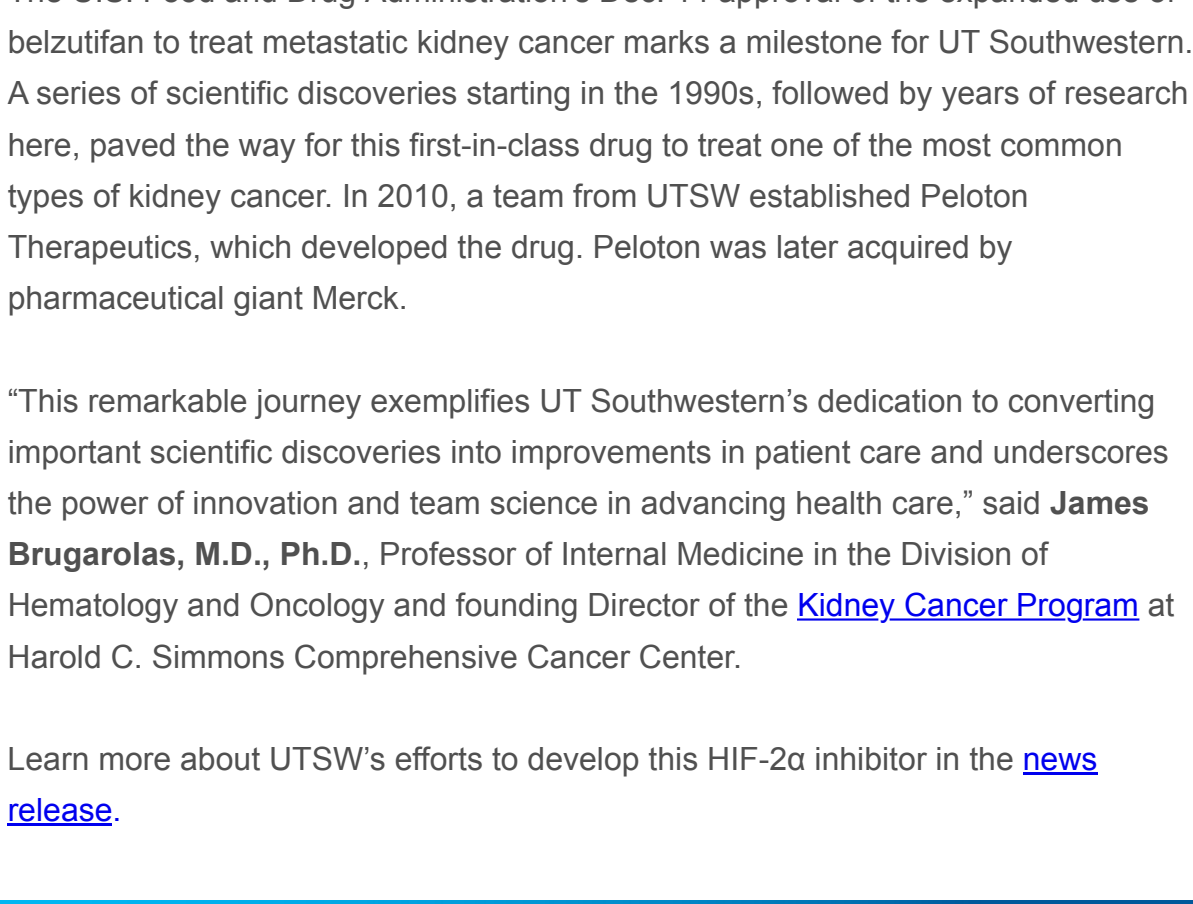


Catch the President's campus briefing

UT Southwestern President **Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.**, is hosting his quarterly campus briefing at 9 a.m. today.

All employees, faculty, and learners are encouraged to tune in to hear the latest UTSW news, including updates on additions to the leadership team, institutional priorities for 2024, and key upcoming events on campus.

