



## College Implements Mandatory PCOA, OSCE for Pharm.D. Progression

UH College of Pharmacy has initiated its transition to the Pharmacy Curriculum Outcomes Assessment (PCOA) exam and the Objectively Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)/OSCE-like exams for the assessment of Pharm.D. students' skills and knowledge.

The exams are required for every UHCOP Pharm.D. student in the first, second and third year of the curriculum as a formal assessment and embedded in courses within the curriculum.

The comprehensive PCOA exam was administered in January 2014 to the P1-P3 classes by representatives of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, which developed the standardized exam. Adopted by the UHCOP faculty last May, the PCOA replaces the in-house "Milemarker" tool used by the college for nearly a decade to determine and assess

knowledge and progression readiness. With the benefits of greater standardization of exam questions and more accurate benchmarking to national data, the PCOA assessment is formative in the P1 and P2 years, and summative for the P3s. Minimum competency must be met for the P3 students to progress to APPEs.

The OSCEs and OSCE-like exams throughout the curriculum evaluate knowledge in scenarios that highlight their skills and abilities in a practical setting, such as patient counseling, resolving prescription fill issues, physical assessment, case workup and presentation, IV admixture, prescription fill, errors and omissions, and interprofessional practice.

The summative OSCE using multiple stations of standardized patients will be held in late April for P3s.

## Project to Assess Level, Risks and Impact of Poor Health Literacy in Spanish-speaking FQHC Patients

UH College of Pharmacy's **Nancy Chung**, Pharm.D., BCACP, clinical assistant professor, is implementing a project to assess the level, risk factors and consequences of poor health literacy in a Spanish-speaking population at Vecino Health Center's Denver Harbor Clinic in Houston's near Eastside area.

With the support of a \$6,000 UH New Faculty grant, the project aims to determine the level of health literacy of Spanish-speaking patients receiving medical treatment at the Denver Harbor FQHC; determine if a relationship exists between health literacy and missed clinical appointments; and identify demographics or societal factors that may influence low health literacy healthcare utilization.

In another development in the UHCOP-Vecino collaboration, Chung is finalizing the formal application to the TSBP for prescriptive authority under physician protocol for drug therapy management of diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and risk reduction of metabolic syndrome. Student experiential activities through the clinic are expected to begin soon, with IPPE students coming on board in the spring 2014 semester and ambulatory care APPE students starting in the summer.

## Walgreens/UH Residency Program Receives APhA Incentive Grant for Rural Asthma/COPD Patient Project

The Walgreens/UHCOP PGY1 Community Residency program recently received a 2014 APhA Incentive Grant Program award to support an education and adherence project to improve outcomes for patients with uncontrolled asthma/COPD in the rural Liberty County community of Cleveland, Texas, northeast of Houston.

According to reports based on state data, hospitalizations for asthma and COPD in Liberty County are among the highest in the state. Patients in the program will participate in pharmacist-led education and counseling sessions to help manage their conditions. Grant funds will help support various incentives for participating patients.

The project is being implemented by resident **Vaidehi Bhatt**, Pharm.D.; UHCOP Clinical Assistant Professor/Residency Director **Santhi Masilamani**, Pharm.D., CDE, MBA; Walgreens district supervisor **Carole Hardin-Oliver**, R.Ph.; pharmacist **Gayland Vandiver**, R.Ph.; and pharmacy manager **Angela Tompkins**, Pharm.D.

## Student News

### UH Chapter Hosts NCPA Pharmacist of Year Ed Horton

The UH chapter of the National Community Pharmacists Association welcomed UHCOP alumnus **Ed Horton**, R.Ph., the 2013 Willard B. Simmons NCPA Independent Pharmacist, as the keynote speaker back to campus for the chapter's 4th Annual Meet & Greet for students and practitioners in January. Horton is owner of Tanglewood Medical Supplies & Pharmacy in Stephenville.



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### Chuck Hopson to Serve as Phi Lambda Sigma Lecturer

Former Texas State Representative and UHCOP alumnus **Chuck L. Hopson**, R.Ph., will serve as the **2014 Phi Lambda Sigma James T. McCarty Lecturer** on April 9 at UH. Hopson served 12 years in the Texas Legislature representing District 11 and owned/operated the independent May Drug in Jacksonville from 1973 to 2011. After leaving office, he established Hopson Consulting Group and continues to serve as a member of the UHCOP Dean's Advisory Council.



