



TEXAS A&M RANGEL COLLEGE OF PHARMACY REPORT TO THE TEXAS PHARMACY CONGRESS: MAY 9-10, 2018

COLLEGE NEWS

Rho Chi & Phi Lambda Sigma Induct New Members

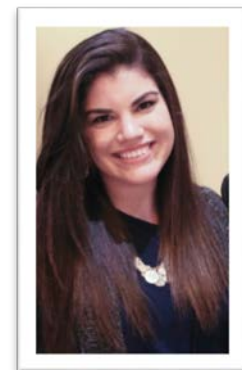
The Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy held a joint induction ceremony banquet of the **Rho Chi Society** Gamma Omega Chapter and the **Phi Lambda Sigma** Gamma Mu Chapter on **April 13, 2018**, at the King Ranch Museum Henrietta Memorial Center in Kingsville, Texas.

The Rho Chi Society inducted 21 new members while Phi Lambda Sigma inducted 14 new members. **Ms. Debbie Garza, CEO of Texas Pharmacy Association**, served as the guest of honor at the ceremony. She also delivered the Rho Chi keynote lecture, "Leadership in the Pharmacy Profession," to the student body earlier that day.



TSHP Annual Seminar

Thirty-six students attended the **Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists (TSHP)** Annual Seminar in The Woodlands during April 6-8, and actively participated in the annual poster and clinical skills competition and other activities. **Dean Reddy** hosted a college reception on Friday, April 6, and shared the updates and highlights of the college to preceptors, alumni, and friends.



Ms. Sarah Bermudez (P2) placed **first** among all students in the TSHP Clinical Skills Competition during the 2018 Annual Seminar at The Woodlands. Sarah will go on to compete at the ASHP Annual Meeting later this year (photo at right).

Fifth Annual Ties & Tennis Shoes Memorial Run/Walk



More than 200 community members, faculty, staff and students gathered for the fifth annual **Ties & Tennis Shoes 5K/10K Memorial Run/Walk** at the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy on **February 23**. Students raised more than \$27,000 through the event for the Dr. James Robertson Jr. Memorial Scholarship fund. Three students, Shireen Ali (P4), Kevin Chan (P2), and Christine Hong (P4) (photos below) received scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. Two new awards, each in the amount \$2,500, will be awarded this year.



STUDENT NEWS

Niaz Deyhim (P4) has been selected as the 2018 recipient of the Texas Society of Health-System Research & Education Foundation Phyllis B. Ginsburg Memorial Scholarship.

Lois Kim (P3) has been appointed to serve in American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Council on Public Policy. As a student member, she will work with other practitioners in initiating ASHP professional policies related to laws and regulations that have a bearing on pharmacy practice. Lois has also been elected as Chair of the TSHP Student Section Executive Committee.

Russell Clark (P3) has been selected to represent the college at the 19th Annual Cardinal Health Student Leadership Conference on May 16-18, 2018, in Houston, Texas. This conference joins the top pharmacy students from across the nation for a special two-day program to better prepare them for assuming future leadership roles in health-system pharmacy.

Andrew Ramirez (P2) has been accepted into the Johns Hopkins Hospital Pharmacy Internship in Baltimore, Maryland. Andrew will join 20 professional pharmacy degree students from around the nation this summer. He will be placed at the central pharmacy on the main hospital campus.



Anh Thu Tran (P3) is the recipient of the 2018 TSHP Research & Education Foundation Gulf Coast Society of Health-System Pharmacists Leadership.

The team of **Kierra Brown (P3)** and **Anh Thu Tran** (left), was selected as one of the four Finalists of the 2018 TSHP Leadership Challenge. As the TSHP's newest student competition, the Leadership Challenge is designed to help students further explore roles as leaders in the healthcare field.

The Student Society of Health-System Pharmacists (SSHP) and the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) collaborated on April 28, 2018, for the DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, which provides an opportunity for Americans to prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths. Texas A&M professional pharmacy students partnered with Task Force agents to take back medications from the Kingsville and surrounding communities.



ISPOR - New Student Chapter!

The Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy has formally approved and established a student chapter for International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research and held its first General meeting on April 17. President: Lei Wu. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lixian Zhong.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Dr. Elaine Demps and **Dr. Amanda Galindo** received an award from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in the amount of \$158,519, under the 2018-2020 Recruitment and Retention grant competition in the Minority Health Research and Education Grant Program. The overarching aim of this grant is to increase recruitment and retention of under-represented minority (URM) students in the pharmacy program. This new grant will help embolden the college's goal of recruiting and retaining more URM students and advance the diversity mission of the college and university.

Dr. Joy Alonzo, has recently been named a contributing editor for the Carlat Report on Addiction Treatment. The article "New Study Shows That Vivitrol Is Just as Effective as Suboxone...But Not Really" is featured on the first page of the attached pdf. These drugs are used in the medication assisted treatment of Opioid Use Disorder.

The College faculty led by **Dr. Asim Abu-Baker** is working in tandem with **Mr. Kim Roberson of the Texas Pharmacy Association (TPA)** on the implementation of the **Texas Hypertension Adherence Program (THAP)**. This program is dedicated to improving medication adherence for hypertensive patients by providing community pharmacists as a resource to primary care physicians in the community. The College faculty helped TPA identify six primary care clinics and 11 community pharmacies interested in this pilot project and continue to work with Mr. Roberson to make this program a success.

Dr. Jayshree Mishra has been invited to join REPRISE by the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR) to review research projects funded by MIUR.

Dr. Mansoor Khan, Dr. Bree Watzak, and Dr. Paul Holder have been appointed to the Texas A&M HSC Opioid Task Force. The Texas A&M Health Science Center Opioid Task Force is made up of representatives from all five Health Science Center components (dentistry, medicine, nursing, public health and pharmacy) as well as the Coastal Bend Health Education Center. It will serve as a focal point for research, education and practice issues critical to addressing the opioid epidemic and its impact on Texas. They held HSC Opioid Task Force Policy Briefing for the Office of Chairman Four Price House Committee on Public Health Select Committee on opioids and substance abuse. March 1, 2018 in College Station.

Staff Appreciation Week

College Staff celebrate **Staff Appreciation Week 2018** with the theme **We can't Do Without You** throughout the week of April 23-27. Both campuses participated in events and activities organized by the Colleges' Staff Development Committee. Our College Station Campus also participated in campus-wide events and activities planned by the Texas A&M University Staff Appreciation Week Committee.



College Station Campus Staff



Kingsville Campus Staff

New Staff



Amanda Galvan, MS, LPC, (photo at left) joined the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy as the **Director of Student Success** in the Department of Student Affairs. Ms. Galvan earned her master's degree in science-Guidance and Counseling (Licensed Professional Counselor) and her bachelor of science-Interdisciplinary Studies (Teacher Certification) from Texas A&M University – Kingsville.

Carolynn Mathews, BSPHarm, RPh, (photo at right) joined the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy as the **Director of Experiential Education**. Mrs. Mathews earned her Bachelor of Pharmacy from the University of Texas at Austin. Mrs. Mathews joins us with over 30 years as a hospital pharmacist and pharmacy administrator.



PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Elaine Demps, PhD, was recently invited to serve as a reviewer for the journal, Educational Technology Research and Development, a key journal of the Association for Educational Communications & Technology.

Dai Lu, PhD, has been elected as executive secretary and treasurer of MALTO Medicinal Chemistry organization.

Jayshree Mishra, PhD, has been invited to join REPRISE by the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR) to review research projects funded by MIUR.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Joy Alonzo, PharmD, has been awarded a \$2500.00 scholarship by Episcopal Health Foundation for Mental Health First Aid Instructor Training.

Simi Gunaseelan, PhD received the Pharmacy Faculty Travel Award from the National Sex and Gender Health Education Summit to serve as a representative from the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy at the 2018 Summit at Salt Lake City, Utah. The summit concluded with a Capstone talk on “Achieving Sex and Gender IPE requires Triple A: Awareness, Action and Accountability” by Dr. Lucinda Maine, CEO and Executive Vice President of AACP and President of IPEC.

