

# SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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## UT SOUTHWESTERN PHYSICIANS DOMINATE BEST DOCTORS LIST

DALLAS — April 26, 1996 — More than 85 percent of the Dallas-area physicians listed in a new edition of *The Best Doctors in America: Central Region* — 479 out of 560 — are affiliated with UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

Two hundred and thirty of the listed physicians are regular faculty members, and 249 others hold volunteer clinical faculty positions at UT Southwestern.

The May issue of *D* magazine contains 283 listings of Dallas doctors included in the book. The magazine's editors said they limited their list to physicians involved in the treatment or prevention of the 10 illnesses responsible for the most deaths in America: heart disease; cancer; stroke; chronic obstructive pulmonary disorders; trauma; pneumonia and influenza; diabetes; AIDS; suicide; and liver disease. UT Southwestern-affiliated physicians also accounted for the lion's share of that list. The number of regular faculty members included was 107, and another 125 were clinical faculty members.

The new book offers a guide to the best doctors in the central United States and serves as a companion to the national *Best Doctors in America*, which is published every two years and is scheduled to be updated later this year. Fifty-eight of the 86 Dallas physicians recognized in the most recent national version of *Best Doctors in America* were on the UT Southwestern faculty at the time of that book's publication. The *Central Region* book contains the names of 6,832 physicians in Texas, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Montana, New Mexico, Colorado and Wyoming. Physicians are categorized according to more than 350 areas of medical expertise — from allergy to oncology, plastic surgery to ophthalmology. Included for the first time are lists of general internists, family doctors and general pediatricians.

To compile the list, the authors conducted more than 7,000 phone interviews and

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mailed more than 10,000 letters to doctors throughout the region, asking them to confidentially rate the abilities of their peers. They were asked: "If a friend or loved one came to you with a medical problem in your field of expertise, and you could not handle the case, to whom would you send them?" The book lists physicians who earn the consensus support of their peers, and listings cannot be purchased.

The results are highly credible, co-author Steven Naifeh said, because the evaluations are done by physicians who have considerable experience dealing with their peers from their particular region.

UT Southwestern president Dr. Kern Wildenthal said the listing is the latest evidence of the high quality of faculty at the medical center. "I think our faculty members' outstanding clinical credentials are reflected in this list," he said. "I'm sure all of the doctors included in the book are pleased and inspired by this confirmation of their peers' respect."

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NOTE: The complete list of UT Southwestern physicians listed in the *Best Doctors* book may be obtained by calling Emily Martinez at (214) 648-3404.

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