

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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FREE PUBLIC SCHIZOPHRENIA SEMINAR SET FOR OCT. 5 AT UT SOUTHWESTERN

DALLAS — September 20, 1993 — A free public forum, "Treating Schizophrenia," will be held Oct. 5 at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas' North Campus as a part of Mental Illness Awareness Week (Oct. 3-8).

The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Excellence in Education Foundation Auditorium, Simmons Biomedical Research Building. Free parking will be available. UT Southwestern's North Campus is located at 6000 Harry Hines Blvd. at Record Crossing.

Schizophrenia is a mental illness characterized by delusions, hallucinations, thought disorders and deterioration in functioning. Possibly the most devastating of mental illnesses, schizophrenia affects between 1 percent and 2 percent of the population worldwide. It usually strikes down young people in their teens and 20s.

Presentations will be on the newest research in schizophrenia and social aspects of the disease. Speakers will be Dr. David Garver and Dr. Joel Feiner, UT Southwestern professors of psychiatry. There also will be a question-and-answer period.

Forum sponsors include UT Southwestern, the North Texas Society of Psychiatric Physicians, the Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Dallas, Tarrant, Denton and Collin counties, and the Mental Health Association of Greater Dallas.

Holder of the Communities Foundation of Texas Chair in Brain Science, Garver leads the genetic-research effort in schizophrenia at UT Southwestern and at the Dallas Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Feiner is a national figure in community psychiatry. He serves as clinical and training director of Mental Health Connections, a full-service, public

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Schizophrenia — 2

psychiatric-care center, which is a joint project of the Dallas County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center and UT Southwestern.

Other events during Mental Illness Awareness Week include:

—**Candlelight Vigil**, open to the public, 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 3, at the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden, 8525 Garland Road, sponsored by the Dallas Alliance for the Mentally Ill. Please bring flashlights. The Rev. Jerry Hill of the Austin Street Shelter will speak.

—**Grand Rounds** for mental-health professionals Friday, Oct. 8, from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. at UT Southwestern, F4.118, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd., sponsored by the Dallas, Tarrant, Denton and Collin county branches of the Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the Department of Psychiatry at UT Southwestern, the Mental Health Association of Greater Dallas and the North Texas Society of Psychiatric Physicians. Dr. Frederick J. Frese will speak on "Aspects of Coping With Serious Mental Illness." Frese, director of psychology at Western Reserve Psychiatric Hospital in Northfield, Ohio, has suffered from and overcome mental illness and has spoken at a number of national meetings for various mental-health organizations.

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