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### 88 Compete in Patient Counseling Competition

Eight-eight students competed in the 2014 UHCOP Patient Counseling Competition sponsored by Kroger Pharmacy. The winner was P4 candidate **Amy Lenhert**, who finished second in the local competition last year and will represent the college at the APhA-ASP National Patient Counseling Competition at the 2014 APhA Meeting March 28-31 in Orlando.

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### 150 Attend 9th Annual Residency Mentoring Social

The 9th Annual Residency Mentoring Social at UH Jan. 21 drew 78 UHCOP and TSU College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences students and 69 residents, program directors and preceptors representing more than 16 programs. Coordinated by the SSHP chapters at UH and TSU, the event received support from the Gulf Coast Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the ASHP Speakers Bureau. Stephen Davis, Pharm.D., M.S., pharmacy manager at Texas Children's

Hospital, presented the keynote address: "Establishing the Vision for your Life and Career."

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### AMCP-SIPS Chapter Holds First P&T Competition

The UH chapter of the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy-Society of Industrial Pharmacy Students hosted its first Pharmacy & Therapeutics Competition, which required teams to develop and manage a formulary system through literature evaluation, conducting comparative studies, and making real-life decisions based on cost-benefit analysis. P1s Emily Trinh and Jill Chao, P2 Tiffany Han, P3 Hiva Pourarsala and P4 Quintin Broussard comprised the winning team.

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### Outreach: Flu Clinics for Homeless

In partnership with Walgreens, UHCOP students provided 71 free seasonal flu immunizations at two events for Houston's underserved/homeless community. The clinics were held Nov. 12 at The Way Station at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church and Feb. 1 at The Beacon.



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### Outreach: Chinese Community Center Health Fair

Members of the UHCOP Vietnamese American Pharmacy Student Society (VAPSS) and SNPhA partnered with TSU students and HEB to provide blood glucose and blood pressure screenings to 140 attendees of the Chinese Community Center Health Fair in Houston Feb. 1.

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### Outreach: Kidney Action Day

Members of the UH SSHP performed blood pressure readings and glucose screenings for 261 people as part of the Kidney Action Day sponsored by the American Kidney Fund at the Discovery Green Park in downtown Houston.



Research & Faculty News

Elizabeth A. Coyle, Pharm.D., FCCM, clinical professor, received a Presidential Citation from the Society of Critical Care Medicine at the 43rd Critical Care Congress in San Francisco in January 2014.

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Julianna M. Fernandez, Pharm.D., BCPS, clinical assistant professor and clinical specialist in Geriatrics at Houston Methodist Hospital, has received an appointment as adjunct assistant professor in Geriatrics at Baylor College of Medicine.

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Marc L. Fleming, Ph.D., MPH, R.Ph., assistant professor, has received a \$4,000 grant from The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center for the project entitled "The Emergency Department Pain Registry: Impact Evaluation of the 2012 American College of Physicians Opioid Prescribing Guidelines." Fleming presented "PBM Provided Incentives for Pharmacists' Interventions in Patients with Aberrant Prescription Opioid Use" at the 19th Annual Pharmacy Benefit Management Institute Conference in Las Vegas in February.

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Catherine L. Hatfield, Pharm.D., clinical associate professor, has received a \$2,000 grant from Target Pharmacy for lipid panel cassettes for upcoming an upcoming health fair.

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MariVi Tejada-Simon, Ph.D., M.Ed., served as a judge for the 55th Science Engineering Fair in February 2014 and was invited to participate in the Gulf Coast Consortia's Research Mentoring Workshop in December. Tejada-Simon presented "Rac1 inhibition ameliorates observed cognitive deficits in FMRP-deficient female mice" at the SACNAS annual meeting in San Antonio in October and "New approaches to target neurodevelopmental disorders associated with mental disabilities and autism" at the Biology of Behavior Institute seminar series in November.