[Listen to the briefing](#)

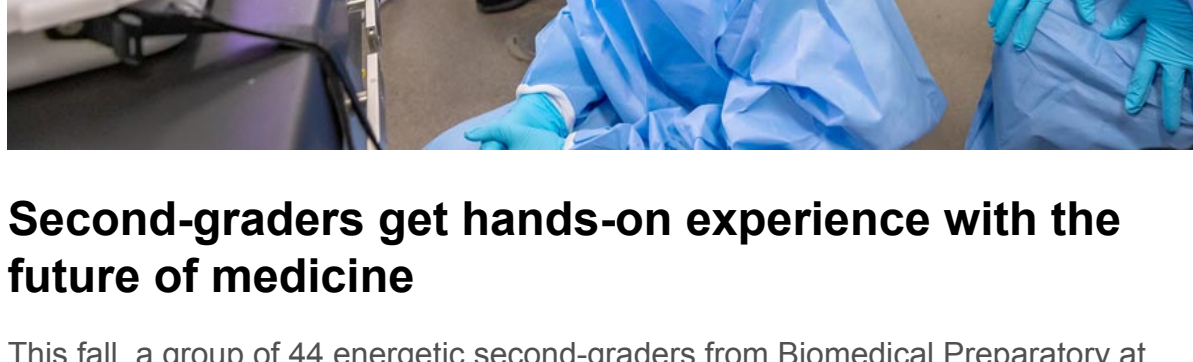


Drug developed by UTSW spinoff approved for metastatic kidney cancer

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Dec. 14 approval of the expanded use of belzutifan to treat metastatic kidney cancer marks a milestone for UT Southwestern. A series of scientific discoveries starting in the 1990s, followed by years of research here, paved the way for this first-in-class drug to treat one of the most common types of kidney cancer. In 2010, a team from UTSW established Peloton Therapeutics, which developed the drug. Peloton was later acquired by pharmaceutical giant Merck.

"This remarkable journey exemplifies UT Southwestern's dedication to converting important scientific discoveries into improvements in patient care and underscores the power of innovation and team science in advancing health care," said **James Brugarolas, M.D., Ph.D.**, Professor of Internal Medicine in the Division of Hematology and Oncology and founding Director of the [Kidney Cancer Program](#) at Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Learn more about UTSW's efforts to develop this HIF-2α inhibitor in the [news release](#).



Holiday schedule and appreciation

In observance of the [Christmas and New Year's holidays](#), UT Southwestern clinics and nonhospital operations will be closed Monday, Dec. 25, and Monday, Jan. 1.

We hope you have the opportunity to enjoy the spirit of the season with your loved ones. We're especially grateful to all who will be working over Christmas and New Year's, including our hospital employees and those in positions designated as essential to carrying out other critical services. You are all truly appreciated.

Please note that due to the upcoming holidays, the *Insider* will not publish Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.



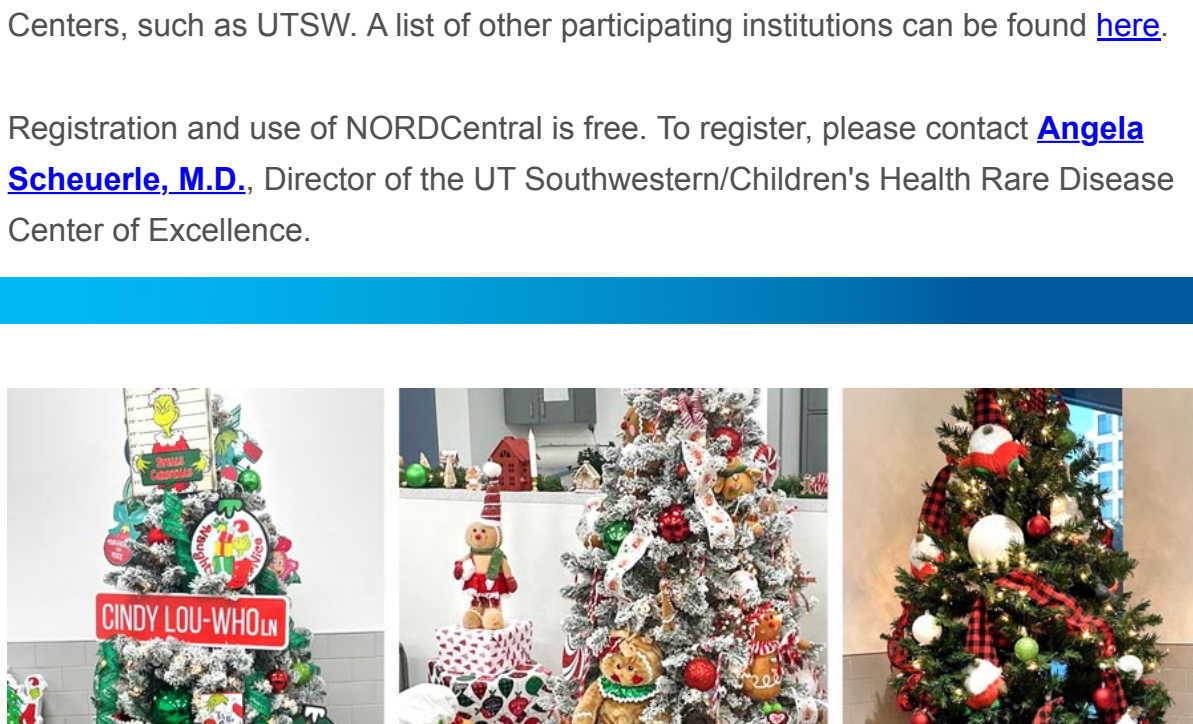
Second-graders get hands-on experience with the future of medicine

