In June mouths opened and minds expanded for five participants of an oral health interdisciplinary learning project.

This oral health project, sponsored by the Kansas Association of the Medically Underserved, KUMC’s Center on Aging, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry and the KU Rural Eastern Kansas Area Health Education Center, continues an interdisciplinary training tradition in southeast Kansas. The big difference this year was that dental students were involved for the first time.

“We wanted to involve dental students because there is a severe shortage of dentists in rural areas, and because the mouth seems to be a foreign object to most physicians,” said Mary Beth Warren, director, Rural Eastern Kansas Area Health Education Center, who along with a planning committee saw that the project encompassed observation at community dental and medical clinics, as well as problem-based learning.

“We wanted to involve dental students because there is a severe shortage of dentists in rural areas, and because the mouth seems to be a foreign object to most physicians,” said Mary Beth Warren, director, Rural Eastern Kansas Area Health Education Center, who along with a planning committee saw that the project encompassed observation at community dental and medical clinics, as well as problem-based learning.

Martin Dillow, a second-year KU School of Medicine student, said that the oral cavity holds much more information than he had imagined.

“Medical students have a lot more in common with dental students than I had anticipated. The dental school covers more in their curriculum than I would have thought,” he said.

Nurse practitioner participants, Patricia Peck, BSN, and Paula Stultz, BSN, agreed. They attend Pittsburg State University as part of the Kansas Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program that works in collaboration with KU and Fort Hays State and Wichita State universities.

“We are taught a ‘womb to tomb’ education, but I would like to see more of the information I’ve learned about the oral cavity being taught,” said Peck, a second-year nurse practitioner student. “Nurse practitioners don’t spend a lot of time on the oral cavity so having this new insight is tremendous,” she said.

On the flip side, University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) dental students Sarah Carter and Mariah Frazier were amazed that medical and nursing students learn so little about oral health.

For example, in dental school, instructors joke that when a medical doctor charts “WNL” for “Within Normal Limits” on a head and neck exam, it refers to “We Never Looked” at the oral cavity.

continued on page 11
Mark Your Calendar

Medical students, resident physicians, nursing and allied health students are encouraged to mark their calendars now to attend the 2002 Kansas Healthcare Job Opportunities Days sponsored by Rural Health in Wichita and Kansas City.

The Job Days are career-service events that bring rural health-care employers together with prospective providers. The Wichita event is Thursday, Oct. 10, at the KU School of Medicine, and the Kansas City event is Thursday, Nov. 7. Interested participants can register for the free programs on the Web at http://ruralhealth.kumc.edu/khjo/jobdays.html.

Kansas Beauty

To see the “ah” factor of Kansas, or to share it with a friend or possible recruit, browse through a few of the outstanding books that illustrate Kansas’ beauty.

Here is a list of five books that give breathtaking scenic tours of our state:

- The Inhabited Prairie, by Terry Evans, 1998, 96 pages.

Kansas Connections

From The Director . . .
Lorene R. Valentine

Sept. 6-15, come share a moment of Jayhawk pride at the KU booths. Representatives from the University of Kansas, KU Med Center and the School of Medicine-Wichita will be on hand to meet and greet you. Perhaps you can reserve time to participate in the KU pep rally Sept. 8. Rock Chalk Jayhawk!!

Russell Native Honored

Robert J. Dole is often remembered today for his service as a U.S. senator, but Bob Dole’s courage and determination on the field of battle in World War II as a young second lieutenant in the U.S. Army truly reflect the character of this Kansan from Russell.

To recognize the senator’s service in the armed forces, the U.S. House passed a bill to rename the Wichita Veterans Hospital in his honor. It is now the Robert J. Dole Department of Veterans Affairs Medical and Regional Office Center.

“Senator Dole is a war hero who has given so much to our country and to Kansas. He has always been a great advocate for veterans, and we are pleased to hear the president signed legislation to name our medical and regional office center in his honor,” said Rhonda Edens, public affairs officer for the hospital.

New Look

Rural Health debuted its new Web site in early June. Our pages now sport an updated design that make the site easier to navigate with less scrolling.

New items include two sample Kansas Bridging Plan contracts to help guide residents and communities.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
Feed The Residents, Recruit The Residents

If you’re looking for a way to make a connection with family-practice residents in Kansas City, we have found a captive audience for you. Joshua Freeman, MD, professor and chair, Family Medicine, KUMC, is inviting Kansas communities to provide lunch for its weekly “Core Meeting” lectures, which all family practice residents are required to attend. The three-hour core meetings take place each Wednesday at the medical center.

Pharmaceutical companies have frequently provided lunch for core meetings in the past, but Freeman, who has been chair since January, is limiting their participation to open wide a new “recruitment door” for rural communities.

In addition to providing lunches for approximately 30 residents, each community could supply an equal number of informational fliers or community brochures.

“A lot of the residents do have an interest in rural areas, but they don’t always know who to contact,” said Freeman. “I think this would be a great way to get rural information in front of the residents. After all, they are required to be there.”

Marti Miller, residency coordinator, suggests that a community could sign up to provide lunch as a one-time service or schedule it as a monthly or quarterly event. She noted that residents truly appreciate the free meals since their hectic schedules don’t always allow them time to pick up a lunch.

Miller can suggest possible caterers or she can act as a liaison for any community that chooses to provide lunches. She can be reached at 913-588-1959 or mmiller7@kumc.edu.

For more information contact Cathy Drabkin at 785-628-5952 or cdrabkin@fhsu.edu. The Telepower Web site has online registration and additional information at www.fhsu.edu/docking/telepower2002.