Narendra Kumar PhD; successfully completed 2017-2018 class of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Catalyst: Accelerating Research Leadership program. This included Session I (Washington DC), Session II (Long Beach CA), and Session III (Rockville, MD and Washington DC).

Sunitha Meruvu, PhD, Winner of 2018 ASIO Dr. Dharm Singh Postdoctoral Fellow Best Abstract Award Postdoctoral award, Toxicology 2018, postdoc, \$400 award (photo at right).



Award Abstract: Meruvu S, Panchal P, Mitchell B, Choudhury M. Mono-(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate Stabilizes HIF-1alpha to Induce Hypoxia and Mitochondrial Dysfunction Through miR-210-3p in Human First Trimester Placental Cell Line. 2018 Annual Toxicology Meeting, San Antonio, Texas.

PRESENTATIONS

Alonzo, Joy, Brenham and Washington County Town Hall, “The Opioid Epidemic , Harm Reduction Strategies and Naloxone Administration”, Brazos Valley Council on Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Blinn College Student Conference Center, Blinn College, Brenham, TX., April 26, 2018 (25 law enforcement, Blinn faculty, Blinn students, and community members trained and issued naloxone rescue kits). [Article from Brenham Banner](#)

Doctors Hospital at Renaissance/Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy PGY-1 pharmacy residents, Kayla Phillips and Sara Solomon presented at the 2018 Alcalde Southwest Leadership Conference in The Woodlands, Texas on April 5. Kayla Phillips presented her research “Hypertension Inpatient Treatment: Use of As-Needed Intravenous Hydralazine and Labetalol.” Sara Solomon presented her research “Evaluate the appropriateness of clostridium difficile infection treatment based on 2010 Infectious Diseases Society (IDSA) guidelines at Doctors Hospital at Renaissance (photo at right).



Alonzo, Joy, Symposium on Opioid Addiction, Evidence-Based Practices to Achieve Better Outcomes, “Opioid Epidemic, Harm Reduction Strategies and Naloxone Administration”, Sponsored by Symetria Health, and Students for Opioid Solutions. Texas A&M University, 601 Rudder Hall Auditorium, College Station, TX., April 23, 2018 (30 Texas A&M Students and Community Members Trained and issued naloxone rescue kits).

Joy Alonzo, PharmD, Symposium on Operation Naloxone Initiation in collaboration with UT. Student led initiative providing peer to peer campus and community opioid epidemic harm reduction training, specifically recognition of signs/symptoms of opioid overdose and naloxone administration. 62 COP students and 5 faculty attended the train the trainer event. First community training held at BVCASA, 25 LPCs and LCDCs were trained to recognize an opioid overdose and administer naloxone. Naloxone rescue kits were distributed to all who attended.

Alonzo, Joy, delivered a presentation: “The Adolescent Brain” 5th Annual Child Welfare Forensics Conference at Thurgood Marshall School of Law on the campus of Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas on Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Sandy Diec, PharmD, and **Merlyn Joseph, PharmD**, spoke to other Texas A&M faculty members at the Teaching and Learning Conference on April 18th, 2018. Title: TeamSTEPPS: How does a session on mutual support improve team dynamics?

Kumar, Narendra was invited speaker at the Experimental Biology 2018, San Diego CA on April 21, 2018. The topic of his presentation was “Tyrosine kinase in ulcerative colitis associated compromised microglial functions”.

Kumar, Narendra was invited speak at the Experimental Biology 2018, San Diego CA on April 22, 2018. The topic of his presentation was “Janus kinase 3 modulates the tolerogenic immunology of liver through Kupffer cells”.

Aza-indole-2-carboxamides as Potential Allosteric Modulators for the Cannabinoid Receptor 1, Rachel Dopart, Sujana Immadi, **Dai Lu**, and Debra A. Kendall. Quinnipiac Neuroscience meeting, Feb.15th, 2018. North Haven, Connecticut.

