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NEWS

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** UTHSCD hosts poisoning and overdose seminar

DALLAS—"Acute Poisoning and Overdose," a seminar featuring nationally known experts, will be held Nov. 18 and 19 at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas.

The program is designed to improve skills of the emergency room physician and primary care specialists (family practitioners, internists, pediatricians) in dealing with poisonings and overdoses, drug abuse and environmental health hazards. Others who might find the program useful are lawyers representing people exposed to poisonings and those working in drug abuse education.

Course director Dr. Thomas Kurt, clinical associate professor of Internal Medicine, says the seminar is the first of its kind to be offered in the area. "This program has come about largely through the efforts of Dr. Ron Anderson (chief executive officer at Parkland Hospital and associate professor of Internal Medicine) and his interest in drug abuse."

Keynote speaker will be Dr. Barry Rumack, director of the Rocky Mountain Poison Center and associate professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado Health Science Center in Denver. Rumack, whose poison center is considered by Kurt to be at the regional forefront, will speak on the "initial triage of the poisoned patient."

Other speakers and their topics on Friday, Nov. 18, will be:

- * "The EMS System, EMTs and the Poisoned Patient," Dr. James Atkins, associate professor of Internal Medicine and director of Community Emergency Medical Services;
- * "Characteristics of Drugs at Toxic vs. Therapeutic Drug Levels," Dr. Craig Brater, associate professor of Pharmacology and Internal Medicine;
- * "Emergencies with Common Drugs of Abuse," Anderson;
- * "Laboratory Tests on Poisoned Patients," Drs. Robert Bost, assistant professor of Pathology; Compton Broders III, director of Emergency Department, Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas, and Kurt;
- * "Acetaminophen (generic name for Tylenol) Overdoses," Dr. Anthony Temple, adjunct associate professor of Pediatrics, University of Pennsylvania;
- * "Managing Sedative Overdoses," Dr. Gary Reed, assistant professor of Internal Medicine and medical director, Parkland Emergency Department;
- * "Chemical Injuries of the Eye," Dr. James McCulley, professor and chairman of Ophthalmology;
- * "Managing Anaphylaxis from Insect Bites and Drugs," Dr. Timothy Sullivan, chief of the Allergy Unit and associate professor of Internal Medicine;
- * "Inhalation of Toxic Gases," Kurt; and

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* "Antidotes and Their Use," Kurt and Reed.

On Saturday, Nov. 19, speakers and topics will be:

* "Poisonous Plants and Mushrooms," Dr. Michael Ellis, director, Texas State Poison Center, Galveston;

* "Hydrocarbon Ingestions," Dr. Charles Ginsburg, medical director, Children's Medical Center, and associate professor of Pediatrics;

* "Toxicologic Misadventures," Dr. Charles Petty, director, Southwest Institute of Forensic Sciences, and professor of Pathology;

* "Alcohol Intoxication," Dr. Robert Bost, director of Toxicology Laboratory, Southwest Institute of Forensic Sciences, and assistant professor of Pathology; and

* "The Intoxilyzer and DWI: a Demonstration," Ron Oliver, technical supervisor of Intoxilyzer Program, Southwest Institute of Forensic Sciences.

For more information about the program contact Gale Quilter in Continuing Education at 214/688-2166.

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