This fall, a group of 44 energetic second-graders from Biomedical Preparatory at UT Southwestern took a wondrous field trip to UTSW's Simulation Center to observe the da Vinci surgery robot in action, take vital signs, and perform CPR on a baby manikin. The elementary school, located on the UTSW campus, focuses on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and is the result of a partnership between the Dallas Independent School District and UTSW.

A visit like this, which is captured in a new video and story on *Center Times Plus*, makes a lasting impression on students, said **Krystle K. Campbell, D.H.A., M.S., CHSE, FACHDM**, Director of Simulation Center Operations.

"They have those 'aha' moments, where they've heard about something from their teachers, but now they're actually sitting down at a manikin and trying it out and saying, 'Hey, I can actually do that!'" she said. That instills confidence and belief that says, "I can become a doctor or a biomedical engineer."

[Biomedical Prep students visit Sim Center](#)



UTSW faculty honored for exceptional health science education

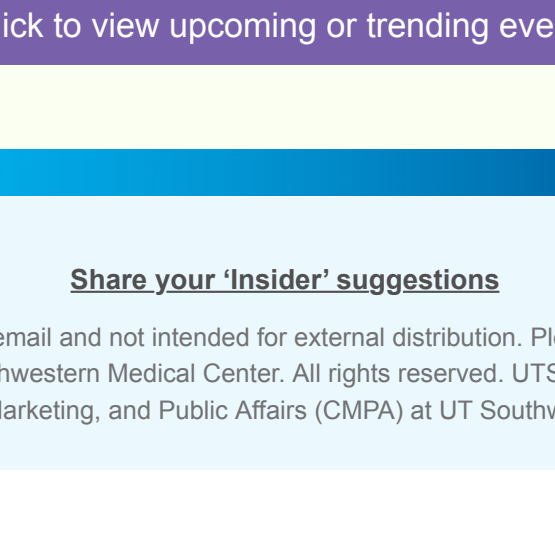
Two UT Southwestern educators are being recognized for their outstanding teaching efforts with membership into the UT System's Kenneth I. Shine, M.D., Academy of Health Science Education.

Philip Greilich, M.D., M.Sc., Professor of Anesthesiology & Pain Management, and **Janine Prange-Kiel, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Surgery, will join 33 current and former UT Southwestern faculty members inducted into the Academy. Dr. Greilich's role as an adviser in the Office of Quality, Safety, and Outcomes Education allows him the unique experience of mentoring and coaching not only students and trainees but also faculty and staff on quality improvement projects.

Dr. Prange-Kiel shapes the lives of her students as co-Director of the Human Structure course for first-year medical students and as a lecturer in several integrative medicine courses and the neuroscience core course for graduate students.

Named after Kenneth I. Shine, M.D., former UT System Executive Vice Chancellor of Health Affairs, the Academy honors those who support and promote exceptional health science education, scholarship, and leadership.

