



University of Michigan
Health System

THE MICHIGAN DIFFERENCE

Transplant Center
University of Michigan
3868 Taubman Center
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-5391
Phone: 734-936-7491



New Beginnings
New Beginnings

Michigan Transplant News

New Beginnings

WINTER 2010

INSIDE

Donate Life Coalition
Hosted at U-M..... 2

Camp Michitanki
Experience Leads to
North Star Reach..... 3

Transplant Programs
Approved..... 4

Jessica Boldon
Making a Difference 5

B Cell Conference Provides an Opportunity For Clinicians and Scientists to Collaborate

The University of Michigan Transplant Center recently sponsored a conference on the B cell biology in transplantation. B cells are an important, but relatively unstudied part of the human's body's attempt to reject organs. The conference included presentations on the biology of B cells by distinguished scientists from Europe and United States, including faculty from the University of Michigan. The conference included educational sessions for students and those in training, two scientific sessions in which leading scientists communicated their research, and a workshop that allowed those who practice clinical transplantation to engage the scientists in identifying and potentially solving the complex problems in transplantation.



Marilia Cascalho, M.D.

The subject of B cells has recently assumed a position of distinction among subjects of scientific interest to those who engage in the practice of organ transplantation. B cells produce antibodies that prevent and control the severest of infections but they can also produce antibodies that can attack transplants. Immunosuppressive drugs do not fully prevent B cells from producing antibodies against transplants and therefore the activities of these B cells and the antibodies they produce is widely considered the most important challenge in transplantation today.

The University of Michigan recently recruited three members of the faculty who are expert in this subject. Dr. Marilia Cascalho is among the world's experts in the biology of B cells, Dr. Jeffrey Platt is an expert on the impact of antibodies on transplants and Dr. Millie Samaniego is an expert in the treatment of patients who have antibodies that might injure their transplants. Drs. Cascalho, Platt and Samaniego organized this conference to define the current limits of knowledge about how antibodies in general and disease causing antibodies in particular are produced. The conference brought leading scientists from Universities in

B Cell Conference continued on page 2



Europe and the United States to meet with Drs. Cascalho, Platt and Samaniego and other members of the faculty at the University of Michigan. The conference was unique because it included distinct sessions for education of students and trainees, for presentation of research at the leading edge and a workshop to prioritize the questions that laboratory and clinical research might address. The conference is viewed as an example of how clinicians and basic scientists can collaborate productively to advance knowledge and address clinical imperatives.

– *Marilia Cascalho, M.D.*

Donate Life Coalition of Michigan Promotes Organ Donation; University of Michigan Hosts Annual Meeting

The Donate Life Coalition of Michigan was formed in 1993 to promote organ and tissue donation. The Coalition is modeled after Donate Life America www.shareyourlife.org, which among other things, creates and distributes national advertising campaigns and various awareness efforts such as National Organ and Tissue Donation week. The goal of the organization is to encourage Michigan residents to understand and accept organ and tissue donation as a fundamental human responsibility. Members of the Coalition of Michigan include the Gift of Life Michigan, Michigan Eye-Bank, the National Kidney Foundation, Michigan Donor Family Council, the University of Michigan, pharmaceutical companies, and a number of Michigan transplant hospitals. The membership seeks to promote organ and tissue donation primarily through public education, legislative and professional education endeavors.

On November 3, 2009, the University of Michigan Health System was proud to host the annual general membership meeting of the Donate Life Coalition of Michigan. Following a welcome by Karen Morey, Chair of the Coalition, opening remarks were presented by Mike Valdes, Chief Administrative Officer for the University Hospital and Associate Director for Operations and Ancillary Services. Mike spoke eloquently about the critical shortage of available donor organs and tissue, and expressed appreciation to the membership for their tireless efforts to ensure that no patient will wait in vain.

Brenda Dangler, Donor Mom, and Lenore Dorfman, Recipient Grandmother, shared their personal journeys through both the pain of loss and the celebration of the gift of life. Both expressed their profound appreciation for the healing that organ and tissue donation can bring to donor families and patients who wait for a needed organ or tissue transplant.

There were many other informative presentations as well; on topics ranging from Gift of Life Michigan's plans for a Social Media driven donor drive in 2010, to the new Kidney Paired Donation program at the University of Michigan Transplant Center.

