The University of Kansas Hospital’s Patient Satisfaction Ranking:*  

98th percentile among U.S. teaching hospitals  
90th percentile among all U.S. hospitals  

Hospital’s ranking in 1998: 5th percentile  

* Year-to-date figures, Press Ganey survey data.

The University of Kansas Hospital’s Mortality Rate:*  

16% below expected for its patient population  

* Hospital Standardized Mortality Rate, Institute for Healthcare Improvement, figures just released for 2006.

The University of Kansas Hospital achieved record-breaking patient satisfaction levels – reaching the 90th percentile among all hospitals surveyed for the first time in its 102-year history. In addition, the patient mortality rate has significantly improved in just five years.

KU’s 136th Graduation Is May 18  

Students from the University of Kansas Medical Center campus will be among more than 4,000 expected to participate in the University of Kansas’ 136th Commencement Sunday, May 18, in Lawrence, Kan.  

The ceremony will follow the traditional procession of faculty, graduates and dignitaries along Memorial Drive, down Mount Oread and into Memorial Stadium. No tickets are required.  

Graduation-related events for KUMC campus students include:  

Thursday, May 15  

Dinner  
• 6 to 9 p.m., School of Medicine, Hyatt Regency Crown Center, 2345 McGee, Kansas City, Mo.

Saturday, May 17  

Recognition ceremonies  
• 9 a.m., School of Allied Health  
• 11 a.m., School of Nursing  
Johnson County Community College gymnasium, 12345 College Blvd., Overland Park, Kan.

Luncheons for graduates, families and friends  
• 10:30 a.m. to noon, School of Allied Health, Health Policy and Management, Master of Public Health and Graduate Studies  
• 12:30 to 2 p.m., School of Nursing  
“Under the Tent,” KU Edwards Campus, 12600 Quivira Road, Overland Park, Kan.

Hooding ceremonies  
• 1 p.m., (joint ceremony) Master of Health Services Administration, Master of Public Health and Master of Public Health and Master
Promotions and Tenures Announced

Faculty from the Kansas City, Kan., campus of the University of Kansas Medical Center were honored at the annual Promoted & Tenured Faculty Dinner May 7.

Promotions

To professor (previously tenured):
- Richard Dubinsky, MD, Neurology
- Mark Fisher, PhD, Biochemistry
- Michael Fox, ScD, Health Policy & Management
- Leslie Heckert, PhD, Molecular & Integrative Physiology
- Daniel Swagerty, Jr., MD, Family Medicine
- Joseph Tash, PhD, Molecular & Integrative Physiology

To associate professor with tenure:
- Jeffrey Burns, MD, Neurology
- Byron Gajewski, PhD, Hearing & Speech
- Alexey Ladokhin, PhD, Biochemistry

Tenure

Professor hired with immediate tenure:
- Russell Swerdlow, MD, Neurology

Awarded at current rank of associate professor:
- Wanda Bonnel, PhD, School of Nursing

Promotions (non-tenure tracks)

To professor, Clinical Scholar Track:
- Gary Gronseth, MD, Neurology
- Belinda Vail, MD, Family Medicine

To associate professor, Clinical Scholar Track:
- Siddhartha Ganguly, MD, Internal Medicine
- Lisa Gilmer, MD, Pediatrics
- Stephen Lauer, MD, PhD, Pediatrics

To clinical professor, Clinical Track:
- Jeanne Drisko, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology, full time
- James Vacek, MD, Internal Medicine, volunteer

To clinical associate professor, Clinical Track:
- Larry Ridings, MD, Neurology, full time
- Sallie Page-Goertz, MN, Pediatrics, part time

To research associate professor, Research Track:
- Irena Sarosiek, MD, Internal Medicine, full time
- Snigdha Banerjee, PhD, Internal Medicine, part time

To professor, Affiliate Track, Stowers Institute:
- Olivier Pourquie, PhD, Anatomy & Cell Biology, volunteer

To professor, VA Affiliate:
- Peter VanVeldhuizen, MD, Internal Medicine, part time

