Hospital Unit Will Care for Short-Stay Patients

The University of Kansas Hospital is taking steps to better serve its patient population. On Nov. 7, the hospital will open Unit 44B, an eight-bed unit that will specialize in providing short-term patient care.

Registered nurses, health care assistants and unit secretaries will staff the unit, which will provide continuous care, opening at 7 a.m. each Monday and closing by 7 p.m. each Saturday. All rooms will be private.

Patients will be eligible for admission to the unit if they need extended recovery or observation. Typically, Unit 44B patients will have undergone a variety of surgical, diagnostic and/or radiological procedures and will require no more than one overnight stay.

“Our short-stay patients have a unique set of needs, and this unit gives us the ability to focus specifically on those needs,” said Cyndy Steen, RN, nurse manager.

“Patients on 44B will not require critical monitoring but will receive quality care and careful observation.”

The unit’s eight beds will also help the hospital improve patient flow, or the movement of patients from procedural or emergency areas to inpatient beds.

“This unit gives the hospital a multidisciplinary, efficient environment for providing outstanding care to our short-stay patients,” said Chris Ruder, RN, senior nursing director, Acute Care and Organ Transplant. “By offering these patients a designated place to rest, recover and receive quality care, we are using hospital space more efficiently, while also facilitating a timely and complete discharge from the hospital.”

Professor Receives Honor

Dale Abrahamson, PhD, an internationally recognized researcher in kidney development and chair of the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology at KU Medical Center, is the recipient of the 2005 Chancellors Club Research Award.

The Chancellors Club, established in 1977 by the KU Endowment Association, is KU’s major donor organization. The $5,000 annual award honors a KU Medical Center researcher whose work has led to significant scientific discoveries. Candidates for the award are nominated by colleagues, students and alumni.

Abrahamson has devoted his research to studying normal and abnormal kidney development patterns, with the hope of one day providing insight into how to treat kidney disease.

His initial research on the makeup of the kidney’s glomerular basement membrane, which filters blood and metabolic products, raised his curiosity about how blood vessels were formed in the kidney, prompting his second area of research.

“There’s been a lot of excitement in cancer biology during the last 10 years on blood vessel development,” he said. “If we can stop blood vessels from growing into cancerous tumors, we can halt the growth of tumors.”

Abrahamson’s research continued on page 2, column 1
into this unexplored area has led to a major paradigm shift in the scientific community. “We discovered that the kidney has the ability to make its own blood vessels and does so during the embryonic stage,” he said.

To follow up on this finding, Abrahamson now is studying the signals that govern kidney vascular development. His research team is looking at what pathways the developing vessels follow in the filtration barriers.

Abrahamson has been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) since 1980 and is a principal investigator for NIH research. He joined the KUMC faculty in 1998 and is the associate director of the Kidney Institute.

eXtra: For more information, visit www.kumc.edu.
eXtracurricular

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

Thursday, Nov. 3

“STRATEGIES FOR Conducting Successful Clinical Oncology Trials,” Barbara Geiger, RN, Roy Jensen, MD, Ronald Kerchner, PhD, Carolyn Ruglofski, Nelia Smith, MD, Nov. 3–5, Dykes Library. This course will examine the clinical trials process and the unique considerations of conducting cancer research today. To register, call 877-404-5823 or visit www.kcuke.org/kumc/scuccot.

RESEARCH SEMINAR Series in Cancer and Developmental Biology: “Organization of Gene Regulatory Machinery in Biological Control and Cancer,” Gary Stein, PhD, 8:30-9:30 a.m., School of Nursing B018.

CENTRAL PLAINS Geriatric Education Center Series: “Overview of Depression in the Older Adult: Treatment of Late-life Depression, Failure to Thrive, and Impact of Social and Community Issues on Older Adults,” Sally Rigler, MD, Lynne Kallenbach, MD, Linda Wright, RN, 12:30-4:30 p.m., Orr-Major 2008. To enroll, fax your registration to 8-3179 or call 8-1464.

HISTORY OF Medicine Don Carlos Guffey Lecture: “Sir William Osler: The Textbook, the Man and American Medicine in 2005,” John Carson, MD, 4:30 p.m. reception, 5 p.m. lecture, Clendening Auditorium.

Friday, Nov. 4

NEUROLOGY/NEUROSURGERY Grand Rounds: “The Role of Retinal Dystrophy in the Retina and Use as a Transgene in Dystrophin/Utrophin Deficient Mice,” Kathleen Fitzgerald-Gustafson, PhD, 7-9:15 a.m., Lied Auditorium.

PEDiATRIC GRAND Rounds: “Neutropenia Diagnosis and Management,” Debra Smith, MD, 8-9 a.m., Wahl West Auditorium.

