

## What to know about the updated COVID-19 vaccines

With COVID-19 back in the news, there are a lot of questions about the most recent vaccines and who might need them. The new Pfizer and Moderna vaccines using mRNA technology are specifically designed to target the most widespread variants this year: JN.1, KP.1, KP.2, and KP.3. The Novavax vaccine is an alternative for people ages 12 and older who are allergic to a component in the mRNA vaccines.

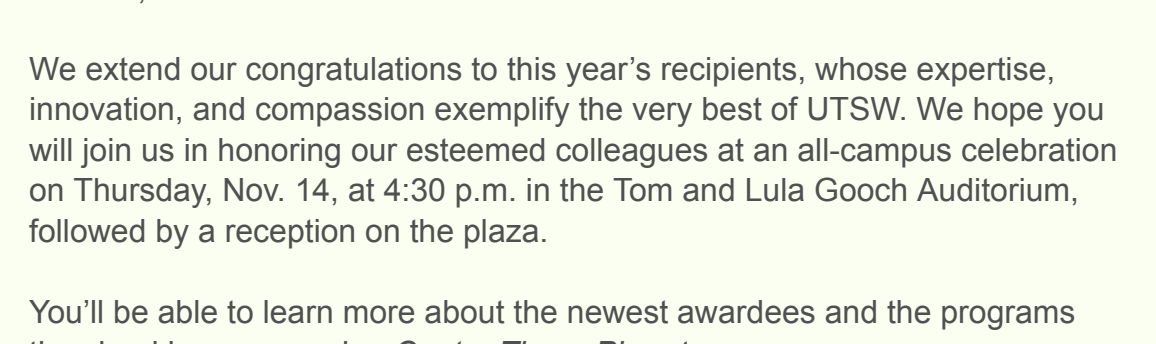
See the latest vaccine recommendations for children, for those who have recently had COVID-19, and for those at higher risk of complications in our new [MedBlog](#) from **James Cutrell, M.D.**, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine.

Looking to get vaccinated? UTSW retail pharmacies are administering the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines by appointment only through [MyChart](#). For more information, visit our [COVID-19 vaccine post on Campus Update](#).

[Read Dr. Cutrell's MedBlog](#)

