

**MALPRACTICE
MAKES
PERFECT?**

First-year medical student Victoria Flores (left) anxiously watches classmate Alexandra Kammen perform faux surgery as part of an “Operation” game variant called “Malpractice.” The game was one of the activities at an Aug. 15 party for new Keck School of Medicine of USC students at the home of Dean Carmen A. Puliafito.



Lisa Brook

Patient interactive system launches at Keck Hospital

By Tania Chatila

A new interactive education and entertainment system at Keck Hospital of USC is transforming the hospital stay for patients and families.

Launched Monday on three inpatient floors, the comprehensive system is offered via 36-inch, flat-screen televisions in patient rooms. The system connects patients and families with a number of resources including patient education videos, Internet access, hospital information and an entertainment library.

“This is just one demonstration of how we are moving toward care that is truly focused around our patients and their families,” said hospitals Chief Executive Officer Scott Evans. “This is a powerful tool that engages our patients in their own health care experience—giving them access to amenities, empowering them to provide immediate feedback about their experiences, and connecting them with the people and departments directly affecting their stay.”

The system, which has been in the planning stages for more than a year, was purchased through Skylight Healthcare Systems and allows for personalization so that hospitals can tailor programming to their unique needs.

At Keck Hospital, it gives patients direct contact with service departments such as

Facilities, Environmental Services and Case Management, said hospital director Kevin Kaldjian, who helped lead the system’s implementation. Patients can request services on their own, such as assistance with discharge planning, room cleanings or temperature adjustments in their rooms.

Through the system, patients can also request

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‘This is just one demonstration of how we are moving toward care that is truly focused around our patients and their families.’

—Hospitals Chief Executive Officer Scott Evans

Pan-fried meat boosts prostate cancer risk

By Molly Rugg

USC and Cancer Prevention Institute of California (CPIC) researchers have found that cooking red meats at high temperatures, especially pan-fried red meats, may increase the risk of advanced prostate cancer by as much as 40 percent.

Mariana Stern, associate professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, led analyses for the study, “Red meat and poultry, cooking practices, genetic susceptibility and risk of prostate cancer: Results from the California Collaborative Prostate Cancer Study.” The study, which is available online in the journal *Carcinogenesis*, provides important new evidence on how red meat and its cooking practices may increase the risk for prostate cancer.

Previous studies have emphasized an association between diets high in red meat and risk of prostate cancer, but evidence is limited. Attention to cooking methods of red meat, however, shows the risk of prostate cancer may be a result of potent chemical carcinogens formed when

meats are cooked at high temperatures.

Researchers examined pooled data from nearly 2,000 men who participated in the California Collaborative Prostate Cancer Study, a multiethnic, case-control study conducted in the San Francisco Bay Area by Esther John, CPIC senior research scientist, and in Los Angeles by Sue A. Ingles, associate professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School.

Study participants completed a comprehensive questionnaire that evaluated amount and type of meat intake, including poultry and processed red meat.

Information regarding cooking practices (e.g., pan-frying, oven-broiling and grilling) was obtained using color photographs that displayed the level of doneness. More than 1,000 of the men included in the study were diagnosed with advanced prostate cancer.

“We found that men who ate more than 1.5 servings of pan-fried red meat per week increased their risk of advanced prostate cancer by 30 percent,” Stern said. “In addition, men who ate more than 2.5 servings of red meat

cooked at high temperatures were 40 percent more likely to have advanced prostate cancer.”

When considering specific types of red meats, hamburgers—but not steak—were linked to an increased risk of prostate cancer, especially among Hispanic men. “We speculate that these findings are a result of

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USC offers new undergraduate health sciences minor

By Hope Hamashige

Undergraduates from the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences have, in the past, had little reason to hop on the campus shuttle to the Health Sciences campus.

But that may change this fall when a new minor in health care studies kicks off that will allow Dornsife students to take classes at the Keck School of Medicine of USC for the first time.

“This program signifies a new era of collaboration between the Dornsife College and the Keck School,” said Stuart Swadron, assistant dean of pre-health undergraduate studies at the Keck School. “It’s an opportunity to combine academic resources and open new lines of communication between the two campuses.”