Publication Schedule

If you would like to contribute a news item to Kansas Connections or have an idea for an article, we welcome your input. Please send information to the KU School of Medicine-Wichita, 1010 N. Kansas, Wichita, KS 67214-3199. Ideas are also welcomed by telephone at 316-293-2649; fax, 316-293-2671; or e-mail, lvalenti@kumc.edu.

Deadline for the next issue is Sept. 17, 2002. If you know of someone who is not receiving the newsletter but might enjoy reading it, please let us know.
Patients often have questions about their conditions, treatments or medications. MEDLINEplus (www.medlineplus.gov), the National Library of Medicine’s consumer-health Web site, gives health-care practitioners a comprehensive, authoritative, and free resource for meeting their patients’ information needs.

“The key to MEDLINEplus’ success is that it is not an exhaustive list of every health resource available on the Web,” says Davison-Turley. “It is a selective list of authoritative health information from the National Institutes of Health and other organizations. You know your patients are getting the best information available.”

MEDLINEplus also includes a number of interactive health tutorials, which use sound, pictures, and easy-to-read text to walk a patient through the important information on a given health topic. Drug information is available for thousands of medications and can be accessed by either the brand or generic name, while a comprehensive medical dictionary and encyclopedia provides definitions and spellings for more than 4,000 medical terms.

Many of the MEDLINEplus health topics include information in Spanish, and a complete Spanish-language interface should be available in the fall of 2002, noted Davison-Turley.

“A recent addition to every Health Topic page is a link that automatically runs a full MEDLINE search when you click on it,” said Davison-Turley. MEDLINE is the traditional health sciences citation database used by health professionals. This MEDLINE search is optimized to get very targeted and very recent information on a health topic, and can be a time saver for busy health professionals as well as a terrific resource for patients.

MEDLINEplus can be accessed from any computer with a connection to the Internet at www.medlineplus.gov, and more information can be found by clicking on the “About MEDLINEplus” link available at the top of each page.

Davison-Turley is available to answer questions or provide training for health-care providers, researchers, and librarians throughout Kansas by calling 800-338-7657 or via e-mail at wdavison-turley@kumc.edu.

Staff at the KU School of Medicine-Wichita Farha Medical Library, 316-293-2629, may also be contacted for more information about MEDLINEplus.
Barbara Atkinson Named Executive Dean

Barbara F. Atkinson, MD, professor and chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Kansas Medical Center, was named executive dean and vice chancellor for clinical affairs of the KU School of Medicine in July.

She succeeds Deborah Powell, MD, who accepted a new position as dean of the medical school at the University of Minnesota. Atkinson’s appointment is permanent and took effect Aug. 1.

Donald Hagen, MD, KU Medical Center executive vice chancellor, seized the opportunity to make a quick appointment so that the school would not lose momentum during a long transition. “Dr. Powell felt that with several key recruitments currently under way and the new academic year beginning in early August, we should move forward quickly to appoint a new executive dean,” said Hagen, noting that Powell’s five-year tenure was the longest of any executive dean since the 1970s.

“Dr. Atkinson has a superb background – as a researcher, department chair and dean – and is eminently qualified to serve as executive dean of the School of Medicine,” said Hagen. “She is highly regarded within the profession and within the Medical Center, and is committed to making the school a strong partner in KU’s overall mission of research, teaching and service to the region.”

Atkinson came to KU Medical Center in January 2000 from the MCP Hahnemann School of Medicine, in Philadelphia, where she was dean for three years (1996-99). Prior to that, she was professor and chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the Medical College of Pennsylvania (1987-94) and at Hahnemann (1994-96).

“I’m honored to have this opportunity to help lead the school during the challenging times that lie ahead,” said Atkinson. “I look forward to having a close and productive relationship with the hospital at the KU Medical Center and will do everything possible to attract the state and federal funding we need to maintain a vital research program and educate the next generation of physicians for Kansas.”

Atkinson began her career at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, where she was director of the hospital’s cytopathology laboratory from 1978 to 1987. She has edited several books on cytopathology and gynecologic pathology, including the classic Atlas of Cytopathology (1992), a revised edition to be published in 2003, and Atlas of Difficult Diagnosis in Cytopathology (1998). Cytopathology is the diagnosis of disease based on cellular analysis.

Atkinson is a trustee and past president of the American Board of Pathology and a member of the Association of American Medical Colleges’ Committee on Increasing Women’s Leadership in Academic Medicine. In 1997 she was elected to membership in the prestigious Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.
Everyone knows that it’s “nice to be appreciated,” but it’s even nicer when the thought is accompanied by a gesture. With that in mind, Rural Health Education and Services hosted its third annual luncheon to thank and honor KU Medical Center residents and faculty who provide locum tenens.

Rural Health also invites department chairs, residency directors and coordinators from family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics and med/peds to show appreciation for letting residents provide locum tenens and for processing required paperwork.

As residents ate, they discussed their locum assignments. It was apparent that the benefits of participation go two-ways. Rural physicians gain much-needed time off for family or educational endeavors, and residency doctors benefit equally through additional income and real-world experiences.

When rural locum tenens is compared to a resident’s life inside KU Medical Center, the two medical settings are as different as night and day. The differences, however, are one reason that residents who try locum tenens get excited and want to participate again.

Todd Schmitz, DO, fourth-year internal medicine resident, said, “It’s a great learning experience to see how private practice works and how things are run in a rural community.”

The first time Schmitz did a locum experience, he took over a practice in Liberal for an entire week. He was there long enough to receive feedback from patients as well as the staff. He was made to feel very welcome in the community, and in fact, one nurse practitioner had Schmitz over to her house to have dinner with her family.

“It was a nice break from the med center, but I think most of all it was an invaluable experience to see what practice is like in a rural setting,” he said.

