The Clotting Connection

A Newsletter for Families with Bleeding and Clotting Disorders

November 2024 Volume 14, Issue 11



Hemophilia and Thrombosis Center

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



DR. TYLER BUCKNER NAMED **HTC DIRECTOR**



Dr. Tyler Buckner has been named as the new HTC Director.

Our HTC is pleased to announce that Dr. Tyler Buckner has been named as the new Director of our Hemophilia and Thrombosis Center. Dr. Mike Wang, who has been our director for the past several years is retiring. We have loved working with Mike and will miss his guidance at our center. A letter from Dr. Wang can be found on page two.

Dr. Buckner has been working at our HTC since 2015 and we are excited to get to work with him as our new Director. Dr. Buckner began his new role in October and the change in leadership led to several adjustments to in staff responsibilities.

Keith Neeves, PhD, who works in our labs has been named Scientific Director. Keith will be overseeing all the research here at our HTC. We are excited to have him step into this role and

know he will be a wonderful guide to our research and laboratory teams. Megan Jewell, PhD, is the Lab manager of the Hathaway Coagulation Laboratory and does scientific research, working closely with Keith and our researchers.

Dr. Chris Ng is now the Hematology Program Leader for the CCBD, and he continues to perform cutting-edge research on Von Willebrand Factor and related bleeding and clotting disorders.

Dr. Beth Warren is now our Clinical Research Program Lead. She manages several research projects and regularly coordinates with our researchers. She directly manages our Biomechanics research team and their innovative projects.

Many of you have worked with Julie Smith, CCRP, over the years and will be happy to know that she has returned to our HTC to help guide our research team as the Clinical Research Program Manager.

Emily Wheat, PhD, previously the Psychosocial Team Lead, is now leading our Clinical Quality Improvement program. In this role, she guides initiatives to improve the quality of patient care, support delivery of new clinical processes, and promote accessible and fair care for all patients.

In the past year we have added three Advanced Practice Providers to our team. In addition to our fantastic, longtime Physician Assistant, Elizabeth Gibson, we're happy to share that Marnie Mazzarello, one of our Nurse Practitioners, has returned to work with us at the HTC. Keara Matthews, our newest Physician Assistant, joined us in April, and Kari Fontenot (who is currently out on maternity leave), joined us as a Nurse Practitioner in June. We are so grateful for these hard-working professionals who provide their support and expertise each day!

As we shift our roles a little, we are grateful for all who work so hard to help our HTC support our patients. We especially thank our patients, who are the reason we do research to find solutions to make the lives of those with bleeding and clotting disorders better in the future. Watch for a special spotlight on Dr. Tyler Buckner in next month's edition of this newsletter, as well as several other upcoming spotlights on some of the newer members of our team.



At the MSHN Regional Meeting in Alaska, our staff were able to enjoy a few sights and see some wildlife. Photo: Tyler Buckner

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Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and our website for frequent updates on news and events.



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Website: Go to

medschool.cuanschutz.edu/ hemophilia-thrombosis



Email:

HTC.Newsletter@ucdenver.edu

DR. MIKE WANG RETIRES FROM HTC



Dr. Mike Wang is retiring from the University of Colorado this month.

As we mentioned on page one, Dr. Mike Wang has retired as our HTC Director and Dr. Tyler Buckner is taking on this role. Mike worked as our Clinical Director from 2009 to 2020; in 2020 he stepped up as Co-Director of the HTC, right before the pandemic began.

His leadership helped our HTC team tremendously during that uncertain time. He began as HTC Director in June of 2022, and helped our center walk through many changes and adjustments.

Mike guided our center through some significant construction and upgrades to our clinic space, including moving our coagulation and research labs to be on site, the addition of a new PT gym and Motion Analysis Lab, as well as upgrades to other behind-the-scenes resources to make our center work smoothly. These all took incredible effort and leadership and we thank Dr. Wang for his guidance, kindness, and powerful example. Mike shared a letter with us as he retires, that we are including below.

To the CU HTC community,

I am writing to let you know that the I am retiring from the University of Colorado in November.

I want to say thank you to everyone who has ever come to the HTC as a patient, family member, friend, advocate, and HTC staff. I feel fortunate to have worked with so many open-hearted, dedicated, purposeful, passionate, thoughtful, brilliant, innovative, humorous, and caring people. As a community you have been generous and gracious, tenacious and determined. I will always be grateful for my time serving you.

Dr. Tyler Buckner is the new HTC Director, and I trust his stewardship of the HTC's past, present, and future. This is possible because the staff and leadership at the HTC are as focused and dedicated as ever. Importantly, the HTC has the support of the leadership of the Section of Hematology/Oncology/Cellular Therapy, the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and the Mountain States Hemostasis Network. Collectively they believe in the mission, vision, and values of the HTC.

The HTC can thrive and is committed to continuing to provide not only access to clinical care, research, education, and advocacy, but to improve in each of these domains. We can only do this with your input, help, and support. I feel that together we can achieve anything. We can have an HTC that serves your current needs but also allows you to aspire to even better health and community.

Being part of the HTC and the community that it serves has been the most significant part of my professional life. Thank you. I have learned so much about life from so many of you, and I will take that with me forever. I look forward to all our futures. I strongly believe in the mission, vision and values of the HTC, and I choose hope- every day.

