Program creates chest pain standards

Patients experiencing chest pain who are sent to the hospital will get to lifesaving care here more quickly and in better shape, thanks to the work of a multidisciplinary team put together by the Chest Pain Center.

After six months of development, the Chest Pain Center last week rolled out a new program designed to ensure patients get proper treatment before they arrive.

As the region’s leading cardiac care center, the hospital often receives heart attack patients from other medical facilities. This new program ensures all heart attack patients – no matter where they’re coming from – receive the medications and treatments that offer the best evidence-based results before they arrive.

Ceremony reflects Masons’ cancer center support

The Wahl facility is just weeks away from beginning its new life as home to cancer research. And new signage nearby honors one of the chief supporters of the miraculous work that’s on the way.

The Topeka-based Kansas Masonic Foundation through the years has raised $21.8 million for The University of Kansas Cancer Center’s research efforts. While that arm of the cancer center has been known as the Kansas Masonic Cancer Research Institute, the name now is on bold display on campus.

Kansas Masons – of which there are 25,000 – were honored during a ceremony last weekend when the sign was unveiled outside the Hixon Atrium.

The ceremony comes just as cancer center researchers prepare to open their first lab in the renovated Wahl facility. Staff led by Shrikant Anant, PhD, associate director of Cancer Prevention and Control, will move into the building’s fourth floor the first week in October.

By Thanksgiving, 14 researchers will be in the facility. A total of 37 researchers and their teams are expected to occupy Wahl and Hixon facilities when the $34 million project is completed in summer 2012.

With 170,000 square feet of renovated space, the Wahl and Hixon buildings are an important part of the cancer center’s quest for National Cancer Institute certification. To attract top researchers, NCI facilities need world-class research facilities and equipment.

Next Wellness Challenge: Take the stairs!

The hospital’s newest Wellness Challenge encourages employees to take at least one flight of stairs per workday. (And no, going down the steps doesn’t count.)

The month-long StairWell Challenge begins Friday, Oct. 1. Participants track their progress on a worksheet. Interested? Email StairWELL@KUMC.edu by Friday, Sept. 24, for information and a tracker worksheet.

The program is part of the hospital’s ongoing Wellness Challenge Option. Successful completion of three Wellness Challenges helps you qualify for $480 savings on 2011 hospital medical plan premiums.

This is the second-to-last Wellness Challenge before next year’s programs launch. Those will help employees qualify for savings on 2012 premiums.

Taking the stairs provides a workout that returns maximum value in minimum time, with low impact. And going up is much better for your knees than going down, according to an article in The New York Times.

“Stair climbing will give you a little more bang for your buck because of the vertical component,” Cedric Bryant, PhD, chief science officer for the American Council on Exercise, told the newspaper.

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Fall celebration marks 25-year partnership between KUMC Peds, children’s group

Children’s Miracle Network will celebrate its 25-year partnership with KUMC by hosting the Fall Fun Fest Saturday, Oct. 2, at Kirmayer Fitness Center.

Children’s Miracle Network will bring sponsors, children and staff together for free food, games, activities and crafts. The event, slated to be held every year, will be 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Children’s Miracle Network was established in Kansas City in 1985 when KUMC began serving as a hospital for the group. Over that quarter century, Children’s Miracle Network has raised more than $8 million for KUMC Pediatrics.

Children’s Miracle Network fundraising efforts expanded to include Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics in 1996.

“The important thing for people to know is that all of these funds stay within the community to benefit pediatric patients from the Kansas City metro,” said Erin Manning, Children’s Miracle Network development manager.

Information: 8-9100 or cmnkc.org/events.

Register by Oct. 9 for nursing symposium

The hospital’s Center for Advanced Heart Care will host the second annual Cardiac Nursing Symposium Oct. 16 in the KU School of Nursing.

Called “Straight from the Heart,” the day-long free program is designed to provide nurses up-to-date information on cardiology and cardiothoracic treatment modalities.

Up to 6.75 contact hours toward RN/LPN re-licensure are available. Register at education@kumc.edu by Oct. 9. Information: Education and Development, 8-5426.