Jennifer Johnson, MD, fourth-year internal medicine/pediatrics resident, believes locum tenens lets the residents be their own boss, which is a different feel from the medical center’s hierarchy of doctors.

“Locum tenens forced me to realize what it’s going to be like when there is not someone looking over my shoulder,” she said. “It helped me build my confidence. You realize that if you don’t know the answer, you have to use your resources.”

Ahmed El-Bershawi, MD, pulmonary and critical care fellow, agrees with Johnson. He has provided care in Junction City’s high-volume emergency room and in other smaller communities. He knows the pressure of having to think fast and fluently.

He said, “It’s scary in the beginning, but it is also challenging. Sometimes you see something, and you wish you weren’t there, but you handle it. It’s good that we have KU to back us up.”

El-Bershawi noted that at KU doctors often see much sicker patients, so locum tenens coverage is an opportunity for residents to see people who need less critical care.

He noted that before doing locum work, he had a tendency to look down upon rural doctors when they transferred less-critical patients to the medical center. There were certain conditions that he thought of as routine and wondered why a doctor had not kept the patient in a local hospital. Now, however, he has seen that rural doctors must be ready for anything and everything.

“Locum tenens changed my attitude about transfers now that I’ve been in the shoes of the transferring physician,” he said. “Now I feel like I owe that rural system something because I know what it is like to not have all the equipment and back up.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
Locum tenens is a skill builder for residents; but it also shows them the type of people who call rural communities home.

“Patients are very positive and appreciative of what you do for them,” said Johnson.

Locum tenens gives residents the chance to try out different practice styles without a long-term commitment. And that can be very valuable for young physicians. Johnson, for example, has found that locum experiences appeal to her so much she has considered being a career locum tenens doctor.

“I think I’m attracted to it because I have a young child,” she said.

In the past year, the Kansas Locum Tenens Program has helped 22 communities ensure medical care nearly 175 times. Most often, a community has needed service one to two times per year.

Locum tenens forced me to realize what it’s going to be like when there is not someone looking over my shoulder. It helped me build my confidence.  Jennifer Johnson, MD

Residents and faculty interested in providing locum tenens coverage through Rural Health’s program are encouraged to call the Kansas City office at 913-588-1228. Information, such as coverage rates and how to request service, are on the Web at http://ruralhealth.kumc.edu.

Exhibitors are now being sought to participate in the fall Kansas Healthcare Job Opportunities Days sponsored by Rural Health Education and Services.

Rural clinics and hospitals that have openings for nurses, physicians or other health-care professionals are welcome to exhibit at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita, KU Medical Center in Kansas City, or at both locations.

This year, the events have been moved from Friday to Thursday, and the program format will be different at each location.

In Wichita, Thursday, Oct. 10, the event will begin at noon with a sit-down luncheon at which exhibitors can mingle with participants. A panel discussion will take place in Roberts Amphitheater from 1-2 p.m. and booths will be open until 3 p.m.

In Kansas City, Thursday, Nov. 7, exhibits will be open from noon-3 p.m. in the Hixson Atrium; lunch will be provided. At this event, there will not be a formal program.

Exhibit space can be purchased for both Job Day events for $300, or $250 for one location.

Space is limited to 25 booths at each site.

Communities can request an exhibitor contract on the Web at http://ruralhealth.kumc.edu/khjo/jobdays.html, or call Rural Health toll free at 888-503-4221.
The J-1 visa waiver program was brought to an abrupt halt in February among concerns that it may pose a security concern to the United States. This action was a direct repercussion of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack, and now, after many months of ups and downs, the program is still a hot topic of debate.

The J-1 program allows international medical graduates studying in the United States to remain in the country if they practice in an underserved area upon completion of their training. By agreeing to practice for three years, the government waives a requirement that would have them immediately return to their home country for two years.

Leaders among several Kansas communities, as well as national Kansas leaders U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran and U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback consider the J-1 visa program to be vital to providing health care in rural America.

Many communities would be without access to primary care if not for a physician with a J-1 visa waiver. In southwest Kansas in particular, several communities have relied heavily on the J-1 program to meet health-care needs.

Hugoton, for example, literally saved its health-care system when the Stevens County Hospital invested in three foreign physicians – one from Canada, another from Pakistan and a third from Syria. These doctors signed on when the hospital was struggling, but now they work in a new, $4.2 million facility that is thriving.

“Without the J-1 visa program, Stevens County and most of southwest Kansas would be in a lot of trouble,” said Deryl Gulliford, MHA, PhD, CEO, Stevens County Hospital. “We’ve been working with Sen. Brownback and Congressman Moran to make sure they understand the extreme importance of this program. There would not be adequate care in southwest Kansas without J-1 visa doctors. Foreign-trained physicians in rural America are the backbone of rural care and we need them.”

Brownback and Moran, who is chairman of the Rural Health Care Coalition, have expressed their concern and support for the J-1 physician program since late February when the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced without warning that it would no longer participate in the waiver program. That decision put 86 physicians across the United States, as well as the communities recruiting them, in limbo until April 16, 2002. On that date, the USDA agreed to complete all 86 pending waiver applications – six affecting Kansas communities – with the stipulation that the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service would run security checks on all applicants.

“The future program may not be through the USDA, and that’s OK with us as long as some agency carries the ball,” said Gulliford.

The USDA is not the only federal agency that processes J-1 visas for international medical graduate physicians, but it and one other, the Appalachian Regional Commission, are the only agencies that have a vested interest in rural America.

The USDA’s initial abrupt action affected Kansas more than many other states because Kansas does not participate in a “Conrad 20” or “State 20” program. These state-run programs allow up to 20 foreign physician waivers to be recommended through a state health agency.