The minor in health care studies is multidisciplinary in approach, offering students

glimpses into research and clinical practice, as well as the social, economic and political issues surrounding health care. While students will take core sciences courses in biology and chemistry, they will also study contemporary issues in health care, such as studying the legal issues and business challenges of running a successful health care practice.

They will have the opportunity to take specialized elective courses in neuroanatomy, histology, surgery, emergency medicine, and wilderness and survival medicine. Additionally, a course in directed biomedical research will enable students to craft their own hypothesis-driven projects and work in some of the field’s leading laboratories and hospitals.

As health sciences minors, the undergraduates will not only have the opportunity to take courses at the Keck School, they will also have

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Women who give birth after age 40 lower their risk of endometrial cancer

‘This study definitively shows that late age at last birth is a significant protective factor’ against endometrial cancer.

—Veronica “Wendy” Setiawan, assistant professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School

By Robin Heffler

Women who last give birth at age 40 or older have a 44 percent decreased risk of endometrial cancer when compared to women who have their last birth under the age of 25, according to strong evidence in a new, international study led by a researcher at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

Endometrial cancer strikes the endometrium, the tissue lining the uterus (womb), and is the most common gynecological cancer in the United States.

Veronica “Wendy” Setiawan, assistant professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School, was the principal investigator of the study, “Age at Last Birth in Relation to Risk of Endometrial Cancer: Pooled Analysis in the Epidemiology of Endometrial Cancer Consortium,” which found that risk begins to decrease after age 30 by about 13 percentage points for each five-year delay in last births. Compared to women who last give birth before age 25, those who have their last child between age 30 and 34 reduce their risk by 17 percent and those between age 35 and 39 reduce their risk by 32 percent.

“While childbearing at an older age previously has been associated with a lower risk of endometrial cancer, the size of this study definitively shows that late age at last birth is a significant protective factor after taking into account other factors known to influence the disease—



Veronica “Wendy” Setiawan

body weight, number of kids and oral contraceptive use,” Setiawan said.

The study, believed to be the largest of its kind, examined pooled data from four cohort studies and 13 case-control studies. Funded by the National Cancer Institute, the research examined a total of 8,671

cases of endometrial cancer and 16,562 control subjects, all derived from studies in the Epidemiology of Endometrial Cancer Consortium. Results are now available online in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*.

“We found that the lower risk of endometrial cancer continued for older mothers across different age-at-diagnosis groups, including under 50, 50-59, 60-69, and over 70—which shows that the protection persists for many years,” Setiawan said. “Protection also did not vary by the two types of the disease: the more common Type 1, which we think is related to estrogen exposure; and the more rare, but more aggressive and deadly, Type 2, which has been thought to develop independent of hormones.”

Setiawan noted that endometrial cancer is the fourth most common cancer diagnosed among American women. The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2012 about 47,130 new cases of cancer of the uterine body will be diagnosed, and about 8,010 women will die from such cancers. The vast majority of those cases are endometrial cancer.

Setiawan’s research also examined

whether the association between age at last birth and endometrial cancer was consistent across race and ethnicity. The protective association was observed in Caucasian and Asian women, but not in the study’s small subset of black women, and Setiawan suggested this warrants additional study of larger groups of black women.

More research is necessary to determine why late age at last birth might protect against endometrial cancer, but Setiawan notes that several potential mechanisms have been suggested by other investigators, including:

- Women capable of becoming pregnant at an older age may possess a healthy endometrium or experience fewer menstrual cycles without ovulation;
- Prolonged exposure to the hormone progesterone during pregnancy may be especially beneficial at older ages, the critical period for endometrial cancer development;
- Premalignant or malignant cells of the uterine cavity’s mucosal lining, which are more likely to exist with increasing age, are shed during childbirth.

“This study shows an important protective factor for endometrial cancer, and when the exact mechanism by which it protects women from getting the disease is known, it can help our understanding of how endometrial cancer develops and thus how to prevent it,” Setiawan said.

The analysis was supported by grants 5-R03CA135632 and 5-K07CA116543 from the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health.

CANCER: Cooking method shown to be a key factor in boosting risk for certain cancers

Continued from Page 1

different levels of carcinogen accumulation found in hamburgers, given that they can attain higher internal and external temperatures faster than steak,” Stern added.