## #ICYMI: Leaders in Clinical Excellence Class of 2024

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

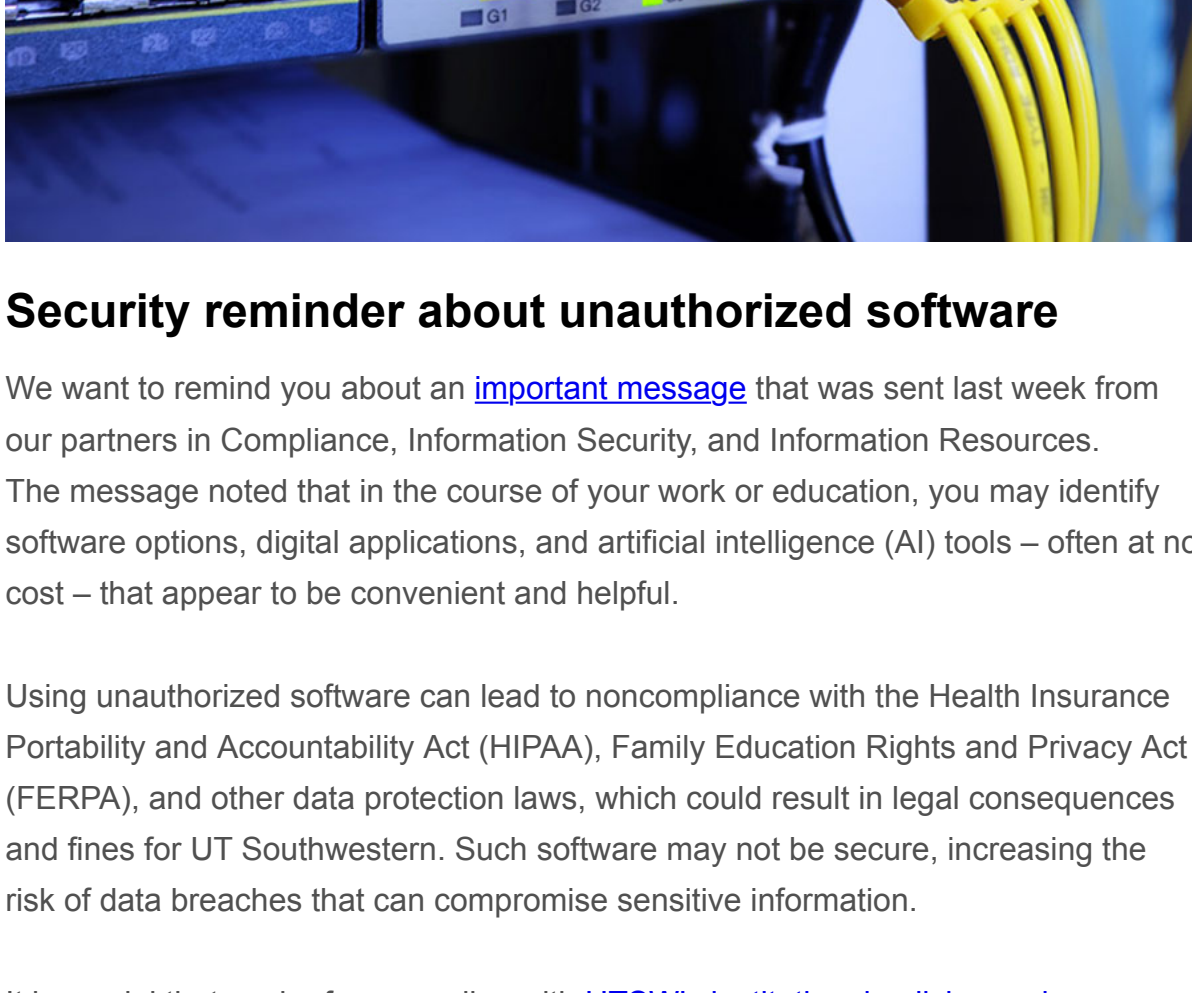


The results are in! In case you missed it on Friday, the winners of the seventh annual Leaders in Clinical Excellence Awards (LCEA) were [named in a message](#) from UT Southwestern President Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.; Jonathan Efron, M.D., Executive Vice President for Health System Affairs; and W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D., Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Provost, and Dean of the UT Southwestern Medical School.

We extend our congratulations to this year's recipients, whose expertise, innovation, and compassion exemplify the very best of UTSW. We hope you will join us in honoring our esteemed colleagues at an all-campus celebration on Thursday, Nov. 14, at 4:30 p.m. in the Tom and Lula Gooch Auditorium, followed by a reception on the plaza.

You'll be able to learn more about the newest awardees and the programs they lead in an upcoming *Center Times Plus* story.

[LCEA honorees list](#)



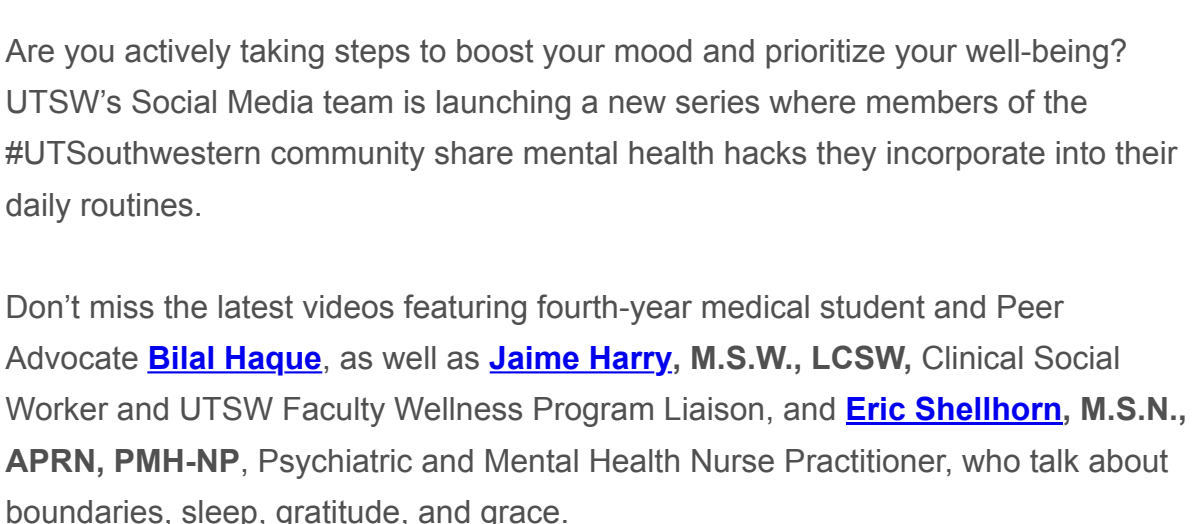
## Security reminder about unauthorized software