Unfortunately, on May 31, 2002, all 50 states were put in the same “hands tied” situation as Kansas when federal legislation enacting the J-1 visa program expired.

In late June, however, the U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation, introduced...
M. Shahzad Hasan: At Home In America

International Medical Graduate M. Shahzad Hasan, MD, is at home in America. After completing his surgical residency in the United States, he and his family settled in western Kansas through the J-1 visa waiver program.

“The J-1 program is useful for us, not just to get our careers started, but also for the people who live in these remote areas,” said Hasan, who is from Pakistan. “I am very, very pleased and grateful that I got this job in Kansas.”

Since the J-1 waiver program requires Hasan to practice primary care, it is a plus for him and area rural residents that he can also use his surgical skills. He practices a 40-hour week of primary care medicine, which includes emergency room coverage, and dedicates one day a week to surgery.

“I think it’s inappropriate for a patient to have to travel 40 or 50 miles for care,” said Hasan, who essentially did one surgical residency in England as a “junior surgeon,” and then a second in the United States.

He feels fortunate to be in Hugoton where he can use his surgery skills, noting that he did not want a job that would have ignored his specialized training. This position lets him perform all operations that can safely be done at the 17-bed Stevens County Hospital. In addition to his surgical service there, he has “branched out” to provide surgical coverage for neighboring hospitals in Satanta and Ulysses.

“Dr. Hasan and his family came on behalf of the Hugoton, Satanta and Ulysses hospitals, we are surely glad they stay in southwest Kansas for years to come.”

Hasan said he worked a year to get his J-1 position and his “hat is off” to the people of Hugoton. “They wrote letters pleading that I be allowed to come out here. The whole process took eight to nine months, which is typical,” he said.

Gulliford said, “There’s a lot of paperwork to push in the J-1 visa waiver program, but for this community it was certainly worth it. Dr. Hasan has been a resounding success here in southwest Kansas.”

Hasan, who is one of three international medical graduate physicians that call Hugoton home, says there are a lot of advantages to his rural practice. Patients, he noted, have an innate trust of their doctor. His family – wife Aaliya, son Haider, 4, and daughter Alizeh, 2 – have found advantages to small-town life, too.

His wife belongs to a Young Mother’s Club and enjoys being active in the small community. “We don’t have that issue of wives getting bored,” laughed Hasan.

As for the current pains the J-1 visa waiver program is going through regarding security concerns, Hasan commented, “I don’t think there are grounds to be too concerned, because these doctors who want to stay have proved their mettle in their training. The filtering level should be when they come into the U.S. to train, not when they have been through the training and want to offer their services to help people.”

Hasan, who did his residency at St. Agnes Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, also noted that international medical graduates who come to the U.S. are very smart and very fine doctors. “The best and the brightest like to attend top American universities like Johns Hopkins and Harvard, but the next step down you still get really outstanding foreign doctors.”

Gulliford concluded, “Speaking on behalf of the Hugoton, Satanta and Ulysses hospitals, we are surely glad that Dr. Hasan and his family came. We will also do whatever we can to ensure that they are happy and that they stay in southwest Kansas for years to come.”

A J-1 visa position in southwest Kansas allows M. Shahzad Hasan, MD, to practice primary care and use his surgical skills.
Delegates to impress the need for the program. “We need every option available to get quality physicians in Kansas,” said Hagen.

Since 1993, 98 physicians have located to Kansas communities under the J-1 visa program, and more than 50 have continued to practice in the state after completing their service obligation.

The J-1 visa program was brought to its knees because of security suspicions, but communities like Hugoton believe it to be much more plausible that foreign doctors will be community pillars rather than terrorists.

All three physicians – Samer Al-Hashmi, MD; Graeme Rodgman, MD, and M. Shahzad Hasan, MD – are married and busy raising families.

“Stevens County is a classic example of how this program can work,” said Gulliford. “The doctors have made a real effort to build relationships in the community.”

Those relationships are evident when the hospital, which owns the clinic, looks at its number of patient visits. Five years ago patient visits numbered around 8,000 per year; in 2002 they are on pace to see as many as 13,500.

Gulliford admits that part of Hugoton’s success with the J-1 program can be attributed to the diversity of Stevens County, which has drawn people from across the nation and the world because of industries like beef packing and natural gas.

He noted that the hospital worked hard to structure a relationship that worked for the hospital and the foreign-trained doctors. The community voted to approve a bond issue for a new hospital when they knew they had good doctors with contracts, and the doctors signed long-term contracts when they knew a state-of-the-art facility was on its way.

“You have got to invest in the hospital if you want to keep the doctors,” said Gulliford.

Gibson noted that the retention rates of foreign physicians are as good as those found in other loan repayment programs that trade service obligations for dollars.

Interestingly, in Hugoton, the groundwork laid by the foreign physicians is what has made the town an attractive practice location for an American-trained doctor.

According to Gulliford, Rodrick Heger, DO, grew up in Hugoton and decided early in medical school there was “no way” he wanted to practice in the antiquated Hugoton hospital.

Now, however, since the community has invested so much in its health-care facilities and doctors, Heger and his wife, Laura, will return to Hugoton in 2004 after he completes his University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita Family Practice Residency Program at Via Christi Regional Medical Center. Heger “bridged” with the Stevens County Hospital as a participant in the KU Rural Health Education and Services Kansas Bridging Plan.

As the J-1 visa waiver program continues to be debated, perhaps Moran has said it best: “Our rural communities depend on access to health care, and these are doctors willing to serve. We must continue to bring the two of them together.”