PSYCHiATRY GRAND Rounds: “Update of Alcohol Abuse and Dependence and Current Treatment Options,” Todd Hill, DO, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Sudler Auditorium.

10TH KANSAS Nursing Research Exchange: “Research and Advancing Technology,” keynote speaker Leslie Nicoll, RN, PhD, BA, BC, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Doubletree Hotel, Corporate Woods, Overland Park, Kan. Open to nurse researchers, faculty, advanced practice nurses and nursing graduate students. To register, call 877-404-5823 or visit www.kcuke.org/kumc/knre.

Soul Food Sampler: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Stoland Lounge. Buy a plate of food and a dessert for $5. Proceeds benefit the KUMC chapter of the Student National Medical Association.

Landon center Research Seminar: “biomechanics of the Low Back,” Sara Wilson, PhD, noon-1 p.m., School of Nursing 1050. Lunch provided for first 30 attendees.

BIOSTATISTICS SEMINAR: “Gene Expression Data Analysis in Cancer,” Chindo Hicks, PhD, noon-1 p.m., Orr-Major 1015.

Saturday, Nov. 5

MEDICAL ARTS Symphony Concert: 8-10 p.m., Battenfeld Auditorium. Admission is free.

Monday, Nov. 7


Tuesday, Nov. 8

SURGERY GRAND Rounds: “Penetrating Arterial Trauma of the Lower Extremity,” Avinash Ganti, MD, 7-8 a.m., Clendening Auditorium.

STUDENT WELLNESS Informational Table: “Be Kind to Your Mind, Body and Soul.” 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Stoland Lounge. Table celebrates “World Kindness Week.” Also Wednesday, Nov. 9.

PHARMACOLOGY/TOXICOLOGY/Therapeutics Seminar: “Investigation of the Role of Prostaglandins and the EP Receptors in Apigenin-Induced Apoptosis, Adrian Abuysousi, graduate student, 4 p.m., Breidenthal G030.

Wednesday, Nov. 9

SIGMA XI Seminar Series: “Thyroid Cancer and the RET Proto-oncogene,” R. Neil Schimke, MD, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., School of Nursing G013.


Landon center on Aging Brown Bag Series: “The Vial of Life,” Bryan Flynn, Southview Homecare, noon-1 p.m., Landon Center, Room 200. RSVP to Matt Chandler at 8-3094.

STUDENT WELLNESS Program: “Student Financial Aid: How Full Is Your Bucket?” Laura Schultz, Wells Fargo, noon-1 p.m., School of Nursing B018. Lunch provided for first 30 students.

Writing Workshop: “Effective Professional Writing: Crafting Clear Sentences,” Martha Montello, PhD, noon-1 p.m., Clendening Auditorium. RSVP to jmittleman@kumc.edu.

KUMC international Lunch: Noon-1 p.m., Hixon atrium. Ethnic food from local restaurants and KUMC staff and students. Cost is $5. All proceeds benefit KUMC International Outreach’s “Women of China” Project, which provides full scholarships to middle and high school girls in China.

Thursday, Nov. 10

HUMAN RESEARCH Protection Program Training: Karen Blackwell and Dan Voss, 8-9 a.m., Clendening Auditorium. Training shares information regarding new forms required for submissions to the Human Subjects Committee, beginning January 2006. Attendees will receive credit for Human Subjects refresher training for 2006. Also offered 3:30-4:30 p.m. Nov 14 and 4-5 p.m. Nov. 15 in Clendening Auditorium.

Alzheimer’s Disease/Memory Disorders Caregiver Support Group: Phyllis Switzer, 2-3:30 p.m., Landon Center, Room 145.

Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Fall Business Meeting and Program: Kathleen Brewer, PhD, ARNP, BC, 5 p.m. social, 5:30 p.m. business meeting, 6 p.m. program, School of Nursing B018. Reservations requested. RSVP at 8-1647 or switaker@kumc.edu.

Friday, Nov. 11

Neurology/Neurosurgery Grand Rounds: “Multi-Modal Approaches in Malignant Glioma Treatment,” Susan Pannullo, MD, 7-9:15 a.m., Lied Auditorium.


Psychiatry Grand Rounds: “Management of SSRI-Induced Sexual Dysfunction,” John J. Miller, MD, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Suder Auditorium.

Tuesday, Nov. 15


Student Wellness Program: “Art of Dialogue: Assessing Our Personal Values, Pro-Choice and Pro-Life,” Kimberly Vandegeest-Wallace, PhD, SCES, noon-1 p.m., School of Nursing 4016. Lunch provided for first 30 students.

Wednesday, Nov. 16

Public Health Seminar: “Chronic Disease Prevention and Control,” Christine Traino, PhD, noon-1 p.m., Orr-Major 1025.

