

**CONFERENCES & MEETINGS**

Grand Rounds
Thursday, September 13, 2007, 12:00 Noon - 1:00 p.m.
Clinic Auditorium

Stephan Moll, MD
Assistant Professor
Division of Hematology & Oncology

M. Andrew Greganti, MD
Professor and Vice Chair
Division of Geriatrics

M&M Conference: Thromboembolic Complications of Atrial Fibrillation – Is Holding Anticoagulation for Procedures Safe?

FYI

- OIS has installed a system called Tumbleweed in the School of Medicine email environment that enables you to deliver secure email to outside recipients including patients, referring physicians, research collaborators, etc. To route messages through the secure system, write "(secure)" at the beginning of your subject line. Click [here](#) for more detailed information. For assistance, contact OIS Client Services at 966-1325 or help@med.unc.edu.
- In FY08, the [UNC Center for Functional GI & Motility Disorders](#) will provide three grants (up to \$37,500 each) through its Seed Grant Program. Support may be requested for up to two years, and is designed to encourage and develop new investigators by providing: (a) the funds to collect pilot data essential to successful NIH applications, and (b) mentoring in grant writing as well as the conduct of research. Applications will require a Letter of Intent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- An updated Grand Rounds schedule can now be found on the Department [homepage](#). Select "Grand Rounds" under the "What's New" tab. Also check out the "News and Events" page, which will be updated periodically with any items that are not highlighted here.
- The 2007 Annual Ernest Craige Lecture, "Controversies in Valvular Heart Disease" will be given by Richard Lange, MD, Chief of Clinical Cardiology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, on Fri., Sept. 28, 1:45-2:45 p.m. at the Friday Center.
- The Department congratulates David Wohl, MD and Carol Golin, MD, who recently received an R01 from NIMH to examine HIV prevalence and factors influencing voluntary HIV testing in NC state prisoners. This is a collaborative four-year grant with colleagues in the UNC School of Public Health and the NC Department of Corrections.

with a brief concept statement, which is due October 1. Investigators invited to submit a full proposal will have a deadline of December 3 to do so. Please see the Center's [website](#) for further information about the Seed Grant program.

FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

This week I would like to comment on a topic that we discuss often – what should our relationship be with pharmaceutical companies here on campus. This came up recently as we made the decision to discontinue pharmaceutical sponsorship of lunches at the residents' Noon Conference and instead pay for these lunches with departmental funds. This decision was made to eliminate any possible misperceptions or complications, as well as to simplify logistical concerns. This basically reflects the fact that we want the focus of these conferences to be solely on our residents' education.

In terms of defining our Department's policy for interactions with pharmaceutical companies - what is allowable, what is desirable, and how we define these relationships – we follow the UNC Healthcare policy. The full text of this policy, last updated in August 2005, can be found [here](#). A shorter version, including some revisions from 2006, can be found [here](#). I would like to highlight a few of the topics covered, which are of particular relevance to Department of Medicine activities:

-Representatives may only provide food in association with an educational program. The education cannot be presented by the pharmaceutical representative, and the activity cannot be aimed at marketing materials or products.

-Travel scholarships and grants for research or educational positions may be provided, however, recipients must be selected by the department or division and not by the company.

-No personal gifts are allowed, except items of minimal monetary value that can be associated with a staff member's practice.

-Representatives may only distribute, post, or leave printed or handwritten material, advertisements, signs, or other promotional materials if requested to do so by faculty or staff.

-Any contracts regarding purchasing a drug product must be presented to the Department of Pharmacy for approval. Pharmacy then sends the contract to the Purchasing Department for signature. No departments or clinical staff may contract directly with a vendor on behalf of UNC HCS.

If you witness a violation of this policy by a vendor, contact the Director of Pharmacy (966-2498) or the UNC Hospitals Purchasing Manager (966-8099). Violations by members of the UNC HCS or UNC staff should be reported to either the UNC HCS Corporate Compliance Officer (843-0165) or the UNC HCS Compliance Line (866-294-8688).

Further questions regarding this policy can be directed to any of the contacts above, or to the Drug Information Service at formulary@unch.unc.edu.

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