To associate professor, VA Affiliate:
- Joaquina Baranda, MD, Internal Medicine, part time
- Suman Kambhampati, MD, Internal Medicine, volunteer
- Sharad Mathur, MD, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, volunteer

Nursing Awards Honor Excellence

Recipients of the 2008 Nursing Excellence Awards at The University of Kansas Hospital include (front row, from left) Abbie Cooper, RN, Pre-Anesthesia Testing/Infusion Clinic; Ashley Dinkel, RN, Medical Intensive Care (MICU); and Lynn Marzinski, RN, Brandmeyer Patient Resource Center; (back row) Lucia Moreno, RN, Trauma/General Surgery; Greg Crawford, RN, Medical Transplant Intensive Care; and Wilma Guilbeau, RN, Emergency Department. Not shown are Carrie Buckley, RN, MICU; and Mark Puno, RN, ED. Tammy Peterman, RN, MS, executive vice president, chief operating officer and chief nursing officer, named honorees at an announcement ceremony during National Nurses Week.
Thursday, May 15
LUNG CANCER SUPPORT GROUP: 5:30-6:30 p.m., Brandmeyer Patient Resource Center, Westwood Campus.

Friday, May 16
HOSPITAL WEEK ACTIVITIES: Candy cart; managers distribute employee gifts.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY TUMOR CONFERENCE: 7:30-8:30 a.m., 3015 Sudler Auditorium.

NEUROLOGY/NEUROSURGERY Grand Rounds: “What Can We Learn About Survival from the NIS? Analysis of Survival from Admission for Stroke, SAH and Cardiac Arrest,” Richard Dubinsky, MD, 7-9 a.m., Lied Auditorium.

PEDIATRIC GRAND ROUNDS: “Hemoglobinopathies and Thalassemia,” Debra Smith, MD, 8-9 a.m., Wahl Hall West Auditorium.


SPRING SYMPOSIUM of the KUMC Biomedical Research Training Program: 8-11:30 a.m., Beller Conference Center, Kansas Life Sciences Innovation Center.

Sunday, May 18
KC BRIGADE Football Clinic: For hospital employees’ children ages 7-15, 8-9:30 a.m., Sprint Center. Enroll: 8-1227.

136th KU COMMENCEMENT: Procession from Memorial Drive into Memorial Stadium, 2:30 p.m., Lawrence campus.

Monday, May 19
MOLECULAR AND INTEGRATIVE Physiology Seminar: “Living and Dying for Sex and the Ovarian Fountain of Youth,” Craig Atwood, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 3:30-4:30 p.m., 1001-1003 Beller, Kansas Life Science Innovation Center.

Wednesday, May 21
INTERNAL MEDICINE GRAND ROUNDS: “Update in Parenteral Nutrition: Lessons Learned Over the Past 30 Years,” Gary Zaloga, MD, Baxter Healthcare, Deerfield, Ill., 8-9 a.m., 3015 Sudler.

KUMC CREDIT UNION Annual Meeting/Election of Officers and Picnic: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Murphy Courtyard. Vote by end of day May 16 to receive a ticket to attend. Information: 913-962-8144.

LIFE SCIENCES RESEARCH Seminar: “Src Inhibitors in Gastrointestinal Tumor Cells: Lessons from the Bench, the Mouse, and the Bedside,” Gary Gallick, PhD, UT and MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, noon-1 p.m., Room 700, Kansas City VA Medical Center, 4801 Linwood Blvd. Lunch provided. The University of Kansas Medical Center Hematology and Oncology is among sponsors.

Thursday, May 22
DR. FREDERICK E. SAMSON JR. Memorial Lectureship: “Protecting the Brain Against Oxidative Stress Through Hormesis,” Mark Mattson, PhD, National Institute on Aging, noon-1 p.m., 1007-1009 Beller, Kansas Life Science Innovation Center.