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Matthew A. Wanat, Pharm.D., BCPS, clinical assistant professor, has been elected to the Texas Society of Critical Care Medicine's board of directors. Wanat also received a \$6,000 UH New Faculty Research Program award for his project, "Critical care pharmacy specialists' impact on pharmacotherapy interventions and cost savings: A Texas Medical Center study."

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College Establishes Department, Appoints Chair and Changes Name of Degree to Reflect New Emphasis

The new Department of Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy recently was established at UH College of Pharmacy to allow faculty, students and staff members to focus on the national priority of providing patients, clinicians and policymakers with the scientific evidence to make informed health decisions.

The department comprises select faculty members from the college's Department of Clinical Sciences & Administration. Chaired by Professor Rajender R. Aparasu, Ph.D., MPharm., FAPhA, the department will be home to faculty members Susan Abughosh, Ph.D.; Hua Chen, M.D., Ph.D.; E. James Essien, DrPH, M.D.; Marc Fleming, Ph.D., MPH, R.Ph.; Michael Johnson, Ph.D.; Pritchard; and Sujit Sansgiry, Ph.D.



A phase-out of the Pharmacy Administration graduate degree name has been approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Two UH undergraduate students working in UHCOP Pharmacology labs were among the Outstanding Poster Award recipients at the 2013 UH Undergraduate Research Day. Student Stacy Nguy won for her project entitled "Characterization of behavioral deficiencies in Fmr1-knockout female mice," which was coauthored by Assistant Professor MariVi Tejada-Simon, Ph.D., M.Ed. Student Lumeng Li won for his project entitled, "Moderate treadmill exercise rescues anxiety and depression-like behavior and memory impairment in a posttraumatic stress model," which was coauthored by Professor Karim A. Alkadhi, Ph.D.

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Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy graduate student Liqa Athamneh won the Best Poster Presentation in the Equity category at the Kelsey Research Foundation-sponsored 14th Annual Health Services & Outcome Research Conference Dec. 10 in Houston. The project, coauthored by UHCOP Associate Professor Sujit Sansgiry, Ph.D., was entitled "Influenza Vaccination in Diabetic Patients: Disparities in Prevalence Between Black and White."



## Recent Publications

Transcription Factor Nrf2 Protects Renal Dopamine D1 Receptor Function During Oxidative Stress. **Banday AA, Lokhandwala MF**. Hypertension. 2013 Sep;62(3):512-7. doi: 10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.113.01358. Epub 2013 Jul 22.

Grape powder intake prevents ovariectomy-induced anxiety-like behavior, memory impairment and high blood pressure in female wistar rats. **Patki G, Allam FH, Atrooz F, Dao AT, Solanki N, Chugh G, Asghar M, Jafri F, Bohat R, Alkadhi KA, Salim S**. PLoS One. 2013 Sep 9;8(9):e74522. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0074522.

Assessment of treatment patterns and patient outcomes before vs after implementation of a severity-based *Clostridium difficile* infection treatment policy. Jardin CG, Palmer HR, **Shah DN, Le F, Beyda ND, Jiang Z, Garey KW**. J Hosp Infect. 2013 Sep;85(1):28-32. doi: 10.1016/j.jhin.2013.04.017. Epub 2013 Jul 5.

Prevalence and Determinants of Anticholinergic Medication Use in Elderly Dementia Patients. Sura SD, Carnahan RM, **Chen H, Aparasu RR**. Drugs Aging. 2013 Oct;30(10):837-44. doi: 10.1007/s40266-013-0104-x.

The Incidence of Tumor Cell Contamination of Peripheral Blood Stem Cells: A Meta-Analysis to Evaluate the Impact of Mobilization Regimens and the Influence on Outcomes in Breast Cancer Patients. Choi S, Rajan SS, **Trivedi MV**. Acta Haematol. 2013 Oct 25;131(3):133-140

Comparison of the T2Dx instrument with T2Candida assay and automated blood culture in the detection of Candida species using seeded blood samples. **Beyda ND, Alam MJ, Garey KW**. Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis. 2013 Oct 14. doi:pii: S0732-8893(13)00400-8. 10.1016/j.diagmicrobio.2013.07.007. [Epub ahead of print]

Significant publications on infectious diseases pharmacotherapy in 2012. **Bowers DR, Hunter AS, Jacobs DM, Kuper KM, Musick WL, Perez KK, Shah DN, Schilling AN**. Am J Health Syst Pharm. 2013 Nov 1;70(21):1930-40. doi: 10.2146/ajhp130129.