Researchers also found that men with diets high in baked poultry had a lower risk of advanced prostate cancer, while consumption of pan-fried poultry was associated with increased risk. Stern noted that pan-

frying, regardless of meat type, consistently led to an increased risk of prostate cancer. The same pattern was evident in Stern’s previous research, which found that fish cooked at high temperatures, particularly pan-fried, increased the risk of prostate cancer.

The researchers do not know why pan-frying poses a higher risk for prostate cancer, but they suspect it is due to the formation of the

DNA-damaging carcinogens—heterocyclic amines (HCAs)—during the cooking of red meat and poultry. HCAs are formed when sugars and amino acids are cooked at higher temperatures for longer periods of time. Other carcinogens, such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are formed during the grilling or smoking of meat. When fat from the meat drips on an open flame, the rising smoke leaves deposits of PAHs on the meat.

There is strong experimental evidence that HCAs and PAHs contribute to certain cancers, including prostate cancer.

“The observations from this study alone are not enough to make any health recommendations, but given the few modifiable risk factors known for prostate cancer, the understanding of dietary factors and cooking methods are of high public health relevance,” said Stern.

Co-authors of the study include Amit Joshi, who

received his Ph.D. in molecular epidemiology from the Department of Preventive Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine; Chelsea Catsburg, Juan Pablo Lewinger and Sue Ingles of USC; and CPIC’s Esther John and Jocelyn Koo. The study was supported in part by the Prostate Cancer Foundation, American Cancer Society, and grant 5P30 ES07048 from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the National Cancer Institute.

LAUNCH: New system aids patients

Continued from Page 1

pet therapy, salon services or spiritual care. They have access to free TV channels, an entertainment library with movies, games and music, and a patient education library with more than 50 educational videos related to varying health conditions.

Administrators say the user ability and friendly interface make it easy for patients and families to navigate the system, and also provide real-time feedback on their stay.

“From a patient satisfaction stand point, this serves a critical function,” said Sevanne Sarkis, director of Patient Experience, referring to the 24/7 feedback capability built into the system. Patients have access to on-screen surveys to

provide real-time feedback on any number of topics such as nurse communication, noise or cleanliness. They can also submit complaints that get routed directly to nurses and Patient Experience.

“We can respond immediately and resolve whatever issues they are having,” Sarkis said. “This way, we can ensure their best possible stay with us.”

In the next year, administrators hope to make the system available in all non-intensive care units in the hospital. They also hope to expand the system’s capabilities to eventually include further integration and electronic medical record functions in the near future.

The Weekly

Next Issue: Sept. 14

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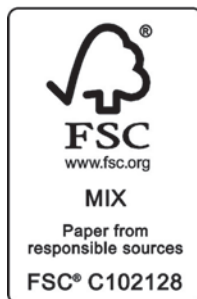
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Om Sharma, professor of medicine in the division of pulmonary critical care, 76

Om P. Sharma, professor of medicine in the division of pulmonary critical care and sleep medicine, died Aug. 19, at his home in Alhambra. He was 76.

Sharma graduated from the Gajara Raja Medical College, in Gwalior, India, in 1959 and from the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in London in 1961. He performed an internship at the J.A. Hospital in Gwalior, and residency in General Medicine at Norwalk Hospital in Norwalk, CT. Afterward he went to Albert Einstein Medical College Hospital, where he performed additional

residency training in chest medicine, and a fellowship in cardiopulmonary medicine. Between 1966 and 1969, Sharma performed a research fellowship at the Royal Northern Hospital in London, UK.

Sharma came to USC as an assistant professor of medicine in 1969, rose to the rank of associate professor of medicine with tenure in 1975, and was promoted to full professor in 1983. He was a world-renowned expert in sarcoidosis, vasculitis and diffuse lung diseases and an outstanding clinician and diagnostician.

He served as the president

of the World Association of Sarcoidosis and Other Granulomatous Disorders from 1999 to 2005, has been an editor of *Current Opinion in Pulmonary Medicine* since 1998, and has been on the editorial board of *Sarcoidosis, Vasculitis, and Diffuse Lung Diseases* since 1988.

Sharma wrote more than 500 papers, 67 chapters and eight books and was the recipient of numerous awards.

He was named a fellow of the College of Chest Surgeons, the American College



Om P. Sharma

of Physicians, and the American Academy of Allergy and Immunology.