J-1 physicians needed CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

The chart shows the numbers of J-1 visa waiver physicians recommended and granted in Kansas during the time periods listed. All but one of the waiver recommendations utilized USDA as the interested government agency. There were a total of 87 recommendations from 1993 to 2000.
Now, second-year students Carter and Frazier realize that joke is much closer to the truth. The best news to them, however, is that “WNL” will have a much different meaning to their fellow participants.

After two weeks of rotations through Wesley House, a community service organization that houses free medical and dental clinics, as well as other social services, the Pittsburg Community Health Center and the Mt. Carmel Medical Center Cancer Clinic, each student could clearly see the importance of a good oral exam from several perspectives.

Medical and nurse practitioner students were shown the importance of catching oral health problems early, especially since it now known that oral health affects overall health.

Dental students were equally exposed to the gamut of care they would not see when focusing on dentistry alone. For example, Carter noted that it was helpful to see the full span of care a person diagnosed with oral cancer might expect.

Both Carter and Frazier felt excited and somewhat privileged to participate in the two-week project. “It has been really neat to interact with students from different disciplines and utilize one another for information,” said Carter. “I think it has strengthened my confidence by having to verbalize my dental knowledge to the others.”

Michael McCunniff, DDS, MPH, director of outreach programs, UMKC School of Dentistry, is more than satisfied with the results of this year’s interdisciplinary project. “I think students have a tendency to learn better from each other than from faculty, and that was evident in this project,” he said.

He also saw a medical student learning to look under the tongue - not just depress it with a stick.

The overwhelming result of the oral health project is that it most likely changed the way each participant will practice his or her respective professions.

Peck, for example, ended the summer session planning to take a bigger role in oral health by promoting preventive care. She hopes to have educational handouts and encourage more patients to seek dental care by emphasizing that the health of the teeth and mouth can affect the entire body.

She knows firsthand there is a need for preventive care since she works everything from OB to ER in Neodesha’s Wilson County Hospital, a 14-bed hospital in southeast Kansas. She also works part time in the emergency department of Wesley Medical Center, Wichita.

At the rural hospital, she said, three to four patients a month come to the ER because of dental pain.

“Rural ERs can try to help with the pain, but we usually just send these patients on to dentists. In a rural area, referring to a dentist can take a week to a month,” she said. “I had been curious about what more we could do to help patients who come in with dental pain, and this two-week project has been invaluable.”

Peck worked with an oral surgeon to learn about different methods of pain control and which antibiotics work best for various dental conditions. She also worked with Carter to learn how to give a proper oral cavity exam — something that will add just two minutes to her assessment.

In addition to clinic observations, problem-based learning studies were an important part of the project. Under the guidance of Robert Haskins, MD, KU southeast Kansas medical education network site director, the group gathered four times to discuss nearly 12 different oral health cases.

Peck and Carter described problem-based learning as perhaps the most important experience of the summer session. It is one reason both had...
begun recommending the interdisciplinary experience to fellow students before completing the full course.

“Oral health is a piece of health care . . . . Now all sides have gained a respect for each other and realize it’s important to communicate between disciplines. Susan Seglie, ARNP

“The problem-based learning has been awesome,” said Carter. “It’s more of an active learning since we are encouraged to think out loud. I would love to see this type of learning incorporated into the dental program.”

Dillow said it helped him see how the body interrelates and the breadth of problems in the oral cavity.

The overall interdisciplinary project led Dillow to declare that he will be much more inclined to practice or volunteer in a clinic similar to Wesley House now. “They truly need help. They come because they are seeking relief for their pain and they are so appreciative of any help you can give them,” he said.

Carter said, “Donating my time will definitely be part of my life. Every patient we’ve worked with has been very gracious and thankful for the services. I believe we need to do everything possible to help low-income patients because those patients are people also and they need health care too.”

Pittsburg State University nurse practitioner coordinator Susan Seglie, ARNP, concluded, “Oral health is a piece of health care, but it is one that we don’t often see collaboration on. Now all sides have gained a respect for each other and realize it’s important to communicate between disciplines.”

**NORTHWEST**

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<td>Victor Hildyard, MD</td>
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<td>Myron Applequist</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellsworth</td>
<td>RNs, LPNs, CNAs, Ward Clerk</td>
<td>Sandy Wedel</td>
<td>785-472-5028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Great Bend</td>
<td>Family Physician w/ or w/o OB</td>
<td>Mary Miles</td>
<td>620-792-5700</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dermatologist</td>
<td>Barbara Beran</td>
<td>785-628-3231</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family Physician</td>
<td>Sandi Wilcox</td>
<td>620-792-3539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Surgical Services Manager</td>
<td>Lucy Flannagan</td>
<td>620-786-6652</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Designated National Health Service Corps Site

**CONTINUED ON INSIDE**
**SOUTHWEST**

**CITY:** Ashland  
**POSITION(S):** Full-time RN  
**CONTACT:** Michelle Moore, RN, DON  
**PHONE:** 620-635-2241

**CITY:** Cities in Southwest Kansas  
**POSITION(S):** Family Physicians  
**CONTACT:** Jeff Forrest  
**PHONE:** 620-272-2422

**CITY:** Dodge City  
**POSITION(S):** Internist, Rheumatologist  
**CONTACT:** Howell Johnson, MD  
**PHONE:** 620-227-1242

**CITY:** Dodge City  
**POSITION(S):** General Pediatrician  
**CONTACT:** Lyle D. Smith, MD  
**PHONE:** 620-227-1233

**CITY:** Dodge City  
**POSITION(S):** Internist, Pediatrician, Family Physician, Radiologist  
**CONTACT:** Sharon Landrum  
**PHONE:** 620-227-1210