We want to remind you about an [important message](#) that was sent last week from our partners in Compliance, Information Security, and Information Resources. The message noted that in the course of your work or education, you may identify software options, digital applications, and artificial intelligence (AI) tools – often at no cost – that appear to be convenient and helpful.

Using unauthorized software can lead to noncompliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and other data protection laws, which could result in legal consequences and fines for UT Southwestern. Such software may not be secure, increasing the risk of data breaches that can compromise sensitive information.

It is crucial that each of us complies with [UTSW's institutional policies and standards](#), designed to protect the integrity of our systems and the privacy of our patient, employee, and student data. We must take steps individually to minimize risks, but it is important to remember that protecting our data is a shared responsibility. Working together, we can ensure the highest level of data protection for our campus community.

[Full message](#)

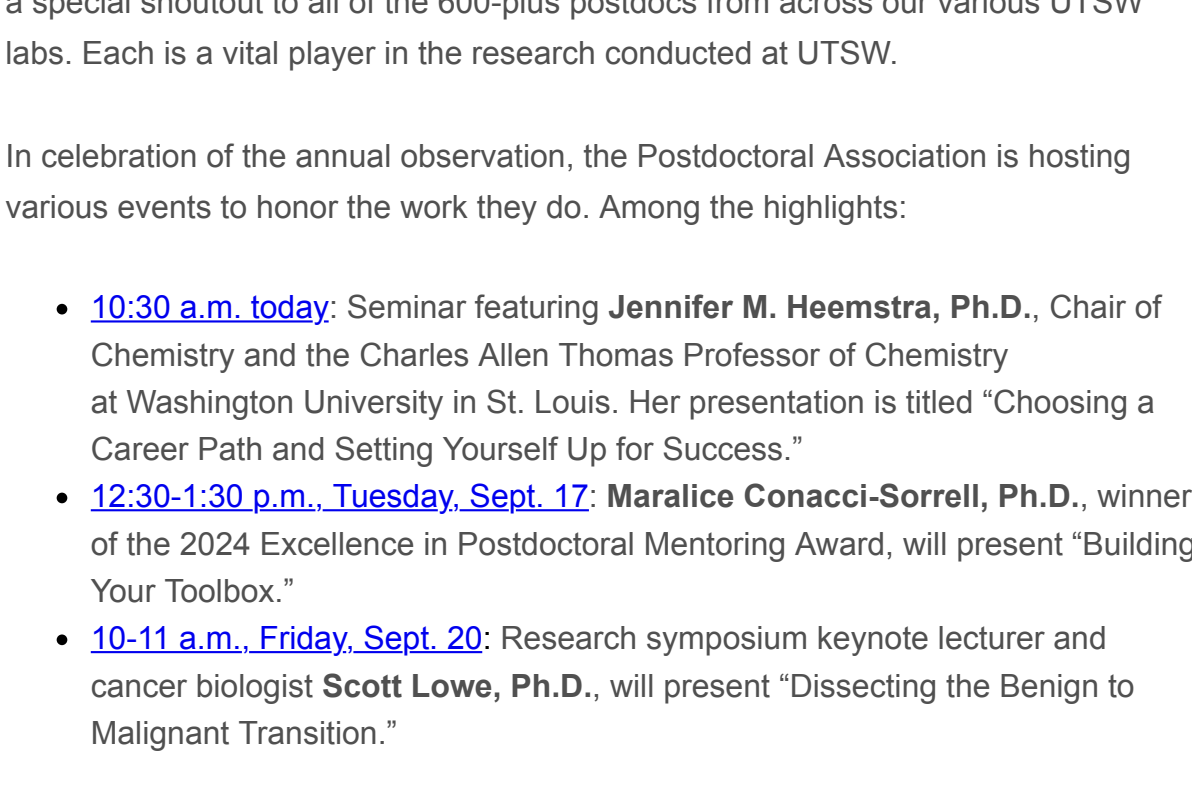


## UTSW mental health check-in

Are you actively taking steps to boost your mood and prioritize your well-being? UTSW's Social Media team is launching a new series where members of the #UTSouthwestern community share mental health hacks they incorporate into their daily routines.