You can find more information about Donate Life Coalition of Michigan on the web at <http://www.donatelifemichigan.org/index.htm>

– *Anne Murphy, MBA*

Camp Michitanki Experience Leads to North Star Reach

The University of Michigan Transplant Center began taking children with organ transplants to summer camp in West Virginia in 1998. In 2003, we founded Camp Michitanki to provide an exciting camping experience for children 7 – 16 years of age at YMCA Camp Nissokone in Oscoda Michigan. In August 2009 we hosted more than 75 campers at Camp Michitanki.



In 2005, when Camp Michitanki staffers learned of available space at a University owned site near Pinckney Michigan, their passion for the children led them to pursue the possibilities. This site was previously a camp, but had fallen into disrepair and was no longer being used. Recognizing the potential of the site and knowing the need to provide camping experiences for children with a wide variety of medical conditions, they began planning and campaigning to acquire the camp site. The quest was successful, resulting in a new regional camp being built on a 105 acre site at Patterson Lake in Pinckney, Michigan. The new camp will be known as North Star Reach.

North Star Reach will offer one week camping sessions in the summer for children; offering medical, physical and emotional support provided by trained professionals. There will be year-round camp opportunities for family camp, sibling camp, respite care, educational courses, transition groups and more! Donations will cover the operating expenses of North Star Reach with no charge for children or families to attend camp. Partnerships with the University of Michigan's C.S. Mott Hospital and other area medical centers will help provide the necessary staffing and volunteers.

The existing facilities at North Star Reach are undergoing demolition and renovations. Currently, four cabins, a temporary health and activity space are being designed. Successful fund raising will allow construction to begin summer/fall 2010 and the facility to open in summer 2011. The new facility will have the capacity to support 30 to 40 campers and limited staff. The facility will ultimately support more than 150 campers and staff once all of the buildings are in place.



North Star Reach continued on page 5

Transplant Programs Approved Under 'New' CMS Conditions of Participation for Transplant Centers

For several decades the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requirements for Transplant Centers remained relatively unchanged. In June of 2007, CMS implemented a completely new and complex set of Conditions of Participation for Transplant Centers. These conditions are delineated in the Federal Register, volume 72, under part 482, Conditions of Participation for Hospitals. Under the conditions, each Transplant Center (synonymous to one organ transplant program, in our UMHS terminology) must meet a set of exhaustive conditions in order to perform Transplants for Medicare or Medicaid patients. Furthermore, commercial insurers such as Blue Cross and Aetna now require that participating Transplant providers maintain current approval under the CMS Conditions of Participation (COPs).

These Conditions delineate numerous benchmarks that must be achieved in order to maintain approval. These include: minimum transplant volumes which vary by organ type, minimum standards for patient and graft survival and on time data reporting to the Organ Procurement Transplant Network (OPTN). Additionally, programs are required to extensively document criteria for patient and living donor selection, to provide comprehensive written patient and living donor management programs, and to have written protocols for organ recovery and receipt. Specific standards are included for the qualifications and training of the various members of the multi-disciplinary transplant teams. Patient and donor rights are protected under the conditions with requirements for a comprehensive process of informed consent throughout the continuum of transplant care. Finally, the Conditions require that our programs establish and maintain a comprehensive and quantitative quality improvement program.

The University of Michigan Transplant Center applied for CMS approval of all of our transplant programs in December of 2007. A team of CMS surveyors arrived for a routine, unannounced certification survey in October of 2008. The survey team was on site for one week, and completed a thorough survey of each organ program, through medical record and protocol review and extensive personnel interviews. Subsequently, our team responded to inquiries from the survey team, and ultimately we received final approval of all of our organ programs, including heart, liver, lung, kidney and pancreas transplant, in October of 2009. This is a tremendous achievement, and reflects the skill, knowledge and dedication of our outstanding transplant teams. Congratulations to all for a job well done!

– Anne Murphy, MBA

Jessica Boldon Wears Many Hats – Making a Difference

Jessica Boldon is a nursing student at Eastern Michigan University (EMU), and the treasurer of the EMU Student Nurses Association, and she is employed as an Transplant Donation Specialist at the UM Transplant Center. In addition to those roles, Jessica leads EMU's participation in the 2010 Gift of Life Challenge. The 2010 Gift of Life Challenge is a competition between Michigan schools designed to increase registrations in the Michigan Organ Donor Registry and to provide recognition to the school that is able to encourage the greatest number of individuals to register as potential organ donors. The competition runs for approximately six weeks and will be ending on February 25, 2010. Two trophies will be awarded; one for the most donor registrations, and the other for the most registrations in comparison to the size of the school's student population.



