

February 10, 1993

TRAUMA EXPERTS TO DISCUSS INJURY PREVENTION AT PUBLIC SYMPOSIUM

DALLAS--Leading trauma experts will discuss the growing public-health problem of traumatic injuries at the first annual Burlington Northern Visiting Lectureship in Trauma Feb. 19-20 at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. The event is free and open to the public.

Funded by a \$50,000 endowment from the Burlington Northern Foundation, representing Burlington Northern Railroad Co., the lectureship was established by the UT System Board of Regents in 1992.

Injuries kill more Americans each year than pneumonia, chronic lung disease, stroke or acquired immune deficiency syndrome. More productive work years are lost to trauma than to heart disease and cancer combined. Traumatic injuries annually kill three times the number of Americans killed in the Vietnam War. They are the leading cause of death in people under age 45.

"In the past, major emphasis has been placed upon improved treatment of acute injury. In spite of progress in that area, the numbers of injuries and the burden on society continues to escalate," said Dr. C. James Carrico, chairman of surgery at UT Southwestern and holder of the Hall and Mary Lucile Shannon Distinguished Chair in Surgery. "The time has come to turn attention and energy to the most

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effective and efficient means of solving this mammoth health-care issue--namely, prevention."

The symposium will begin at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, in room D1.502 with a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Charles Rice, professor of surgery at UT Southwestern. Panel members will include Dr. Brent Eastman, chairman of the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma; Dr. Ron Anderson, president and chief executive officer of Parkland Memorial Hospital; Dr. Ellen MacKenzie, a professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health; and Carrico. They will discuss the growing impact of trauma on public hospitals; evaluation of trauma systems; and recent national, state, regional and local injury-prevention initiatives.

MacKenzie will deliver the inaugural lecture at 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, in room D1.502 on "The Economic and Social Consequences of Injury." A national expert on injury as a public-health issue, she has served as a faculty member of Johns Hopkins Injury Prevention Center since 1986. She is the recipient of the General Motors Trauma Research Award, given by the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, and the A.J. Mirkin Service Award, given by the Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine. She serves on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Injury Research Grants Review Committee and recently served on a committee to set a national agenda for disability prevention, sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine.

"With our growing work force in Tarrant County and operations throughout the country, Burlington Northern Railroad is pleased that it could support the

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community's desire to have, and be able to use, the world-class trauma center at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas," said Gerald Grinstein, chairman and chief executive officer of Burlington Northern Railroad.

The Fort Worth-based Burlington Northern Foundation was established in 1953 as a major channel of philanthropy for the Great Northern Railway Company, one of the predecessors of today's Burlington Northern. The Foundation administers a consistent contributions program to support and improve the general welfare and quality of life in communities it serves.

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NOTE: The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School, affiliated teaching hospitals and outpatient clinics.