Novel gastro-renal axis and sodium regulation during hypertension. **Banday AA, Lokhandwala MF**. Hypertension. 2013 Nov;62(5):834-5. doi: 10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.113.01799. Epub 2013 Sep 9.

A blueprint for transitioning pharmacy residents into successful clinical faculty members in colleges and schools of pharmacy. **Wanat MA, Garey K**. Am J Pharm Educ. 2013 Nov 12;77(9):200. doi: 10.5688/ajpe779200.

Preparing the Future Faculty Workforce by Analyzing the Postdoctoral Research Training. **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2013).

Proc. IQHE 1:588-593.

Depression, anxiety-like behavior and memory impairment are associated with increased oxidative stress and inflammation in a rat model of social stress. **Patki G, Solanki N, Atrooz F, Allam F, Salim S**. Brain Res. 2013 Nov 20;1539:73-86. doi: 10.1016/j.brainres.2013.09.033. Epub 2013 Oct 3.

Chronic Nicotine Treatment Reverses Hypothyroidism-Induced Impairment of L-LTP Induction Phase: Critical Role of CREB. **Alzoubi KH, Alkadhi KA**. Mol Neurobiol. 2013 Nov 26. [Epub ahead of print]

Regular exercise prevents non-cognitive disturbances in a rat model of Alzheimer's disease. **Dao AT, Zagaar MA, Salim S, Eriksen JL, Alkadhi KA**. Int J Neuropsychopharmacol. 2013 Nov 14:1-10. [Epub ahead of print]

Validated LC-MS/MS method for the determination of 3-hydroxyflavone and its glucuronide in blood and bioequivalent buffers: application to pharmacokinetic, absorption, and metabolism studies. **Xu B, Yang G, Ge S, Yin T, Hu M, Gao S**. J Pharm Biomed Anal. 2013 Nov;85:245-52. doi: 10.1016/j.jpba.2013.07.030. Epub 2013 Aug 5.

Diabetes impairs synaptic plasticity in the superior cervical ganglion: possible role for BDNF and oxidative stress. **Alzoubi KH, Khabour OF, Alhaidar IA, Aleisa AM, Alkadhi KA**. J Mol Neurosci. 2013 Nov;51(3):763-70. doi: 10.1007/s12031-013-0061-1. Epub 2013 Jul 6.

Transient severe hyperbilirubinemia after hepatic arterial infusion of oxaliplatin in patients with liver metastases Garcia SS, Atkins JT, Falchook GS, Tsimberidou AM, Hong DS, **Trivedi MV, Kurzrock R**. Cancer Chemother Pharmacol. 2013 Dec;72(6):1265-71. doi: 10.1007/s00280-013-2302-y. Epub 2013 Oct 8.

Pharmacokinetics and efficacy of liposomal polymyxin B in a murine pneumonia model. **He J, Abdelraouf K, Ledesma KR, Chow DS, Tam VH**. Int J Antimicrob Agents. 2013 Dec;42(6):559-64. doi: 10.1016/j.ijantimicag.2013.07.009. Epub 2013 Aug 22.

Metastasis dormancy in estrogen receptor-positive breast cancer. Zhang XH, Giuliano M, **Trivedi MV, Schiff R, Osborne CK**. Clin Cancer Res. 2013 Dec 1;19(23):6389-97. doi: 10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-13-0838.

Small-molecule inhibitors of USP1 target ID1 degradation in leukemic cells. Mistry H, Hsieh G, Buhrlage SJ, Huang M, Park E, **Cuny GD, Galinsky I, Stone RM, Gray NS, D'Andrea AD, Parmar K**. Mol Cancer Ther. 2013 Dec;12(12):2651-62. doi: 10.1158/1535-7163.MCT-13-0103-T. Epub 2013 Oct 15.

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