**CITY:** Elkhart  
**POSITION(S):** General Surgeon, Family Physician, Internist  
**CONTACT:** Shana Aylor  
**PHONE:** 620-697-5200

**CITY:** Garden City  
**POSITION(S):** Neurologist, Orthopedic Surgeon  
**CONTACT:** Cheryl Burgardt  
**PHONE:** 620-275-3701

**CITY:** Garden City  
**POSITION(S):** Orthopedic Surgeons (2)  
**CONTACT:** Lucie Crotts  
**PHONE:** 620-275-8400

**CITY:** Garden City  
**POSITION(S):** Orthopedic Surgeon, Radiologist, Neurologist, Dermatologist, Radiation Oncologist, Family Physician, Cardiologist  
**CONTACT:** Jeff Forrest  
**PHONE:** 620-272-2422

**CITY:** Greensburg  
**POSITION(S):** Family Physician, Internist  
**CONTACT:** Mary Colclazier  
**PHONE:** 620-723-3341

**CITY:** Johnson  
**POSITION(S):** Certified Physical Therapist Assistant  
**CONTACT:** Lonnie Walker  
**PHONE:** 620-492-6250

**CITY:** Lakin*  
**POSITION(S):** Family Physician w/OB  
**CONTACT:** Monica Turrentine  
**PHONE:** 620-355-1396

**CITY:** Larned  
**POSITION(S):** Director of Nursing  
**CONTACT:** Lucy Flannigan  
**PHONE:** 620-786-6652

**CITY:** Larned  
**POSITION(S):** Family Physician, Internist, Urologist, Orthopedic Surgeon  
**CONTACT:** Sharon Beaty  
**PHONE:** 620-786-6583

**CITY:** Leoti  
**POSITION(S):** Family Physician or Internist  
**CONTACT:** Mark Bieberle  
**PHONE:** 316-291-4378
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>POSITION(S)</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leoti</td>
<td>Family Physician, RN</td>
<td>Victoria Berning</td>
<td>620-375-2233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meade</td>
<td>Family Physician w/OB</td>
<td>Michael Thomas</td>
<td>620-873-2141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneola</td>
<td>Family Physician w/Ob</td>
<td>Ron Baker, Administrator</td>
<td>620-885-4264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta</td>
<td>Internist, Family Physician</td>
<td>Daryl W. Thornton</td>
<td>316-775-5421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Dorado</td>
<td>General Surgeon, ENT, Obstetrician/Gynecologist, Orthopedic Surgeon</td>
<td>Jim Wilson</td>
<td>316-322-4557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence</td>
<td>RNs, LPNs, CNAs, CMAs</td>
<td>Bonita Robertson-Boydston</td>
<td>620-878-4440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halstead</td>
<td>Family Physician, Internist, Orthopaedist, Hematologist/Oncologist, Urologist</td>
<td>Susan Kitchenmaster</td>
<td>316-835-4612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilsbros</td>
<td>RN-Evening Shift (3-11)</td>
<td>Brenda Brown</td>
<td>620-947-1411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newton</td>
<td>Internist, Orthopedic Surgeon</td>
<td>Mark Bieberle</td>
<td>316-291-4378</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newton</td>
<td>Internist, Obstetrician/Gynecologist, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Pediatrician</td>
<td>Debbie Gleason</td>
<td>800-876-5111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Augusta</td>
<td>Internist, Family Physician</td>
<td>Mark Bieberle</td>
<td>316-291-4378</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffeyville</td>
<td>Orthopedic Surgeon</td>
<td>Jerry Marquette</td>
<td>620-252-1537</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffeyville</td>
<td>Family Physician, Internist</td>
<td>Mark Bieberle</td>
<td>316-291-4378</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffeyville</td>
<td>Family Physician, Internist</td>
<td>Stan Regehr</td>
<td>620-241-2250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newton</td>
<td>Child/Adolescent Psychiatrist, ARNP</td>
<td>Joy Robb</td>
<td>316-284-6311</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newton</td>
<td>Orthopedic Surgeon</td>
<td>Mark Bieberle</td>
<td>316-291-4378</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emporia</td>
<td>Radiologists</td>
<td>David Smith</td>
<td>785-234-2306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emporia</td>
<td>Orthopedic Surgeon, Urologist</td>
<td>Terry Lambert</td>
<td>620-343-6800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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CONTINUED ON BACK
CITY: Garnett  
POSITION(S): Family Physician  
CONTACT: David A. Leitch, MD  
PHONE: 785-448-5421

CITY: Girard  
POSITION(S): Family Physician  
CONTACT: Dennis Nehls  
PHONE: 620-724-8291

CITY: Independence  
POSITION(S): Family Physician, Internist/Pediatrician  
CONTACT: David W. Phelps, MD, MMM  
PHONE: 620-332-3204

CITY: Iola  
POSITION(S): Internist/Pediatrician  
CONTACT: Susan Thompson  
PHONE: 620-365-1021

CITY: Parsons  
POSITION(S): Nuclear Medicine/CT Technologist, RNs  
CONTACT: Mitzi Arthur, RN  
PHONE: 620-421-4881

CITY: Pittsburg  
POSITION(S): RNs, CNAs, Staff Pharmacist, Diagnostic Imaging Technologists, Nuclear Medicine Technologist, Oncology Nursing Supervisor  
CONTACT: Carol Puckett  
PHONE: 620-232-0170