In 2004, he was named a master fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians and was a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, London.

Sharma also was committed to excellence in teaching and was actively involved in education of residents and fellows since 1969. He served as an exemplary role model and teacher for the pulmonary fellows, continuously encour-

aging their pursuit of scholarly activity. Recently, Sharma initiated The Om P. Sharma Clinical Excellence Award in recognition of an outstanding graduating fellow who has demonstrated excellence in clinical care. This will be awarded annually out of a fund initially created by him.

Sharma is survived by his wife, Maggie, and three children, Keerty, Kavita and Arion.

To donate to the Om P. Sharma Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Fellows' Fund for Academic Excellence and Clinical Research, visit keck.usc.edu/OmSharma.

Roscoe D. Atkinson, longtime faculty member at the Keck School of Medicine, 53

Roscoe D. Atkinson, a longtime faculty member in the Keck School of Medicine departments of Pathology and Neurology, died earlier this month. He was 53.

Atkinson received his medical degree in 1989 from USC and completed a combined residency program in anatomic pathology and neuropathology in 1993 at LAC+USC Medical Center.

After his residency, he received a four-year Physician Scientist Award from the NIH funding his fellowship from 1993 to 1997. He was board certified in anatomic pathology and neuropathology in 1995, was appointed assistant professor of clinical pathology and neurology at USC in 1997, and promoted to associate professor of clinical pathology and neurology in 2003. Atkinson served

as attending staff at LAC+USC Medical Center and Keck Hospital. His clinical duties included surgical neuropathology at Keck Hospital and surgical/autopsy neuropathology at LAC+USC Medical Center.

Atkinson focused his research on the development of automated image analysis for pathologists, a field that he developed both in his lab at USC and in collaboration with industrial partners. He was also interested in the immune mechanisms of central nervous system demyelination and published over 20 collaborative papers in that field.

Known by his peers for his passion for and excellence in teaching, he taught in several departments in the medical



Roscoe D. Atkinson

school including pathology, cell and neurobiology, neurology, neuroradiology and the division of medical education.

He also was a highly valued teacher in the USC School of Pharmacy, where he taught until last winter, at the LAC+USC Medical Center, at UC Riverside/ UCLA Biomedical Program and at the Western University School of Osteopathy. He was a recipient of student teaching awards multiple times at both the medical school and the School of Pharmacy.

Atkinson was especially known for using innovative video technology, rock music and electronic media for making his lectures to trainees dynamic and memorable. He also frequently used

humor to explain complex and often tedious concepts and delivered tongue-in-cheek lectures and videos with a famously dry delivery.

Judy A. Garner, vice dean for faculty affairs at the Keck School, described Atkinson as “a warm and wonderful person, always in a good mood, and always willing to do whatever was needed. I never heard him utter a negative word about anyone.”

She said she was impressed by his accomplishments, including “the many students’ lives he touched, the clinical service he performed, the research work that holds promise for patients and for devotion to his family.”

He is survived by his son, Roscoe; his daughter, Sarah Gehringer; and his sister, Judy Atkinson.

MINOR: New program intended to aid the understanding of health care for all majors

Continued from Page 1

the chance to receive hands-on basic clinical experiences at Keck Medical Center of USC, Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, as well as a number of other affiliate sites.

“This program sets a new standard for pre-medical undergraduate education,” said Carmen A. Puliafito, dean of the Keck School. “The faculty at the Keck School is looking forward to welcoming our first undergraduate students and also to working side-by-side with our colleagues on the University Park campus.”

The new minor program is intended to complement the understanding of health care for all majors, not just those students interested in pursuing medical degrees. Swadron noted that the minor will also be beneficial to a variety of students, such as those with business or communications majors who may be interested in working in the health care industry.

Several ambitious goals associated with the new program go well beyond forging new relationships between the USC campuses. Another hope is that, because few colleges offer similar programs, it will help

recruit top college applicants eyeing a future in health care or medicine to study at USC.

The broader vision, explained Swadron, is to create a unique course of study aimed at turning out a different breed of medical professional, one that is more personally, academically and professionally prepared to face today’s increasingly complex health care landscape.

“The modern doctor needs more than a medical degree,” said Swadron. “Students are going to need to have a broader understanding of how health care fits into the bigger picture.”