Sincerely,

Mike



Our HTC clinic, pharmacy, and admin offices will be closed for several upcoming holidays. With these closures as well as the unpredictable nature of shipping this time of year, we ask that our pharmacy patients make sure they have enough of their medication on hand in the event of any delays in shipping.

Nov. 28-29: Closed for Thanksgiving Dec. 24-26: Closed for Christmas Holiday Jan. 1, 2025: Closed for New Year's Day

<u>Last date to ship Pharmacy Orders:</u>

Before Thanksgiving: Tuesday, Nov 26, 2024 Before Christmas: Monday, Dec 23, 2024 Before New Year's Day: Monday, Dec 30, 2024

HTC TEAM ATTENDS MSHN REGIONAL MEETING





Top: Tyler Buckner, Julie Smith, Mike Wang, Chris Ng, Beth Warren and Keith Neeves enjoying beautiful Alaska. Photo: Tyler Buckner

Bottom: (back) Bruce Young, Erin Etcheverry, Desi Hill, Laura Singer-Fox, Kim Hurdstrom, (front) Julie Smith, Bryn Dunham having fun at the Regional Meeting. Photo: Kim Hurdstrom Earlier this month, most of our HTC clinical staff participated in the Mountain States Hemostasis Network Regional Meeting. This is a grant-required annual meeting that allows our HTC and others in our region to meet and collaborate. The MSHN region includes twelve HTCs in the states of Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. This year, the meeting was held in Alaska, which meant it was quite a bit cooler than we were in Denver, even with the early November snowstorm that arrived before they left!

This meeting is an opportunity to discuss important educational materials, learn about ways our centers can prepare for upcoming changes, network with other HTC team members, and share projects and research. Research from Dr. Marilyn Manco-Johnson, Keith Neeves, and Dr. Chris Ng were highlighted at the meeting, and Dr. Buckner presented from the Genetics Regional work group.

The gathering gave HTCs the opportunity to discuss how our region will manage gene therapies, and Kaylee Dollerschell, our geneticist, presented at the meeting as well. Dr. Jenna Moyer shared a case study about a complex clinical situation in a session looking at specialized clinical care.

Nurse Kim Hurdstrom and Social Worker Bryn Dunham presented on

regional Quality Improvement Projects, and Kim also co-led a nurse breakout session at the meeting.

While most of the staff was in Alaska, several who remained

back in Colorado took some time to do some basic life support training. Dr. Tim Bernard, Elizabeth Gibson, Emily Wheat, Saquaya Johnson, Sydney Baker, Kate Hoeft, and Noé Calva Vargas were among our Denver team who were able to participate in the workshop practicing these life-saving skills.

We thank all who participated at the MSHN meeting and all who kept our clinic operating and improving our HTC while they were gone. We know it takes a great team to get great things done!



Emily Wheat practices her basic life support skills with Dr. Tim Bernard's assistance and Elizabeth Gibson looking on. Photo: Emily Wheat

HTC GETS A REFRESH AND UPDATE OF CLINIC SPACE

While many of our HTC staff were attending the MSHN Regional meeting, our team in Denver worked on some updates at our clinic. Some of these updates you may not notice right away, such as some changes in our lighting, adjustments to signage, and a fresh coat of paint.

We also moved tables out of each of our exam rooms and installed new computer monitor stations that are mounted on the wall instead. This created quite a bit more space to maneuver in each of our exam rooms.

The work was done in collaboration with the facilities management team and marketing team at CU Medicine. We thank all who implemented the updates with smooth efficiency and professionalism.





Subtle but helpful updates, like a deep cleaning, mounting our computers, updating signage, changing lighting and refreshing paint has brightened up our HTC this month. Photos: Merilee Ashton

RECENT HEADLINES

These are a few of the headlines that we've recently featured on our Newsroom page or on Social Media:

Potential Hemophilia Treatment SerpinPC Halted by Centessa

Study Finds Missing Clotting Proteins in Hemophilia Patients Can Directly Affect Bone Health

Study Shows Sevenfact Safe, Effective for Patients with Hemophilia A or B with Inhibitors

FDA Approves First Non-Factor, Once-Weekly Treatment for Hemophilia A or B

Study Suggests Hemlibra Effectively Prevents Bleeding in Acquired Hemophilia A

We maintain a newsroom page at our website with a list of news articles that may be of interest to our patients and families. Go to medschool.cuanschutz.edu/hemophilia-thrombosis/resources/newsroom to read more. We also share news on our Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Sign up to get this newsletter delivered directly to your email box each month! Just go to **eepurl.com/bnszoz** or scan the QR code and fill out the form!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars:

Please note. These dates may be <u>tentative and subject to change</u>. Please check appropriate websites for confirmation of events.

Nov 28-29: Clinic, Pharmacy, and Admin offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Dec 7-10: ASH Annual Meeting and Exposition—San Diego, CA

Dec 10: NBDF Colorado Holiday Party—Children's Museum of Denver

Dec 24-26: Clinic, Pharmacy, and Admin offices closed for Christmas Holiday

Jan 1, 2025: Clinic, Pharmacy and Admin offices closed for New Year's Day

Jan 17-19: RMHBDA Education Weekend—Bozeman, MT

See more at our Events Page on our website: medschool.cuanschutz.edu/hemophilia-thrombosis/resources/events-calendar

ME-WE-HTC We create hope.

Hemophilia & Thrombosis Center

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Web page:

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