NOTE: To list healthcare jobs in Kansas Connections, please fax a Kansas Healthcare Job Opportunities form to Rural Health Education and Services, 316-293-2671. Forms are accessible through the Rural Health Web site, http://ruralhealth.kumc.edu, or by calling 1-888-503-4221.
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<th>Event Date</th>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact Name</th>
<th>Contact Phone</th>
<th>Contact Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 19</td>
<td>Functioning in a Dysfunctional Environment</td>
<td>Parsons, KS</td>
<td>Cindy Spriggs</td>
<td>620-421-4880</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 22</td>
<td>Caring for the Patient with Alzheimer’s Disease</td>
<td>Joplin, MO</td>
<td>Mary Karstetter</td>
<td>417-624-2121</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 27-28</td>
<td>Care of the Aging Symposium</td>
<td>Nickerson, KS</td>
<td>Nancy Lucas</td>
<td>620-275-0259</td>
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<td>Sept. 3</td>
<td>Management of Patients with Limited Renal Function</td>
<td>Frontenac, KS</td>
<td>Betty Kapler</td>
<td>620-231-7340</td>
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<td>Sept. 5</td>
<td>Adult Respiratory Distress</td>
<td>Independence, KS</td>
<td>Kathy Newkirk</td>
<td>620-332-3250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 5-6</td>
<td>Differential Stratification for Risk of Cardiovascular (CVD) Symposium III</td>
<td>Kansas City, MO</td>
<td>KUMC Continuing Ed.</td>
<td>785-864-5823</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 6-7</td>
<td>4th Annual Conference on the Prevention &amp; Treatment of Obesity</td>
<td>Kansas City, MO</td>
<td>Kim Johnson</td>
<td>785-864-0797</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Conflict Resolution</td>
<td>Arkansas City, KS</td>
<td>Carol Preedin</td>
<td>620-442-4453</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 11</td>
<td>Caring for the Skin and Maintaining Skin Integrity</td>
<td>Atchison, KS</td>
<td>Dee Mandich</td>
<td>913-367-2131</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 12</td>
<td>Perfecting Pain Management</td>
<td>Garden City, KS</td>
<td>Nancy Lucas</td>
<td>620-275-0259</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Fetal Monitoring and Breast Feeding Update</td>
<td>Horton, KS</td>
<td>Ty Compton</td>
<td>785-486-2642</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 14</td>
<td>Southeast Kansas Wound Care Symposium</td>
<td>Neodesha, KS</td>
<td>Mary Sue Walker</td>
<td>620-325-2300</td>
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</table>

**Rural Eastern KS AHEC—Pittsburg**  
Pittsburg, KS  
**PHONE:** 620-235-4040

**Southwest KS AHEC—Garden City**  
Garden City, KS  
**PHONE:** 620-275-0259

**KU Medical Center**  
Continuing Education  
Kansas City, KS  
**PHONE:** 913-588-4488

**KU School of Medicine—Wichita**  
Postgraduate Education  
Wichita, KS  
**PHONE:** 316-293-2636

**KU Continuing Education Programs**  
August - November 2002

CONTINUED ON INSIDE
Sept. 16
Treatment & Rehabilitation of Brain Attacks
Parsons, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Cindy Spriggs
PHONE: 620-421-4880

Sept. 17
Sensitive Communication in Health Care
Great Bend, KS
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Nancy Lucas
PHONE: 620-275-0259

Sept. 18
Management of Depression and Bi-polar Disorders
Chanute, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Crystal McGowen
PHONE: 620-431-4000

Sept. 18
ER Potpourri
Burlington, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Elaine Weston
PHONE: 620-364-5655

Sept. 19
Bioterrorism Response
Ft. Scott, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Leah Lewis
PHONE: 620-223-7009

Sept. 21
Stroke Prevention, Early Identification and Management
Pratt, KS
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Nancy Lucas
PHONE: 620-275-0259

Sept. 25
Women’s Health Conference
Dodge City, KS
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Nancy Lucas
PHONE: 620-275-0259

Sept. 27
Passing the Torch: Everyday Miracles through Donation and Transplantation
Kansas City, KS
CONTACT: KUMC Continuing Ed.
PHONE: 785-864-5823

Sept. 28-29
Annual Kansas State GI Society Meeting: Regional Postgraduate Course – New Advances in Medical Devices Technologies
Kansas City, MO
CONTACT: KUMC Continuing Ed.
PHONE: 785-864-5823

Oct. 1
Dysfunctional Relationships at Home and at Work
Frontenac, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Betty Kapler
PHONE: 620-231-7340

Oct. 1
Ethics for the Social Worker
Garden City, KS
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Nancy Lucas
PHONE: 620-275-0259

Oct. 4-5
Treatment & Rehabilitation of the Lower Extremity
Hays, KS
CONTACT: NW KS AHEC
PHONE: 785-628-6128

Oct. 8
Living and Working with Fibromyalgia
Arkansas City, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Carol Freedin
PHONE: 620-442-4453

Oct. 9
Handling Escalating Violence in the Health Care Setting
Ft. Scott, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Leah Lewis
PHONE: 620-223-7009

Oct. 9
Hope and Healing After Loss: Surviving Grief
Location undetermined
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Nancy Lucas
PHONE: 620-275-0259

Oct. 11-12
9th Annual Heartland Long Term Care Symposium: Health and Wellness in Long Term Care
Kansas City, KS
CONTACT: KUMC Continuing Ed.
PHONE: 785-864-5823

Oct. 18
Kansas Epilepsy and Neurophysiology Symposium
Wichita, KS
KUSM-W Postgraduate Ed.
CONTACT: Karen DeShazo
PHONE: 316-293-2636

Oct. 18
Pediatric Respiratory Emergencies
Garden City, KS
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Nancy Lucas
PHONE: 620-275-0259
Oct. 21
Breathing Easy
Parsons, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Cindy Spriggs
PHONE: 620-421-4880