Don't miss the latest videos featuring fourth-year medical student and Peer Advocate [Bilal Haque](#), as well as [Jaime Harry, M.S.W., LCSW](#), Clinical Social Worker and UTSW Faculty Wellness Program Liaison, and [Eric Shellhorn, M.S.N., APRN, PMH-NP](#), Psychiatric and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, who talk about boundaries, sleep, gratitude, and grace.

Stay connected with us on Instagram at [@utswmedcenter](#) for more tips and a showcase of what makes UTSW so special.



## Postdoc Appreciation Week

Today kicks off National Postdoc Appreciation Week (Sept. 16-20), so we're sending a special shoutout to all of the 600-plus postdocs from across our various UTSW labs. Each is a vital player in the research conducted at UTSW.

In celebration of the annual observation, the Postdoctoral Association is hosting various events to honor the work they do. Among the highlights:

- **10:30 a.m. today:** Seminar featuring [Jennifer M. Heemstra, Ph.D.](#), Chair of Chemistry and the Charles Allen Thomas Professor of Chemistry at Washington University in St. Louis. Her presentation is titled "Choosing a Career Path and Setting Yourself Up for Success."
- **12:30-1:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 17:** [Maralice Conacci-Sorrell, Ph.D.](#), winner of the 2024 Excellence in Postdoctoral Mentoring Award, will present "Building Your Toolbox."
- **10-11 a.m., Friday, Sept. 20:** Research symposium keynote lecturer and cancer biologist [Scott Lowe, Ph.D.](#), will present "Dissecting the Benign to Malignant Transition."

The week will also feature a networking breakfast with junior faculty and alumni as well as poster presentations. For details and locations of the events, [email the Postdoctoral Office](#) and [visit the website](#).

## Insider Guide

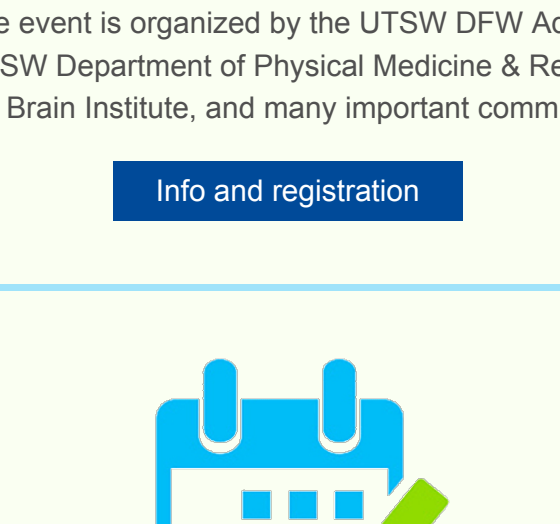


### Heart Walk this Saturday

**8 a.m., Sept. 21**  
**Reunion Tower, 692 Sports St., Dallas**  
 or virtual

Join UT Southwestern colleagues at this annual event, which supports lifesaving cardiovascular research and heightens awareness of heart disease and stroke. Help us boost our participation to more than 3,000 walkers downtown. If you can't join us there, you can participate virtually.

[Heart Walk 2024](#)

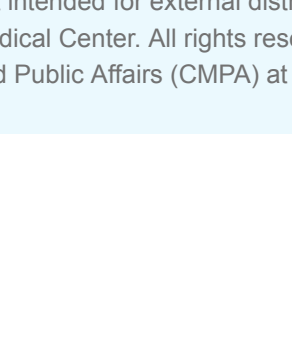


### Adaptive Sports Expo

**10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sept. 21**  
**UT Arlington Maverick Activities Center, 500 W. Nedderman Drive, Arlington**

Learn about and try different adaptive sports and get connected to helpful resources and organizations. This free event is organized by the UTSW DFW Adaptive Sports Coalition, UT Arlington, the UTSW Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, the Peter O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute, and many important community partners.

[Info and registration](#)



## UTSW Events Calendar

Looking for your daily dose of happenings?  
 The UTSW Events Calendar is updated every day.

[Click to view upcoming or trending events](#)

### Share your 'Insider' suggestions

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