[UTSW's Shine Academy 2023 inductees](#)



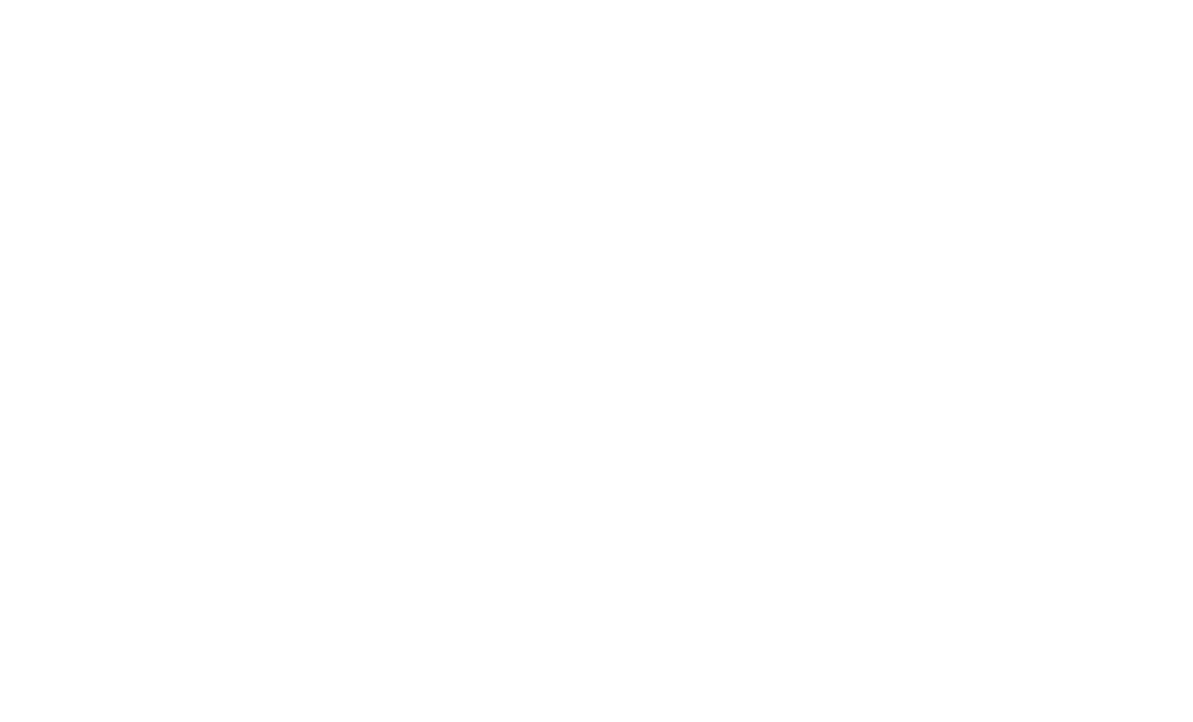
New resource for rare disease patient care and research

The UT Southwestern/Children's Health [Rare Disease Center of Excellence](#) is one of 40 prestigious academic medical centers designated as such by the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD). UTSW and other Centers will soon have a new resource – NORDCentral.

The intranet, hosted by NORD, will provide access to rare disease experts, clinical and basic science investigators, research programs, and information about funding opportunities for Center faculty, staff, and trainees. There will be educational programs and a chance to collaborate on standardizing rare disease care across the Centers.

Access is limited to those with professional or trainee affiliation with one of the Centers, such as UTSW. A list of other participating institutions can be found [here](#).

Registration and use of NORDCentral is free. To register, please contact [Angela Scheuerle, M.D.](#), Director of the UT Southwestern/Children's Health Rare Disease Center of Excellence.



University Police Department gets festive

This holiday season, the University Police Department is spreading joy with beautifully decorated themed trees! The collaborative project was led by **Jasmine McLemore**, a Public Safety Officer Supervisor, and members of the C Shift Patrol Team. Check out their work on [Instagram](#), and show us how you and your department are celebrating and creating holiday cheer this season.

Email your photos to UTSWInsider@utsouthwestern.edu, and we may feature you on our social channels!

Secure your discounted tickets for Mavericks spirit night!

Are you looking for a last-minute gift idea? The Employee Advisory Council (EAC) is sponsoring a UT Southwestern spirit night at the Dallas Mavericks game against the Detroit Pistons on April 12. Get your discounted tickets today and join us for a fun night of basketball and employee engagement!

[Purchase Dallas Mavericks tickets](#)

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](#)

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