Jessica Boldon

Jessica's strong advocacy for the Michigan Organ Donor Registry is apparent through her leadership at EMU in the 2010 Gift of Life Challenge. She has communicated through news articles, a radio interview and Facebook interactions to many audiences highlighting the need for organ donors and the importance of registering your intentions through the Michigan Organ Donor Registry.

Jessica is Making a Difference.

For more information visit www.GiftofLifeMichigan.org or contact Jessica Boldon at jbaldon@emich.edu.



EASTERN
MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



North Star Reach continued from page 3

North Star Reach will need donations to achieve their goal to provide a no-cost camping experience for patients and their families. Doug Armstrong, RN, MS, (the Director of Camp Michitanki since its inception) is the CEO and Executive Director of North Star Reach. If you are interested in supporting North Star Reach, you may make a donation through the following website: www.northstarreach.org and follow the link to First Giving. If you have any questions, please contact Doug Armstrong, RN, MS at 734 936-1712 or doug@northstarreach.org.





Transplant Center's Mission

The Transplant Center's clinical mission is to provide our patients with the best possible medical care in a setting that emphasizes excellence, compassion, accessibility, responsiveness and prompt delivery of care.

University of Michigan Transplant Center Contact Information

Liver Transplant Programs

Adult

Liver Transplant Clinic - Gastroenterology Division
1500 E. Medical Center Drive
3868 Taubman Center, SPC 5391
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-5391
Phone: 734-936-7491 (Local)
Phone: 800-395-6431 (Toll Free)
TTY: 800-649-3777
Fax: 734-936-2464

Pediatric

Liver Transplant Program - Pediatric
Medical Professional Building
1500 E. Medical Center Drive
Room D5216, SPC 5718
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-5718
Phone: 734-615-2462 (Local)
Phone: 877-543-7789 (Toll Free)
Fax: 734-615-2223

Heart Transplant Programs

Adult and Pediatric

Cardiovascular Center
200 North Ingalls Building, 8B02
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-5477
Phone: 888-287-1082

Kidney and/or Pancreas Transplant Programs

Adult

Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Program
1500 E. Medical Center Drive
3868 Taubman Center, SPC 5391
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-5391
Phone: 734-936-7491 (Local)
Phone: 800-333-9013 (Toll Free)
Fax: 734-647-3417

Pediatric

Kidney Transplant Program - Pediatric
C. S. Mott Children's Hospital
1500 E. Medical Center Drive
Room F6865, SPC 5297
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-5297
Phone: 734-615-2040 (Local)
Phone: 877-543-7789 (Toll Free)
Fax: 734-615-2042

Lung Transplant Program

Adult

Lung Transplant Program
1500 E. Medical Center Drive
3862 Taubman Center, SPC 5391
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-5391
Phone: 734-936-7491 (Local)
Phone: 800-333-9013 (Toll Free)
Fax: 734-936-6671

United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)

The United Network for Organ Sharing provides a toll-free patient services line to help transplant candidates, recipients, and family members understand organ allocation practices and transplantation data. You may also call this number to discuss a problem you may be experiencing with your transplant center or the transplantation system in general. The toll-free patient services line number is 1-888-894-6361.

Executive Officers of the University of Michigan Health System: Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D., Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs; James O. Woolliscroft, M.D., Dean, U-M Medical School; Douglas Strong, Chief Executive Officer, U-M Hospitals and Health Centers; Kathleen Potempa, Dean, School of Nursing.

The Regents of the University of Michigan: Julia Donovan Darlow, Laurence B. Deitch, Denise Ilitch, Olivia P. Maynard, Andrea Fischer Newman, Andrew C. Richner, S. Martin Taylor, Katherine E. White, Mary Sue Coleman (ex officio).

The University of Michigan, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the Senior Director for Institutional Equity, and Title IX/Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Office of Institutional Equity, 2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1432, 734-763-0235, TTY 734-647-1388. For other University of Michigan information call 734-764-1817.