Office of the Chair - Week of May 1 - 5, 2006

Website: http://www.hsc.usf.edu/PSYCH/

Newsletter

Meetings

Tuesday 05/02/06 12:00 noon Outpatient Clinic Committee Meeting
Wednesday 05/03/06 8:00 a.m. Appointment, Promotion & Tenure Committee Mtg.
12:00 noon Curriculum Committee Meeting
Thursday 05/04/06 8:00 a.m. Call Center Meeting
12:00 noon Residents’ Meeting
Friday 05/05/06 8:00 a.m. Student Lectures: “ADHD” Dr. Bruty, “Jeopardy” Dr. Catalano, “Substance Abuse” Dr. Brown, “Case Discussion: Behavioral Disturbances in Children” Dr. Stock, “Neurological Emergencies in Children” Dr. Winesett
11:30 a.m. Cinco de Mayo Luncheon in Hideaway Café
12:00 noon Grand Rounds: “Parkinsonism in Chronic, Untreated Schizophrenia” Gabriel A. de Erausquin, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology, Hope Center for Neurological Disorders, Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center, Washington University School of Medicine

In The Know!

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. The following lectures will be held from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the second floor Faculty/Staff Lounge. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP at (813)974-6967.

- May 3, 2006: “Helping Children Grow Up Healthy” Berney Wilkinson, Ph.D., Instructor, USF Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine
- May 10, 2006: “Psychiatric Disorders in the Elderly – Depression, Anxiety, Sleep, Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Dementia” Marguerite Poreda, M.D., Assistant Professor, USF Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine
- May 17, 2006: “Eating Disorders – Helping Without Hurting” Pauline S. Powers, M.D., Professor, USF Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine
• May 24, 2006: “How to Understand and Treat Schizophrenia” Carlos Santana, M.D., Associate Professor, USF Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine
• May 31, 2006: “What To Do When The Blues Won’t Go Away” Francisco Fernandez, M.D., Professor and Chairman, USF Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine.

On May 4, 2006 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. the Carter-Jenkins Center will be presenting ADHD Informativo por el Dr. Humberto Nagera, Profesor de Psiquiatria de la Universidad del Sur de la Florida (USF), Director de la Clinica de ADHD en el Departamento de Psiquiatria USF, Psicoanalista de Ninos, Adolescentes y Adultos.

Congratulations to Martha E. Brown, M.D. who graduated on April 27, 2006 from the ELAM (Executive Leaders in Academic Medicine) program. ELAM is a year-long leadership program geared to move women in medicine into academic leadership positions.

Congratulations to Berney J. Wilkinson, Ph.D., NCSP. MOSI, the Museum of Science & Industry in Tampa, Florida, is planning a state of the art exhibit on health and wellness. Because of Dr. Wilkinson’s exemplary contributions to the field of health and wellness, the exhibit planning and design team at MOSI has invited Dr. Wilkinson to become part of its National Advisory Board for Health.

Brenda Curtwright, M.S., CCC-SLP, licensed speech-language pathologist will be conducting a Social Skills Program at the Silver Child Development Center for children 8-12 years of age. The program will follow a grouping of lessons for beginning social skills that focus on communication using behavioral modification strategies such as modeling, role playing, performance feedback, a positive reinforcement reward system and homework assignments to enhance the transfer of learned skills. The program’s goals are to improve your child’s ability to interact with their peer group. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (813)974-8900.


Congratulations to Drs. P. R. Sanberg, R. D. Shytle and A. A. Silver for receiving a Patent Award Notification and Plaque for the method of treating cognitive deficits in learning and memory. The treatment of learning, memory and age-related memory disorders includes administration of a nicotine antagonist. The preferred nicotine antagonists are mecamylamine, a mecamylamine analog, or a mecamylamine stereoisomer. The effective amount of the nicotine antagonist is 0.005-1.00 mg/kg/day. Alternatively, the method utilizes a partial nicotine agonist. United States Patent Office, Patent #6,979,698.

Berney J. Wilkinson, Ph.D., NCSP and Richard Marshall, Ph.D. recently conducted an all-day workshop on “Early Onset Bipolar Disorder” to 90 school psychologists, guidance counselors and social workers in West Palm Beach for the County School Board. A formal letter of invitation was received by Mr. Bob Templeton, Director of Psychological Services for the West Palm Beach County School Board.
What makes green tea “brain healthy”? Researchers lead by USF Silver Child Development Center, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine’s Dr. Jun Tan are asking this very question. In addition to other components, green tea contains epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG). EGCG appears to be a novel anti-Alzheimer’s Disease (AD) compound, significantly reducing amyloid plaques, pathological components of AD, in transgenic Alzheimer’s mice (J Neurosci. 2005 Sep 21;25(38):8807-14). A follow-up study by Dr. Tan’s group, published online this month by the Journal of Biological Chemistry, indicates that EGCG may mediate its beneficial effect on amyloid production by promotion of the activity of alpha-secretase protein a-disintegrin-and-metalloprotease-domain 10 (ADAM10). ADAM10 activity mitigates against amyloid production and may represent a promising therapeutic strategy for the prevention and treatment of AD. Demian Obregon, a Ph.D./M.D. candidate of the USF Department of Molecular Physiology & Pharmacology and Kavon Rezai-Zadeh, Ph.D. candidate were co-lead authors. Other authors included: Yun Bai, Ph.D., Nan Sun, MS; Takashi Mori, Ph.D., Huayan Hou, M.D.; Jared Ehrhart, Ph.D. candidate; Jin Zeng, MS; Gary Arendash, Ph.D.; Doug Shytle, Ph.D., and Terrence Town, Ph.D. The study was conducted at the Silver CDC and supported by Institute for the Study of Aging (JT) and the Johnnie B. Byrd Sr. Alzheimer’s Center & Research Institute (JT and DS).

Research Happenings!

Having trouble sleeping? Participants are needed for a 55-week study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of an investigational medication compared to a placebo for the treatment of primary insomnia. Study participants will have a 3 out of 4 chance of getting active medication. Participants who complete the first 12 weeks of the study and qualify for the second part of the study will receive the investigational medication for 40 weeks. To be eligible for this study, participants must be 18 years or older and be diagnosed with primary insomnia. Please call (813)974-1404 or (813)974-9817 for more information.

Attention: Child Clinicians: an 8-week pharmaceutical study is being conducted in The Silver Child Development Center by PI Amaya Ramos, M.D. to evaluate the “Efficacy and Safety of Aripiprazole in the Treatment of Tourette’s Disorder: A Pilot Open-label Study.” Patients must be 8-17 years of age. All study-related procedures and medications will be provided to patients at no charge. Please call Valerie at (813)974-1404 for more information on this study.

We Need You! Please help us complete our MINI-Kid Study by referring your patients. We are in need of patients with possible diagnosis of eating disorder, alcohol and substance abuse/dependency and psychotic disorders. Study flyers with more information are in the clinic for patients. Please call the Silver Child Development Center at 974-1516.