



December 10, 2009  
UNC Department of Medicine

## Media Spotlight

**Nortin Hadler, M.D.**, (Rheum.) [appeared](#) on ABC's *Good Morning America* recently, and spoke about overmedication, particularly in relation to back problems. He also [speaks](#) on the same subject in *The Carolinian* online.

**Cam Patterson, M.D.**, (Cardio) was quoted in an *ABC News* [article](#) about routine heart screening in children. He also wrote a [column](#) on peripheral arterial disease, or PAD, for the *Chapel Hill News*, [spoke](#) on *WCHL 1360* about using a teamwork approach to improving patient care, and was [quoted](#) in *The News & Observer* about a recent study he co-authored that may have shown a genetic contributor to heart disease and diabetes.

**Charles van der Horst, M.D.**, (I.D.) appeared on *ABC 11 News* and [spoke](#) about the condition of Lillian Chason, a UNC undergraduate who is on life support at UNC Hospitals after contracting the H1N1 virus. He also recently [spoke](#) on *WCHL 1360* about treatment of influenza with Zanamivir.

## From the Chair's Office

Last Saturday, we had our annual Department of Medicine Faculty Holiday Party at Spice Street in the University Mall. We had a great turnout, more than 250 people, and I know many of you couldn't make it due to the usual holiday demands on your schedules. Special thanks to the UNC Loreleis, the women's a capella group for entertaining us with their upbeat and harmonious singing, we enjoyed it very much. I'd also like to thank Jaime Foster for coordinating the invitations and RSVP list and Ermine Hastings for recommending the location and coordinating the menu and budget.



Marschall S. Runge, MD, PhD

Every year we try to tighten our budget and even more so this year than in the past. We discussed cancelling the event, but when we discovered we could still have a very nice party at a considerable savings over last year, we decided to move forward with it, and I'm glad we did. We catered for 100 more attendees than last year, with a comparable cost savings of 23% for food and the facility.

The biggest savings came from not having to furnish and decorate the space as in the past location. Many people at the party expressed surprise at the apparent extravagance of the event, considering the location and food. Fortunately, this was a win-win for both the Department of Medicine and Spice Street. Thanks to all who came out, and I wish everyone a great holiday season.

## Lectures

### Grand Rounds Next Week

Thursday, Dec. 17

Noon - 1 p.m. Clinic Auditorium

**Samuel Klein, M.D.**, Professor

of Geriatrics and Nutritional

Science

Washington University School of

Medicine

"Advances in Obesity"

### ID/CFAR Conference

Friday, Dec. 11, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Lineberger Comprehensive

Cancer Center, Pagano

Conference Room

**David Wohl, M.D.**

Assoc. Professor of Medicine

Division of Infectious Diseases

Site Leader, UNC ACTU-Chapel

Hill

Co-Director of HIV Services, NC

Department of Corrections

"Decoding New HIV Treatment

Guidelines"

### UNC 5th Conference on Melanoma: A Multidisciplinary Perspective.

Thursday, Feb. 25, 8 a.m. - 5

p.m., Friday Center. Presented

by the UNC Departments of

Surgery and Dermatology.

Registration information [here](#).

## Announcements

- Santa Claus recently visited UNC Hospitals and has been declared fit and ready for his yearly ride. Click [here](#) to see a video of his visit, and hear from some of his physicians, including **John Buse, Cam Patterson, Jim Evans,** and **Tim Carey**.
- Housestaff Charity Breakfast with Santa, Saturday, Dec. 12, from 8 - 11 a.m. at Spice Street in the University Mall benefitting Ronald McDonald House, SECU House, NC Food Bank, and Toys for Tots. For more information, contact Qionna Tinney [qtinney@unch.unc.edu](mailto:qtinney@unch.unc.edu) or call 919-843-4041. More details can also be found [here](#).
- **Patient Safety Culture Survey** - Please take 10-15 minutes to fill out the new [survey](#). When you complete the survey, you will have the chance to enter a drawing to win one of forty gift cards worth \$25 each.
- [SECC pledge forms](#) will be accepted until Friday, Dec. 18. Please send through campus mail to [Katie O'Brien](#), Dept. of Medicine, CB 7005.
- Dean Roper recently provided an [update](#) on the UNC School of Medicine's research advances this year.
- 11th Annual Carolina Winter Blood Drive, Tuesday, Dec. 15, 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Fetzer Gym. Click [here](#) for more information, and to register.
- UNC has been awarded \$2.5 million from the National Institutes of Health to establish a new cooperative research center for studies of sexually transmitted infections. The new Southern STI Cooperative Research Center will be based at UNC and directed by **Frederick Sparling, M.D.**, of our Division of Infectious Diseases. To read more, click [here](#).
- The Health Sciences Library has a trial subscription to the new journal [Science Translational Medicine](#). Help evaluate the journal by [sending your feedback](#) before the trial ends on Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2009.

To submit items, contact [Sarah\\_Perry@med.unc.edu](mailto:Sarah_Perry@med.unc.edu). Archived issues can be found [here](#).