Joseph, Merlyn, April 6, delivered a presentation: A Closer Look at the Opioid Abuse Epidemic in Our Nation at the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

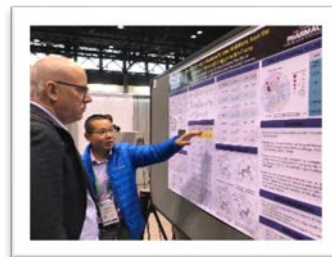
Joseph, Merlyn, February 7, delivered a presentation: Opioid Abuse at the Impaired Driving Symposium.

Watzak B, McCord C, Dickey E. TeamSTEPPS from the basics to a model of interprofessional team collaboration: the Health For All huddle. 3 hour podium Pre-Session at the 6th Annual Texas Primary Care and Health Home Summit in Austin, TX on April 5, 2018.

Zhixing Wu, Boqiao Fu, Changjiang Qiao, Ashila Nagaraju, **Dai Lu**. Discovery of potent abelson kinase inhibitors from the scaffold of pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-7-one. American Association of Cancer Research (AACR) annual meeting 2018, April 14-18, 2018, Chicago, Illinois.

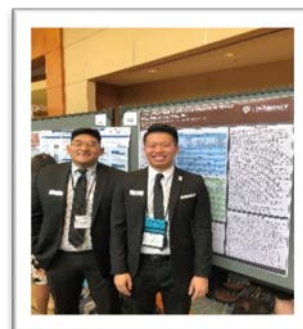
POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Dai Lu's group presented their discovery of a novel class of protein kinase inhibitors at the 2018 annual meeting of American Association of Cancer Research (AACR). The innovative work was applied for an international patent "Functionalized Pyrano[2,3-d]Pyrimidin-7-one Derivatives and Methods For Their Preparation And Use".WO2017/205432 (photo at right).



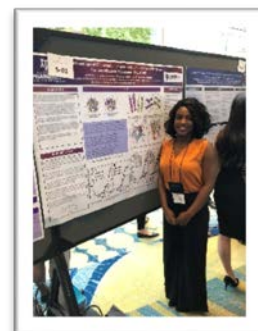
Miller MJ, Danila MI, Mudano AS, Outman RC, Rahn EJ, Saag KG. Health Literacy and Readiness to Initiate Treatment for Osteoporosis in an At-risk Sample of US Women. 2018 American Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting and Exposition. Nashville, TN.

Powell C, Bhakta K, Meruvu S, Zhang J, Choudhury M. Double Trouble- Plastic and Fats: Combinatorial Effect of Butyl Benzyl Phthalate and a High-Fat Diet on Epigenetic Regulation of Adipogenesis and Obesity. 2018 Annual Toxicology Meeting, San Antonio, TX .



Andy Wong, Kevin Vo, and **Stephen Grayson** presented a poster at the 2018 TSHP Annual Seminar (student poster competition). The poster was title, "**Predicting Opioid Dispensing Trends in Texas Following House Bill 2561**" (photo at right).

Farah Deba, Hamed I Ali, Abisola Tairu, Kara Ramos, Jihad Ali, **Ayman K Hamouda**; *Pharmacological Characterization of Nicotinic acetylcholine receptor positive allosteric modulator: LY2087101*, Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists (TSHP) Research & Education Foundation Poster Competition, 2018 (photo at right).



Poster presentation: BUDGET IMPACT ANALYSIS OF NIRAPARIB AND OLAPARUB AS MAINTENANCE THERAPY FOR PLATINUM SENSITIVE, RECURRENT OVARIAN CANCER IN THE US Author: **Lei Wu BS, Lixian Zhong PhD** accepted for International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research 23rd Annual International Meeting, Baltimore, MD, May 2018.

Poster presentation: COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF NIRAPARIB AND OLAPARIB AS MAINTENANCE THERAPY FOR PATIENTS WITH PLATINUM SENSITIVE RECURRENT OVARIAN CANCER Author: **Lixian Zhong PhD, Anh Thu Tran BS**, Taylor Tomasino BS, Elizabeth Nugent MD Judith Smith PharmD accepted for International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research 23rd annual International Meeting, Baltimore, MD, May 2018.

