

# SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

Contact: Bridgette Rose McNeill  
(214) 648-3404  
or e-mail: bmcnei@mednet.swmed.edu

## UT SOUTHWESTERN ACCREDITED TO TRAIN CARDIAC SUBSPECIALISTS

DALLAS — October 7, 1996 — UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas has been accredited as one of only two institutions in the state to offer a residency program in clinical cardiac electrophysiology, the treatment of heart rhythm disturbances.

Clinical cardiac electrophysiology is a newly recognized subspecialty that includes inserting and monitoring pacemakers and cardiac defibrillators. Approximately 1 million Americans have pacemakers, and nearly 100 pacemakers are implanted each year at UT Southwestern's Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology Service, which includes Parkland Memorial Hospital, Zale Lipshy University Hospital and the Dallas Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

"This says that UT Southwestern is one of the major medical centers in the region and in the nation, filling the breadth of medical care in clinical cardiology and in the training of cardiologists," said Dr. Richard Page, associate professor of internal medicine and medical director of the clinical cardiac electrophysiology service at UT Southwestern.

Page, one of fewer than 700 board-certified clinical cardiac electrophysiologists in the nation, will direct the subspecialty training program.

"Dr. Page has done an outstanding job in developing cardiac electrophysiology at UT Southwestern, and the formal accreditation of his training program is only one of many signs of this progress," said Dr. R. Sanders Williams, chief of cardiology.

A 1995 national task force on cardiology training noted that clinical cardiac electrophysiology and cardiac pacing have matured significantly and are becoming a common subspecialty discipline. In the last year, 68 programs nationwide have been approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and will offer one-year training programs in the subspecialty.

A physician must be certified in internal medicine and cardiology before he or she can be certified as a clinical cardiac electrophysiologist.

###

This news release is available on our World Wide Web home page at  
<http://www.swmed.edu/news/newspubs.htm>