Jayhawk QB to sign books Friday

Former KU quarterback Todd Reesing will be at the KUMC Bookstore 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24, to sign copies of his book, “Rising to New Heights: Inside the Jayhawks Huddle.”

The book, co-authored by a former Kansas City Star sportswriter, “serves as a chronicle of one of the greatest eras in Kansas football and the controversial conclusion to coach Mark Mangino’s tenure last season,” writes one reviewer.

Open for business

The hospital’s new Burns & McDonnell High-Risk Prostate Cancer Prevention Program opened Sept. 17 at the Westwood Campus. Jeffrey Holzheimer, MD, (middle, bow tie), directs the program.

Other staff (from left) include Rhonda Pardew, RN; Katie Murray, DO; Ebony Lane; Frances Elliott; Kevin Birusingh, MD; Melissa Swindler; Corrina Green; and Deb Kueker, RN.

During its first morning, the clinic provided free prostate screenings for about 60 men. Volunteer Bill Whitaker welcomed guests and showed them around the clinic.

Expressions of Interest

CHANCELLOR’S CLUB Teaching Professorship Deadline: 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 1. Nominations are due in the Office of Academic Affairs, 5015 Wescoe, Mail Stop 1040. Information: Academic Affairs, 8-1258.

NURSE LEADER ADVANCEMENT Program Application Deadline: Friday, Oct. 1. Submit letters of intent to managers by the last week of September. Managers must sign and submit those letters to Mary Bianchi, RN, by Oct. 1.

Volunteers needed for Drive-Thru Flu Shot Event Oct. 30

Fall is here, and that means the hospital is planning its 16th annual Drive-Thru Flu Shot Event, which is Oct. 30 this year. Approximately 100 KU School of Nursing juniors and 250 hospital volunteers are needed; only staff are being recruited at this time.

Choose 6:30-10:30 a.m. or 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Clinical volunteers contact Angie Smith, 8-2836 or asmith3@kumc.edu. Non-clinical volunteers contact Ally Moore, 5-5248 or amoo6@kumc.edu. Be ready to provide your jacket size.
Thursday, September 23
PREVENTIVE MEDICINE and Public Health Seminar: “Chronic Hepatitis B and Hepatocellular Carcinoma,” Tom Chin, MD, MPH, noon-1 p.m., 1050 School of Nursing.

Friday, September 24
NEUROLOGY/NEUROSURGERY Grand Rounds: “Neurocysticercosis,” Terrence Riley, MD, 8-9 a.m., Lied Auditorium.

PEDIATRIC GRAND Rounds: “What Makes the Gray Zone Gray?” John Lantos, MD, 8-9 a.m., Wahl Hall West Auditorium.

5TH ANNUAL NURSING Science Symposium: “Evidence-Based Practice: Cultural Diversity and Vulnerable Populations,” Martha Baird, PhD, RN, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., G013 School of Nursing, Lunch for first 100 attendees. CEUs available. Register: education@kumc.edu. Information: Sindy English, RN, 8-1822, or Lynn Marzinski, RN, 8-0130.

Saturday, September 25
7TH STREET CASINO Stride For Life 5K: 8 a.m., 777 N. 7th St. Tfwy., KCK. Walk/run benefits KUMC’s Cardiovascular Research Institute and The University of Kansas Cancer Center. Registration (before Sept. 24) for teams of four is $70/team; individual registration is $20/person. Information and entry forms: Becky Schieber, 8-5961, or bschieber@kuendowment.org.

Monday, September 27
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING Culture of Excellence Webinar: “Getting Started with Evidence-Based Practice and Research,” 2:30-4 p.m., 1027 Orr Major. Register in LMS. Information: Marci Walker, 8-1063.

Tuesday, September 28

RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES on Aging, Health and Dementia: Panel Discussion: “Ethics and Informed Consent in Older Populations,” Karen Blackwell; Jo Denton, RN; and Noreen Thompson, RN; 4-5 p.m., 200 Landon Center on Aging. Register: coa.kumc.edu/cpgec and select “upcoming programs.”

Wednesday, September 29
INTERNAL MEDICINE Grand Rounds: “Prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death: Are We Doing a Good Job?” Martin Emer, MD, FACCC, 8-9 a.m., 3015 Sudler Auditorium.