Eunsoo Yoo, Seong Kwon Hur, Qisong Liu, Subing Fang, Dong-Ki Kim, and **Dongjin Kim** "Melanoma-Derived Exosomes Induce Inflammatory Microenvironments: Possible Involvement in Brain Metastases" (15th International Symposium on Neural Transplantation and Restoration, Clearwater, FL, USA) April 2018.

Jian Zhang and **Choudhury M.** Benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP) regulates lncRNA H19 during Adipogenesis in C3H10T1/2 Stem Cell Line. 2018 Annual Toxicology Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

Min Hi Park, Ana Karen Gutiérrez García, Choudhury M. Screening and Evaluation of Endocrine Disrupting Compounds on sirtuin regulation and Inflammation. 2018 Annual Toxicology Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

Meruvu S, Panchal P, Mitchell B, **Choudhury M.** Mono-(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate Stabilizes HIF-1 α to Induce Hypoxia and Mitochondrial Dysfunction Through miR-210-3p in Human First Trimester Placental Cell Line. 2018 Annual Toxicology Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

Garcia AKG, Ali HI, Meruvu S, Powell CA, Schütz LF, Rodríguez ADL, **Choudhury M** (2018). Phthalates contamination in commercial alcohol: effects on sirtuin regulation. 2018 Annual Toxicology Meeting, San Antonio, TX (photo below).

Hutchison, Robert presented a poster at the 2018 Transformational Teaching and Learning Conference, “Improving Chronic Pain Management Curriculum through New Health Care Professional Feedback.”



PUBLICATIONS

Eunsoo Yoo, Seong Kwon Hur, Qisong Liu, Subing Fang, Dong-Ki Kim, and **Dongjin Kim** “Melanoma-Derived Exosomes Induce Inflammatory Microenvironments: Possible Involvement in Brain Metastases” (15th International Symposium on Neural Transplantation and Restoration, Clearwater, FL, USA) 04/25~04/28/2018.

Dopart R, **Lu D,** Lichtman AH, Kendall DA. (2018) Allosteric modulators of cannabinoid receptor 1: developing compounds for improved specificity. *Drug Metab Rev.* 50(1): 3-13.

Panigrahi GK, Praharaj PP, Peak TC, Long J, Singh R, Rhim JS, **Abd Elmageed ZY,** Deep G. [Hypoxia-induced exosome secretion promotes survival of African-American and Caucasian prostate cancer cells.](#) *Sci Rep.* 2018 Mar 1;8(1):3853.

Malki WH, Gouda AM, Ali HEA, Al-Rousan R, Samaha D, Abdalla AN, Bustamante J, **Abd Elmageed ZY,** **Ali HI.** [Structural-based design, synthesis, and antitumor activity of novel alloxazine analogues with potential selective kinase inhibition.](#) *Eur J Med Chem.* 2018 Apr 17;152:31-52.

Schechinger M, Marks H, Locke A, **Choudhury M**, Cote G. Development of a miRNA surface-enhanced Raman scattering assay using benchtop and handheld Raman systems. *J Biomed Opt.* 2018 Jan;23(1):1-11.

Rahman, Z, Dopart R, **Lu D**, Lichtman AH, Kendall DA. (2018) Allosteric modulators of cannabinoid receptor 1: developing compounds for improved specificity. *Drug Metab Rev.* 50(1): 3-13Ali SFB.

Ozkan T, Charoo NA, **Reddy IK, Khan MA** (2018). Additive Manufacturing with 3D Printing: Progress from Bench to Bedside. *The AAPS Journal* (accepted).

Waleed H Malki, Ahmed M Gouda, Hamdy EA Ali, Rabaa Al-Rousan, Doaa Samaha, Ashraf N Abdalla, Juan Bustamante, Zakaria Y Abd Elmageed, **Hamed I Ali***, [Structural-based design, synthesis, and antitumor activity of novel alloxazine analogues with potential selective kinase inhibition](#). *European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry.* 152 (2018) 31-52.