Oct. 25-26
Stroke Prevention, Early Identification and Management
Liberal, KS
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Nancy Lucas
PHONE: 620-275-0259

Oct. 30-31
Second Annual Aging Conference
Dodge City, KS
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Nancy Lucas
PHONE: 620-275-0259

Nov. 6
Developing Strategies for Effective Leadership
McPherson, KS
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Nancy Lucas
PHONE: 620-275-0259

Nov. 15
Care of the Diabetic with Hypertension and Hyperlipidemia
Garden City, KS
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Nancy Lucas
PHONE: 620-275-0259

MEDICAL

Sept. 4
MED/SURG Conference: Management of Knee Pain
Pittsburg, KS
CONTACT: Eastern KS AHEC
PHONE: 620-235-4040

Sept. 5-6
Differential Stratification for Risk of Cardiovascular (CVD) Symposium III
See listing under Nursing/Allied Health

Sept. 6-7
4th Annual Conference on the Prevention & Treatment of Obesity
See listing under Nursing/Allied Health

Sept. 7
15th Annual Cancer Symposium
Coffeyville, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Jean Martindale
PHONE: 620-252-1114

Sept. 7
Mt. Carmel Regional Medical Center Cancer Symposium
Columbus, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Debra Davidson
PHONE: 620-235-7900

Sept. 10
Management of Hypertension
Osawatomie, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Chuck Hampton
PHONE: 913-755-7355

Sept. 13-14
American College of Physicians – American Society of Internal Medicine 2002 KS Chapter Scientific Meeting: Fostering Excellence in Internal Medicine
Kansas City, MO
CONTACT: KUMC Continuing Ed.
PHONE: 785-864-5823

Sept. 14
Southeast Kansas Wound Care Symposium
See listing under Nursing/Allied Health

Sept. 16
Hormone Replacement Therapy
Ft. Scott, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Leah Lewis
PHONE: 620-223-2200

Sept. 17
Treating Anxiety and Depression When Remission is the Goal
Chanute, KS
Eastern KS AHEC
CONTACT: Kathy Wicker
PHONE: 620-431-4000

Sept. 18
KC Echocardiography Society
Kansas City, MO
CONTACT: KUMC Continuing Ed.
PHONE: 785-864-5823

Sept. 21
Stroke Prevention, Early Identification and Management
See listing under Nursing/Allied Health

Sept. 24
New Frontiers in the Management of Epilepsy
Liberal, KS
SW KS AHEC
CONTACT: Kathy Friesen
PHONE: 620-275-0259

Sept. 24
Chronic Pain Management
Independence, KS
CONTACT: Eastern KS AHEC
PHONE: 620-235-4040

CONTINUED ON BACK
Sept. 26  
*Treating Asthma and Allergies*  
Pittsburg, KS  
**CONTACT:** Eastern KS AHEC  
**PHONE:** 620-235-4040

Sept. 26  
*Dexa Scanning for Osteoporosis*  
Kansas City, MO  
**CONTACT:** Eastern KS AHEC  
**PHONE:** 620-235-4040

Sept. 26  
*Barett’s Esophagus*  
Dodge City, KS  
**CONTACT:** Kathy Friesen  
**PHONE:** 620-275-0259

Sept. 27  
*Passing the Torch: Everyday Miracles through Donation and Transplantation*  
See listing under Nursing/Allied Health

Sept. 28-29  
*Annual Kansas State GI Society Meeting: Regional Postgraduate Course – New Advances in Medical Devices Technologies*  
See listing under Nursing/Allied Health

Oct. 2  
*MED/SURG Conference – Anemia Update*  
Pittsburg, KS  
**CONTACT:** Eastern KS AHEC  
**PHONE:** 620-235-4040

Oct. 8  
*Chronic Pain Management*  
Osawatomie, KS  
**CONTACT:** Chuck Hampton  
**PHONE:** 913-755-7355

Oct. 11-12  
*9th Annual Heartland Long Term Care Symposium: Health and Wellness in Long Term Care*  
See listing under Nursing/Allied Health

Oct. 15  
*Diabetes Management*  
Chanute, KS  
**CONTACT:** Eastern KS AHEC  
**PHONE:** 620-431-4000

Oct. 16  
*Cardiovascular Update*  
Pratt, KS  
**CONTACT:** Kathy Friesen  
**PHONE:** 620-275-0259

Oct. 18  
*Kansas Epilepsy and Neurophysiology Symposium*  
See listing under Nursing/Allied Health

Oct. 22  
*Treatment of the Difficult Headache Patient*  
Coffeyville, KS  
**CONTACT:** Eastern KS AHEC  
**PHONE:** 620-251-2400

Oct. 24  
*Antibiotics and Surgery*  
Dodge City, KS  
**CONTACT:** Eastern KS AHEC  
**PHONE:** 620-275-0259

Oct. 25-26  
*Stroke Prevention, Early Identification and Management*  
See listing under Nursing/Allied Health

Oct. 30  
*Tumor Conference – Lymphoma Treatment Update*  
Pittsburg, KS  
**CONTACT:** Eastern KS AHEC  
**PHONE:** 620-235-4040

Nov. 13  
*KC Echocardiography Society*  
Kansas City, MO  
**CONTACT:** KUMC Continuing Ed.  
**PHONE:** 785-864-5823

Nov. 13  
*Inflammatory Bowel Disease*  
Pratt, KS  
**CONTACT:** Eastern KS AHEC  
**PHONE:** 620-275-0259

Nov. 14  
*Evaluating the Anemic Patient*  
Dodge City, KS  
**CONTACT:** Eastern KS AHEC  
**PHONE:** 620-275-0259