



December 10, 2001

Volume 5, Number 37 • Indianapolis, Indiana

[IUSM Home](#) • [Office of Public & Media Relations](#) • [Scope Archives](#)

- [Most powerful MRI in Indiana arrives at IUSM](#)
 - [Medicine chairman's office has temporarily moved](#)
 - [A Moment for Patient Safety and Quality Health Care](#)
 - [Flu shots available at health center](#)
 - [Clinical research space available at GCRC](#)
 - [Sports Medicine Wellness Series to focus on diabetes, chronic disease](#)
 - [Computational Biology Seminar to be telecast](#)
 - [CDC prevention research expert to speak](#)
 - [Scientific Calendar online](#)
 - [Submissions to SCOPE](#)
-

Most powerful MRI in Indiana arrives at IUSM

The IU Department of Radiology now has a 3 Tesla MRI, which was delivered Friday, Dec. 7, to an annex on the west side of Riley Hospital.

The new scanner, one of seven in the world, was purchased by the department for \$2.2 million and will be used for research and clinical care. It has twice the magnetic strength of any other MRI in Indiana.

Until now, the strongest MRI in Indiana was 1 1/2 Tesla. One Tesla is

20,000 times the strength of the magnetic field of the earth, explained Mark Lowe, PhD, assistant professor of radiology and director of the IU School of Medicine 3 T Research MRI Facility. It also is equivalent to the strength of the magnets used in salvage yards to lift automobiles. Tesla is a measurement of magnetic strength.

"The higher the Tesla, the better the visualization of fine structure in the brain," said Dr. Lowe. "The new MRI will be state-of-the-art for imaging neurological structures in the brain as well as blood vessels."

The 10-ton MRI is unique, not only because of its magnetic strength, but because it only images the head, unlike other MRI scanners that perform whole-body scans. Those scanners can produce anxiety for patients who suffer from claustrophobia.

Patients with brain cancers, stroke, blood vessel abnormalities, aneurysms and other neurologic conditions will benefit from the stronger capacity of the MRI because a better defined and higher quality image is produced by the stronger magnetic field, he said.

Funding for the MRI was provided by the IU School of Medicine Department of Radiology.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

Medicine chairman's office has temporarily moved

The IU Department of Medicine chairman's office has temporarily moved to room 6015 in the Roudebush VA Medical Center. That's on the sixth floor of D wing.

Chairman David Crabb and his office staff moved to Roudebush in mid-November and will remain there while their office space on the third

floor of Emerson Hall is being renovated. That project is expected to be completed by the end of February.

In the meantime, the department's mailing address and telephone numbers will remain the same.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

A Moment for Patient Safety and Quality Health Care

Third in a series

By Herbert E. Cushing, MD

Intravascular Catheter-Associated Infections Can Be Reduced

Short-term vascular catheters are among the most common causes of infection, including local skin inflammation and bacteremic catheter-related infection-usually by staphylococci, gram negative rods, and *Candida* species-in hospitalized patients.

Studies show that, of patients in whom standard, non-coated central venous catheters are in place for 8 days, 5 percent will develop catheter-related bloodstream infection. Available data suggest that mortality attributable to catheter-related bloodstream infection ranges from 4 percent to 20 percent.

Moderately strong evidence supports use of maximum sterile barrier precautions during insertion to decrease infection. Maximum precautions include the use of mask, cap, sterile gloves, gown and large drape, as compared with control precautions, including sterile gloves and small drape only.

Use of maximum precautions is deemed cost effective, despite the greater cost in time and materials, because a single episode of catheter-

related bloodstream infection adds approximately \$25,000 to the cost of care.

For more information, see www.ahrq.gov/clinic/ptsafety/chap16a.htm.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

Flu shots available at health center

Flu shots are now available at the IU Occupational Health/Student Health Center, 101 Coleman Hall.

The shots are available to students for \$10 per shot. IUPUI faculty and staff can receive a free flu shot if they provide a valid faculty or staff ID. If faculty or staff do not have a valid ID they will be charged \$10.

The IUPUI Student Health Center is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursdays. Flu shots will be given on a first-come first-serve basis.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

Clinical research space available at GCRC

The General Clinical Research Center, which supports clinical research, is an IUSM/Clarian resource located on the fifth floor of Indiana University Hospital.

GCRC is open 24-hours a day, 7 days a week and has 10 inpatient and 13 outpatient rooms, a laboratory, metabolic kitchen, nurses, dietitians, and other resources.

For more information on how to use the Center, contact Sharon Cromer, administrative manager, at 278-3446 or scromer2@iupui.edu.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

Sports Medicine Wellness Series to focus on diabetes, chronic disease

"Exercise as Medicine: Treating Chronic Disease" will be the topic from noon to 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10, at the Sports Medicine Wellness Series. The presentation will be in the auditorium at the National Institute for Fitness and Sport.

Neeru Jayanthi, MD, of the IU Center for Sports Medicine, will be the speaker.

Computational Biology Seminar to be telecast

Dr. Joseph M. Jasinski, senior manager of IBM's Computational Biology Center, will speak on "Information Technology for the Life Sciences" at 4 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 13.

The seminar will be held in the Sassafras Room of the Indiana Memorial Union at Bloomington, and telecast to Nursing Building, room 240, on the IUPUI campus.<

[BACK TO TOP](#)

CDC prevention research expert to speak

Lawrence Green, DrPH, will present "Participatory Research: Looking Upstream for Solutions to the Research-to-Practice and Policy Problem" at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18, in room 137 of the University Place Conference Center.

Dr. Green is the director of the Centers for Disease Control Office of Extramural Prevention Research and associate director for Prevention Research and Academic Partnerships for the Public Practice Program Office.

He is a guest of the IU School of Nursing Healthy Families Training and Technical Assistance Project and Institute of Action Research for Community Health.<

Refreshments will be served following Dr. Green's presentation.

RSVPs can be made to Norma Pahl at 274-3470.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

Scientific Calendar online

A comprehensive listing on IUSM seminars, lectures and Grand Rounds can be accessed at <http://www.medlib.iupui.edu/calendar/>. To place items on the Scientific Calendar, please forward them to Iona Sewell at imsewell@iupui.edu.

To keep the electronic version of Scope as streamlined as possible, only seminars and lectures of general or multi-disciplinary interest will be included.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

Submissions to Scope

Scope wants your news items.

The deadline for submission is 8:30 a.m. on Fridays. *Scope* is published electronically and sent to faculty, staff, students, and residents.

There are four easy ways to submit story ideas or information to *Scope*:

- fax the information to 278-3502
- e-mail the information to mhardin@iupui.edu
- mail the information to Mary Hardin, LO 401, IUPUI
- paste your plain text message into Scope Web form on the IUSM faculty & staff page: <http://medicine.iu.edu/faculty/index.html>

Contributions submitted by e-mail should be forwarded in 12 point, plain text format.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

[IUSM Home](#) • [Office of Public & Media Relations](#) • [Scope Archives](#)