KUMC DIVERSITY Initiative and LGBT Presentation: “LGBT: What Does Awareness Have to do with Me?” Ryan Gove and Larry Long, noon-1 p.m., 4016 Varnes, School of Nursing. Register: https://www2.kumc.edu/HRLD.

Thursday, September 30
CENTRAL PLAINS Geriatric Education Center Program: “Dementia: Diagnosis, Management and Emerging Trends in Research,” Jeff Burns, MD, and Russell Swedlow, MD, 3-6 p.m., 200 Landon Center on Aging. Registration is $30. Register: coa.kumc.edu/cpgec and select “upcoming programs.”

Friday, October 1
UNIVERSITY COMPUTER Equipment Drop-Off: 8:30-10:30 a.m., Hixson Atrium. Dispose of university-owned computers and computer-related equipment. Information: 8-1081 or www2.kumc.edu/safety.

Send calendar items to centerexpress@kumc.edu. Items must be received by noon on the Monday prior to publication.

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TJC BE EVER READY TIPS... for Patient Rights

In preparation for The Joint Commission visit later this year, we’ll run tips every week.

- Maintain confidentiality – safeguard patient information.
- Ensure patients have advance directives, if wanted. Document wishes during life-threatening conditions.
- Before procedures/surgery, physicians obtain patient consent; nurse may witness signature.
- For persons suspected of abuse, assess and refer to Social Work and Bridge Advocate.
- Provide population-specific care to meet needs (including age, psychosocial concerns, disability, culture, religion, sexual orientation).

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Student group looking for care kit materials

KUMC’s Master of Public Health Student Organization (MPHSO) is collecting materials for care kits, which will be donated to the Celebrating Healthy Families Community Health Fair at Heart to Heart International’s global distribution center.

The donation drive continues through Oct. 7. You can donate items at big blue boxes around campus. For details on what the group needs: mphso.blogspot.com, or email kumphso@gmail.com.

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Smokers have a chance to ‘Commit to Quit’

The hospital will offer a range of smoking-cessation classes in early October, giving smokers who want to kick the habit plenty of support.

Provided by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City, “Commit to Quit” will feature four programs – a six-week class at the Westwood Campus, a six-week class at the hospital and two webinars. There’s also a telephone coaching line.

The classes are free to any employee and their spouse enrolled in the hospital’s BCBS plan. Free nicotine-replacement products also are available for those members.

The program is part of the hospital’s A Healthier You wellness initiative. Details are on 24/7.

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Scrub sale Oct. 1 to benefit nurses group

A scrub sale 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1, in Stoland Lounge will benefit a local student nurses organization. During the sale, all regular-priced scrubs from the KUMC Bookstore will be discounted 20 percent. Clearance scrubs and clothing will be marked up to 50 percent off.

During the sale, you can also enter your name in a drawing for a free set of scrubs. (The winner doesn’t have to be present.)

A percentage of the profits will benefit the Association of Undergraduate Students in Nursing, particularly the group’s Senior Celebration dinner and dance in April.

Information: Susie Haydu, KUMC Bookstore, 8-2494.
Chest Pain, continued from page 1

“The program’s list of treatment options creates standards of care depending on the severity of the situation,” said Kelly Hewins, RN, Chest Pain Center coordinator. “Now, when another hospital is sending a heart attack patient our way, communication between the referring physician and our cardiologist will be collaborative, utilizing the same language and treatment plan.”

The guidelines established by the program will be used by outside practitioners sending patients here for evaluation and possible percutaneous coronary interventions (PCIs), like angioplasty. Additionally, they will be used by emergency medical services (EMS) teams and our Emergency Department staff.

The new program also includes guidelines that direct EMS paramedics to alert the hospital as soon as they know a patient is having a heart attack so the heart hospital can assemble the cath lab team.

Giving the EMS crews the ability to “activate” the cath lab will save critical minutes when every minute counts. In fact, Hewins estimates the new program will get patients into the cath lab 10 to 30 minutes faster than they would have before.

“As far as working with EMS goes, they are absolutely with us on this,” Hewins said. “They’re a vital part of the whole team working to save these patients.”