The Weekly NEWSMAKERS

A feature in the September 2012 issue of *The Atlantic* profiled **Harvey Karp**, assistant professor of pediatrics at the Keck School, about how adults should speak to toddlers.

An Aug. 28 article in *The Commentator* quoted **Jonathan Samet**, the Flora L. Thornton Chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine at the Keck School, about the link between cell phones and cancer risk.

An Aug. 27 report in *Canyon News* indicates that USC Norris Ovarian Cancer Research is a beneficiary of the 14th Annual Walk/Run for Awareness and Hope in Studio City on Sept. 9.

An Aug. 27 article in the *Los Angeles Times* featured a tablet computer app

developed by **Peter Clarke**, professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School and communication at the Annenberg School, and **Susan Evans**, research scientist at the Annenberg School, that helps individuals eat healthier and reduce food waste.

An Aug. 26 story on *The Huffington Post* featured a study by **Mariana Stern**, associate professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School, and colleagues, finding that the type and preparation method of meat in a man’s diet may affect his prostate cancer risk. Pan-fried meat—and hamburger meat in particular—seemed to increase prostate cancer. KPCC-FM blog “On Central” also covered the research.

An Aug. 25 column in the *Los Angeles*

Times reported that **Daniel Oakes**, associate professor of orthopedic surgery at the Keck School and director of the USC Joint Replacement Program, performed knee replacement surgery on journalist Steve Lopez, and quoted Oakes about the need for joint-replacement surgeons in the United States.

An Aug. 24 commentary on ESPN noted that columnist **Arash Markazi** received a stem-cell transplant for non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

An Aug. 23 report in *The Guardian* (Nigeria) highlighted a 2011 USC study by **Carrie Breton**, **Muhammad Salam** and **Frank Gilliland** of the Keck School’s Department of Preventive Medicine

finding that the children of women who smoked while pregnant were more likely to have variable DNA methylation levels, which is crucial to the development of the immune system.

An Aug. 23 article in The Huffington Post mentioned a 2008 USC review of eight studies led by **Anna Wu**, professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School, finding that women who have a cup of soy milk or half-cup of tofu each day have a 30 percent reduced risk of breast cancer.

An Aug. 23 post on the Eagle Rock Patch noted that the Keck School launched a bilingual website to address the health needs of Northeast Los Angeles residents.

Community oral health programs serve women veterans in need

By Beth Dunham
Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC’s Community Oral Health Program faculty, staff and students provided free dental services for female veterans on July 20 on the University Park Campus. The outreach, targeted toward homeless female veterans and other women veterans in need, was part of the 2nd Annual Female Veterans Stand Down organized by United States Veterans Initiative. Along with dental care, veterans received medical and vision screenings, legal and financial advice, housing help, benefit assistance, employment and job interview counseling, wellness and beauty services, free food, and live entertainment. Ostrow School volunteers staffed two Neighborhood Mobile Clinic vehicles to provide dental and oral cancer screenings. Veterans also received oral hygiene instruction, free dental supplies and referrals to low- or no-cost clinics near their homes, including Ostrow School of Dentistry clinics.

Unemployed Army veteran Carrie Simpson, who recently relocated to Los Angeles from Houston, Texas, received a dental screening and a referral to the USC Union Rescue Mission Dental Clinic for further dental care. She said the care and assistance was part of a “wonderful welcome to L.A.

“I really appreciate everyone who’s serving and volunteering their time. They’re good and patient with everybody,” Simpson said.

She said she hopes fixing her teeth and improving her dental health will help her find a job, noting that “the first thing you show someone is your smile.”

Niel Nathason, section chair of community dentistry, described the scope of need that veterans face, noting a high percentage of veterans are unemployed and Los Angeles is home to the largest concentration of homeless veterans, more than 10 percent of whom are women.

“We should never hear the words ‘homeless’ and ‘veteran’ together,” he said. “When we help veterans, it’s a win-win for our community, for the patients and for our students.”

Kathy Elizondo, director of the USC Union Rescue Mission Dental Clinic, said the services offered by the Ostrow School of Dentistry’s community outreach efforts are important for veterans, especially

USC starts blood transfusion clinical trial

The Keck School of Medicine’s division of trauma surgery and surgical critical care is starting a large, multicenter trial at LAC+USC Medical Center in which patients over age 15 with traumatic injury and requiring massive blood transfusion will be enrolled.