Friday, May 23
NEUROLOGY/NEUROSURGERY Grand Rounds: “Pre-Surgical Evaluation of Inpatients with Intractable Partial Epilepsy,” Jayant Acharya, MD, DM, 7-9 a.m., Lied Auditorium.

PEDIATRIC GRAND ROUNDS: “Environmental Issues,” Kathryn Veal, MD, 8-9 a.m., Wahl Hall West Auditorium.

PSYCHIATRY GRAND ROUNDS: “Evolution of Compulsive Therapies,” David Wichman, MD, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Sudler Auditorium.

MENTOR-MENTEE NETWORKING Lunch: KU School of Medicine faculty, noon-1 p.m., 4016 Varnes. Register: www2.kumc.edu/PDFAt raining.


O2 Discharge Training Scheduled
Training classes are underway for an improved, streamlined discharge process in O2, the new electronic medical record system. Sessions continue through Friday, May 30.

A two-hour training session is mandatory for residents and staff physicians who conduct discharges. Training must be completed before the rollout at the end of May.

Sessions will include:
• New discharge process and discharge instructions report
• How to maintain lists
• How to get status
• Synopsis
• Microbiology and other useful notes and reports

Contact Rachel Jones, 8-1022, rjones@kumc.edu, for class times, dates and locations. Or access the training schedule (and recent O2 updates) at the Physician O2 site on 24/7, the hospital’s intranet.

Donate Blood on Westwood Campus
The Community Blood Center will host a blood drive at The University of Kansas Hospital’s Westwood Campus Friday, May 23.

The event, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., will be in the Multipurpose Room in the Administrative Center. Registered donors will receive Memorial Day T-shirts. Register at esavethelinenow.org with sponsor code kumedwestwood.

Walk-ins also are welcome.

For more information, contact Lisa Ward, 8-4416, lward2@kumc.edu.

Heart Walk Bank Day Is May 28
Attention, 2008 Kansas City Heart Walk campus participants! Mark your calendars for Bank Day, Wednesday, May 28. Team captains will turn in donations and pick up team T-shirts and walker information. The walk is Saturday, May 31.

Bank Day will be 10 to 11 a.m., Conference Room G, Westwood Campus, and 2 to 4 p.m., Wyandotte Room, hospital. Bring a list of team members’ sizes. After Bank Day, pick up T-shirts in Suite 303, Westwood Campus, or at the hospital’s tent from 7 to 7:45 a.m. walk day.

The walk begins at 8 a.m. in Theis Park, east of the Country Club Plaza. Hospital staff may register to walk on 24/7, the hospital’s intranet, by clicking on the Heart Walk logo. The University of Kansas Medical Center staff may register at kumc.edu. Click on KU Cares, 8 in 08. For more information, contact Amy Metcalf, hospital Marketing, 5-5240, or Paula Baum, KUMC Community Affairs, 8-1017.
New CFO Named to Medical School

Kimberly Meyer, a former director at H&R Block, is the new senior associate dean for finance at the KU School of Medicine.

The position opened when Jim Albertson became the chief executive officer of Kansas University Physicians, Inc. (KUPI).

At H&R Block, Meyer helped design and launch a start-up tax and financial services company with 21 offices. She also was an associate professor of mathematics at Chicago State University and earned her doctorate in mathematics from the University of Illinois-Chicago.

“This position combines all of the things I sought in a career — an opportunity to utilize my love of science and math while working in an academic environment,” said Meyer. “And after reading the Medical Center’s 10-year research strategy document — amid Kansas City’s strong life sciences research efforts — I knew that KU Medical Center is where I wanted to be.”

One of her first goals is to reinforce the best-of-business financial practices in developing the School of Medicine’s financial strategy.

Accreditation Continues for Midwifery

The American College of Nurse-Midwives recently granted continuing accreditation to the Nurse Midwifery Education Program at the KU School of Nursing until June 2017.

The nursing school established the program in 1999 to prepare master’s level certified nurse-midwives to provide pregnancy and well-woman care. To date, 35 students have completed education and training in the graduate midwifery track.