Student Wellness Program: “Student Financial Aid: Buying a Home,” Dave Hosek, US Bank, noon-1 p.m.; School of Nursing G013. Lunch provided for first 30 students.

Thursday, Nov. 17


Student Governing Council Meeting: Representing the KUMC Student Voice, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Student Center 1005. Open to all currently enrolled KUMC students. Dinner served at 5 p.m.
Automotive

2002 OLDSMOBILE Alero Coupe CTS, V6, leather interior, power everything, loaded, photos available, $7,500. 913-626-2580.


For Sale

2 CHIEFS TICKETS, Jan. 1 Cincinnati Bengals game, section 330, row 29, paid $118. 913-636-0552.

2 CHIEFS TICKETS, Dec. 24 San Diego Chargers game and Jan. 1 Cincinnati Bengals game, section 127, row 32, $46 each. 913-541-3461 or 913-322-3985.

FOR SALE: 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Nov. 12, 5799 Broadmoor, Suite 200, Mission, Kan., 3 desks, 4 microwaves, 3 refrigerators, 96 assorted file cabinets (all shapes/sizes), VCR, slide projectors, bookcases, credenzas, tables, chairs, artwork, trash cans, mail slots, toaster and more.

DINING ROOM set, table, 6 chairs, china cabinet, $200. 913-268-4602.

HOUSE, 2 BR, 1 BA, breakfast nook, great location, 10-minute walk/2-minute drive from KUMC, new energy efficient windows, new electric work/roof/front porch, hardwood floors, 1-car garage, fenced backyard, great neighborhood, $83,000. 913-526-8927.

ALL-WOOD DECORATIVE buffet, 3 shelves, 2 side doors with 4 shelves, 2 years old, paid $1,600, asking $400. 816-471-3316 after 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

iBOOK G4, 7 months old, includes Microsoft Office ’05, iTunes, iPhoto, world encyclopedia and more, paid $1,400, asking $1,000. 913-636-6712.


KITCHEN STOVES: Magic Chef gas, stainless steel; Whirlpool electric, coil top, white; $50 each, delivery and installation extra. 913-721-2153.

GRACO infant car seat, less than 2 years old, seldom used; Evenflo high chair less than 1 year old, both in excellent condition, $35 each. 913-384-0904.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS: toddler bed plus mattress, white, excellent condition, $25; Amljurs law books, not complete set, paid $75, asking $20; 2 end tables, 1 square/1 octagonal, both with doors, $5 each. 816-214-8788 or 816-200-3166.

HOUSE in Overland Park, 4 BR, 3½ BA, 3-car garage, cul-de-sac lot, 4 years old, Pottery Barn décor, many custom upgrades, fantastic new neighborhood, Olathe School District, amenities galore, seller downsizing, priced thousands below reproduction cost. 913-851-9803.

4304 FISHER, 3 BR, 1½ BA, finished attic, new electrical work/plumbing/heat/air and more, refrigerator, stove, washer/dryer, dishwasher, $134,500. 913-722-3141.

4305 FISHER, 2 BR, 1 BA, updated electrical work/plumbing/roof/heat/air and more, refrigerator, stove, washer/dryer, buy for $92,500, lease for $750/month. 913-722-3141.

DOG TRAILER, 6 compartments, fiberglass, excellent condition, $1,000. 913-397-6123.

Wanted

PLACE TO RENT, single male, prefer Kansas side, have small mostly outside dog, will pay up to $275/month plus utilities. 816-519-9815.

USED/REFURBISHED T-mobile cell phone, prefer regular phone to flip phone but will take either, will pay up to $25/month. 816-419-8263.

Carpool

FROM LAWRENCE to KUMC through mid-January, leave Lawrence at 6:30 a.m, arrive KUMC at 4 p.m. 785-749-5315.

Number Helps Stroke Response

In September, the Acute Stroke Response Team activation number changed to 8-5656 for all areas in the hospital. This number replaces the old Stroke Response/Consult pager number. When the new number is called, the switchboard will activate the Stroke Team.

All calls from physicians, nurses and ancillary care providers to report patient symptoms of an acute stroke should go to this number. The Rapid Response Team may also be deployed as needed at the caller’s request.

Symptoms of an acute stroke include:

• Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body
• Sudden confusion or trouble speaking or understanding
• Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
• Sudden, severe headache with no known cause
• Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or loss of coordination

This new system allows activation/notification of a larger team through the switchboard operator and supports the hospital’s quest for Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) certification as a Primary Stroke Center.

For more information, contact Jennifer Kietyka at 917-3321 or Stacy Smith 917-8454. Stroke education is also available for staff members.

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Send story ideas to Laura Coffey, 2330 Shawnee Mission Pkwy., Suite E302, Westwood, KS 66205, e-mail lcoffey@kumc.edu or call 8-0446.

Where to send 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 Thursday of the week before 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.