The Pragmatic Randomized Optimal Platelet and Plasma Ratios Trial will examine blood product ratios in massive transfusion to learn what ratios are associated with improved survival.

Because patients will be enrolled in the study without consent upon admission to the hospital, trial administrators are alerting as much of the community as possible to give them the opportunity to opt out of the study.

To learn more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/99ubhu7>.



Army veteran Carrie Simpson discusses her dental care with student dentist Sean Vreeburg DDS '14.

since so many have limited access to affordable dental care. It’s also important for the dental students who serve veterans and other populations in need, she added.

“Students who work with this population realize the need and will hopefully work more with them in the future,” Elizondo said. “It’s an eye-opener.”

Roseann Mulligan, associate dean of community health programs and hospital affairs and chair of the division of

dental public health & pediatric dentistry, said dental care is a critical need for veterans and plays an important role in overall health.

“The number one need for our homeless female veterans is dental care. Once oral health is obtained, significant improvement in not only oral health but also general health and self-esteem accrues,” she said. “Clearly, dental health is an important contributor to the rehabilitation needs for our female vets.”

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Calendar of Events

This Calendar of Events is also online at www.usc.edu/hscalendar for the Health Sciences campus community

Monday, Sept. 10

Noon. KSOM Research Seminar. “Specificity of Natural Killer T Cells: Innate Lymphocytes Reactive with Microbial as well as Self Antigens,” Mitchell Kronenberg, La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology. NRT Aresty Auditorium. Info: (323) 442-7732

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. SC CTSI Career Development Seminar Series. “Personal Leadership Style,” Jody Tolan, USC. CSC 250. \$14 to register. Info: (323) 442-8281

Tuesday, Sept. 11

2 – 3 p.m. “Navigating a New Diagnosis of Breast Cancer: What Does Personalized Medicine Mean?” Debu Tripathy, USC. NRT Ground Floor Jennifer Diamond Library. Info: (323) 865-3520

Wednesday, Sept. 12

3 p.m. The Delphine & James Fahringer MMI Seminar. “The P13P Producing Enzyme and Effector Control Autophagosome Biogenesis and Maturation,” Qing Zhong, UC Berkeley. NRT LG 503/504. Info: (323) 442-1713

Thursday, Sept. 13

Noon. The Soul of Medicine. “Training Lifetime Champions: Promoting Holistic Health Throughout the Lifespan Among Elite Competitive Athletes,” Shawn Sorenson, S.C. Sorenson Consulting. MCH 149. A free lunch will be provided. Info: (213) 740-6110

Sunday, Sept. 16

6:30 a.m. – 8 a.m. Registration. 3rd Annual LA Prostate Cancer 5K. USC University Park Campus. All proceeds and donations from the event will be dedicated to prostate cancer research and education at USC. The 5K is open to all levels of runners, joggers and walkers. The race starts at 8:30 a.m. Info: (323) 865-3731

Tuesday, Sept. 18

Noon. Psychiatry Grand Rounds. “Accelerating New CNS Drug Development: Translational and Biomarker Driven Approaches for Alzheimer’s, Depression, and Schizophrenia,” Larry Ereshefsky, Parexel International. ZNI 112. Info: (323) 442-4065

Monday, Sept. 24

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. SC CTSI Career Development Seminar Series. “Strategic Decision Making,” Terance Wolfe, USC. CSC 250. \$14 to register. Info: (323) 442-8281

Notice: Deadline for calendar submission is 4 p.m. Monday to be considered for that week’s issue—although three weeks’ advance notice of events is recommended. Please note that timely submission does not guarantee an item will be printed. Send calendar items to [The Weekly](mailto:eblaauw@usc.edu), KAM 400 or fax to (323) 442-2832, or email to eblaauw@usc.edu. Entries must include day, date, time, title of talk, first and last name of speaker, affiliation of speaker, location and a phone number for information.

In case of an emergency...

Call the Emergency Information Phone: (213) 740-9233 The emergency telephone system can handle 1,400 simultaneous calls. It also has a backup system on the East Coast.

Visit the USC Web: <http://emergency.usc.edu> This page will be activated in case of an emergency. Backup Web servers on the East Coast will function if the USC servers are incapacitated.