Shadia A Galal, Sarah HM Khairat, **Hamed I Ali**, Samia A Shouman, Yasmin M Attia, Mamdouh M Ali, Abeer E Mahmoud, Abeer H Abdel-Halim, Amal A Fyiad, Ashraf Tabll, Reem El-Shenawy, Yasmine S El Abd, Raghda Ramdan, Hoda I El Diwani. [Part II: New candidates of pyrazole-benzimidazole conjugates as checkpoint kinase 2 \(Chk2\) inhibitors](#). *European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry.* 144 (2018) 859-873.

Panigrahi GK, Praharaj PP, Peak TC, Long J, Singh R, Rhim JS, **Abd Elmageed ZY**, Deep G. [Hypoxia-induced exosome secretion promotes survival of African-American and Caucasian prostate cancer cells](#). *Sci Rep.* 2018 Mar 1;8(1):3853.

Malki WH, Gouda AM, Ali HEA, Al-Rousan R, Samaha D, Abdalla AN, Bustamante J, **Abd Elmageed ZY, Ali HI**. [Structural-based design, synthesis, and antitumor activity of novel alloxazine analogues with potential selective kinase inhibition](#). *Eur J Med Chem.* 2018 Apr 17;152:31-52.

Simeng Gu, Yao Ma, Kemin Ge, Ruifang Nie, **Erxi Wu**, and Yang Li. Danshen-Honghua Ameliorates Stress-Induced Menopausal Depression in Rats. *Research Article* (5 pages), Article ID 6589608, *Neural Plasticity*, Volume 2018 (2018).

Narendra Kumar, Premranjan Kumar, and Jayshree Mishra. Tyrosine kinase in ulcerative colitis associated compromised microglial functions. Volume 32, Issue 1 Apr 2018.

Jayshree Mishra, Jugal Kishore Das, and Narendra Kumar. Screening of a new class of Janus kinase 3 inhibitors targeted at its non-kinase domain. Volume 32, Issue 1 Apr 2018.

Narendra Kumar, Jugal K. Das, and Jayshree Mishra. Janus Kinase 3 modulates the tolerogenic immunology of liver through Kupffer cells. Volume 32, Issue 1. Apr 2018.

Alonzo, Joy, Publication: "Internet Gaming Disorder: A Primer" *The Carlat Report on Addiction* (APR/MAY).

Watzak B and Pho V. "Lunch and Learn: an interprofessional discussion on the opioid epidemic". March 2018 Edition of the Centre for IPE Newsletter at the University of Toronto.

GRANTS

T3: Texas A&M Triads for Transformation Grants

Texas A&M University has established the President's Excellence Fund, a \$100 million investment over 10 years for the advancement of faculty innovations in teaching and research.

The first initiative, T3: Texas A&M Triads for Transformation, launched in spring 2018 and has selected 100 innovative interdisciplinary projects for funding. Approximately \$3 million is committed annually to T3 projects.

Seven faculty researchers from the college have received T3 grants in this cycle: **Dr. Hamed Ismail Ali, Dr. Zakaria Elmageed, Dr. Ayman Hamouda, Dr. Dongin Kim, Dr. Michael Miller, Dr. Srinath Palakurthi, and Dr. Lixian Zhong.**

Ziyaur Rahman, PhD, Title: Evaluation of potential application of sucrose acetate isobutyrate (SAIB) in combination with following polymers in the development of abuse deterrent formulations of opioid drugs, Funding agency: Eastman Chemical Company, \$74,998

Dai Lu, PhD, Title: Structural determination of epinephrine formulation degradant, Funding source: Insys Pharmaceuticals Inc. \$17,800. Period: 11/1/2017-3/30/2018.

Jayshree Mishra, PhD, Vishal Raju Bhagat Foundation. "Development of a novel and predictive biomarker for the early detection of childhood obesity." \$5,000

PATENT DISCLOSURE

Narendra Kumar, PhD, Jayshree Mishra. Biomarkers for Early Detection of Colorectal Cancer. TAMU-HSC. No.: 4812HSC18. Date published April 30, 2018.