door, \$9,200. 913-596-2676.

1987 MAZDA 323, rebuilt transmission, 5-speed, great gas mileage, runs but needs work, \$550 OBO. 913-908-9821.

1968 VW BEETLE, autoshift, good condition, \$2,000. 913-626-9688.

1997 CHEVY Venture van, 97K, navy blue. \$4,500. 913-381-6661.

For Sale

ENGAGEMENT RING, round brilliant cut, .71 CTW, near colorless stone, 14-carat yellow gold setting, retailed for \$5,525, asking \$2,500. Call 816-550-7485.

MATCHING SOFA, loveseat, chair, white/cream colored with pillows, very good condition, \$375; outdoor table, 4 chairs with cushions, \$100. 816-550-7485.

FISHING BOAT, 14' aluminum Duracraft with trailer, new paint, new transom, no motor, \$350. 913-321-2297.

Classified ads

Send or bring your ad, 30 words or less, to 2330 Shawnee Mission Pkwy., Suite E302, Westwood, KS 66205-2005, fax to 8-0241, or e-mail centerexpress@kumc.edu by noon Monday of the week it is to run. Ads run free of charge for employees, students and volunteers. All ads must include the advertiser's name and work extension (or student box number) for verification. Only home phone numbers – no pager numbers or work extensions – will be published. Please include area code. No ads for commercial services or pets for sale will be accepted. Ads will not be taken by telephone. Ads may be held a week if space is limited.

1940s ANTIQUE display case, 5' x 7' x 2', lighted, 8 shelves, 2 drawers in base, locks, great for collectables. 913-375-1848.

ELECTRIC DRYER, Frigidaire heavy duty, 6 months old, perfect condition, \$120. 913-381-6661.

HOME, 4462 Cambridge, near 45th and State Line, 1 1/2 story, 2-3 BR, 2 1/2 BA, upstairs vaulted BR w/skylights, walking distance from KUMC, \$135,000. 913-384-4461.

WEDDING DRESS, size 16, cream-colored satin, mocha strip across bodice, shoestring lace-up back, train attachment, cleaned and preserved, photos, \$600 OBO. 816-753-4641 or 816-606-2847.

Wanted

OAK FUTON frame for full-sized mattress. 913-677-0345.

eXtra: Find classifieds on the hospital intranet, intranet.kumc.edu, under "Quick Links."

Street Fair Planned for April 21

The KUMC Student Governing Council (SGC) is planning the 8th annual KUMC Street Fair for Saturday, April 21, and is seeking themed basket donations for the silent auction.

The parking lot at the corner of 39th Avenue and Rainbow Boulevard is the site for the free event, which includes entertainment, rides, food, health education and other activities. Proceeds from the silent auction, food sales and rides will benefit the Rosedale Freedom School.

"This is such a great opportunity for everyone to come out and enjoy the spring weather, especially families," said **Angela Link**, Street Fair chair. "It is always exciting for

us, as students, to organize such a fun event for the community where we can have fun and promote health education at the same time."

Themed Baskets

The SGC is looking for a few good baskets!

"In the past, themed baskets have come in all shapes and sizes, and the possibilities are limitless," said **Ryan Gove**, director of Student Resources, Wellness and Diversity. "Most of the money given to charity from the fair comes from the auction of the themed baskets."

A few examples:

- "Gee Wiz!" basket with a family four-pack to a Wizards' game, soccer ball, whistles, cups and pencils
- "Summer Fun" chip basket with picnic plates, utensils, salsa, chips, sunblock and disposable camera

- "Crayon Basket" art caddy with a sketch diary and artistic supplies

Departments, units, organizations or individuals can create baskets. To donate a basket, or for more information, contact Link, alink@kumc.edu, or Gove, rgove@kumc.edu.

Sign Up for Free Health E-newsletter

Be Well! Connection is a free monthly health newsletter that arrives by e-mail from The University of Kansas Hospital.

It contains:

- Current hospital programs and events
- Articles and timely tips about seasonal and other health topics
- Current and upcoming

wellness classes and schedules

- What's new at the hospital

Hospital and university employees can subscribe to the newsletter at kumed.com by clicking on Be Well! in the navigation bar.

CENTER eXpress

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