



CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

Grand Rounds
Thursday, September 28, 2006, 12:00 Noon
Clinic Auditorium

James Yankaskas, MD
Professor
Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

Care Improvement Methods and Better CF Outcomes

FROM DIVISIONS

- **Dr. Susan Braithwaite** and colleagues in Trauma Surgery and Critical Care published their experience in intensive diabetes management by a nurse-implemented tabular insulin infusion protocol in the surgical ICU. The article, "Performance of a dose-defining insulin infusion protocol among trauma service intensive care unit admissions" can be found [online](#). They achieved average glucose during the insulin infusion of 113 mg/dl with less than 3% of glucose values less than 70 mg/dl and none less than 50 mg/dl. The efficacy, safety and simplicity of use of this protocol is arguably unparalleled in the literature and sets a new standard in inpatient management of diabetes-associated morbidity and mortality in the inpatient setting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- [UNC Core Facilities](#) Technology Instrumentation Fair, Wed., Oct. 11, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the lobbies of the MBRB.
- Landes/Merrimon Lecture, Jan. 31, 12:30 p.m. in 2204 MBRB. The lecture will be given by William F. Crowley Jr., M.D., Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.
- Edward E. Cornwell, III, M.D., Chief of Adult Trauma at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Associate Professor of Surgery of The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, will give the Zollicoffer/Merrimon Lecture, Feb. 16, 4:00 p.m. in the Old Clinic Auditorium.
- The 31st Annual [Internal Medicine Conference](#) will be held March 21-23, 2007, at the Friday Center. Course Director, Dr. **Romulo Colindres**.

FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

This week I'd like to tell you about the application UNC is preparing for a Clinical and Translational Science Award ([CTSA](#)) due January 17, 2007. This grant for translational research, or "bench-to-bedside-to-community" research, was established by the NIH last year. Academic medical centers have promoted clinical and translational research for years now, and the opportunities provided by the NIH will give unprecedented support to these efforts. The mission of the UNC CTSA is to

accelerate the pace at which scientific discoveries are translated into improved clinical care for patients and communities.

Here at UNC, Drs. Paul Watkins and Gene Orringer are leading the CTSA application process. UNC submitted a planning grant for the CTSA, which received a priority score of 154, that will be funded. By 2010, UNC's current funding for its GCRC grant, the K-12 Roadmap, K-12 NCRR and K-30 awards will disappear unless UNC wins a CTSA. In that case, funding for those programs will be rolled into the CTSA. UNC opted to renew the GCRC grant rather than apply for the CTSA grant because the institution could not apply for both simultaneously. Thus UNC is submitting during this second cycle for CTSA applications.

This is a pan-campus initiative that will provide an academic home to biomedical clinical and translational researchers extending beyond the medical campus, and even beyond the health sciences campus, to all of UNC and ultimately into a state-wide effort with the UNC system. The CTSA will help to create and to sustain interdisciplinary teams, providing researchers with a toolbox of research tools and services to facilitate and accelerate research efforts. This is a research infrastructure award; however, certain themes will run through most components of the grant application including application of bioinformatics, genetics/genomics, and community engagement in clinical research.

The mission of the UNC CTSA program will be achieved in part by the creation of a new CTSA center to be housed in 18,000 square feet of centrally-located and completely renovated space (Grapevine Cafeteria), and which will serve as the true home for clinical research at UNC. This center will house all CTSA administrative staff and the following CTSA cores: Biostatistics, Bioinformatics, Regulatory, Ethics, Community Engagement, and Genetics. It will also serve as the physical home for Roadmap K-12 recipients, as well as select others who have individual career development awards that will be supplemented to the Roadmap K-12 level. In addition, the center will serve as the "virtual" home for all other clinical/translational investigators by providing a "one stop" portal to necessary resources, education, training and career development, and by providing a communication hub.

If you are interested in finding out more about the CTSA please contact [Leslie Bunce, MD](#), Senior Project Director or [Paul Watkins, MD](#), PI. Many thanks to both of them for contributing to this column.

Questions or submissions, contact katie_obrien@med.unc.edu.