
PEOPLE

Peter Hasselbacher, MD, professor of medicine and the first faculty fellow in the University of Louisville's partnership with the Kentucky Center for Public Issues, has been selected as one of six Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellows nationally.

Lt Governor Stephen L. Henry, MD, was the recipient of the 1997 Mary C. Bingham Land Conservation Award given by the Future Fund Land Trust.

UPDATES
Team of Specialists Aids Ukrainian Burn Victim

A 12-year-old Ukrainian boy with severe burns covering half his body is being treated at the University of Louisville Hospital. During his approximate 10-week stay in Louisville, the patient, Ruslaan Litvinchuk, will receive extensive reconstructive surgery and physical therapy. He was injured when his clothes, which had been soaked in gas by other boys, caught fire.

Ruslaan's trauma physician, Ikram Mzoughi, MD, and a translator, Miriam Useinova, accompanied him to Louisville. During their stay, Dr Mzoughi will work as a fellow at U of L Hospital to learn the latest techniques in treating severe burn victims. U of L's burn unit treats patients suffering from second- and third-degree burns, smoke inhalation, chemical burns, and electrocution injuries.

A team of specialists has volunteered to treat Ruslaan at no charge. In addition, U of L Hospital and Frazier Rehab Center will make their facilities and staffs available at no charge. Caritas Health Services donated air fares to bring the three

here and return them home. The medical team that will evaluate and treat Ruslaan includes:

- **Gordon Tobin, MD**, director of plastic and reconstructive surgery, medical school;
- **Benjamin Rigor, MD**, chair of anesthesiology, medical school;
- **Linda Gleis, MD**, assistant clinical professor and former director of the physical medicine and rehabilitation residency program;
- **Ronald Lehocky, MD**, assistant clinical professor of pediatrics; and
- **Anna Invenenko, MD**, a psychiatry resident working under the supervision of instructor **Sandra Elam, MD**, of psychiatry.

Louisville dentist **Shellie Branson, DMD**, has agreed to provide dental care.

Ruslaan came to the attention of the Jefferson County Medical Society's "Supplies Over Seas" program, a humanitarian effort that recycles medical supplies and drugs to some of the world's neediest communities. Among the organization's contacts is missionary Kathryn McKewen, a retired Leitchfield, Ky, nurse who established a clinic in Simferopol, Ukraine. McKewen relayed Ruslaan's plight to JCMS, which arranged for the youngster to be treated here.

Dr Tobin said that the boy's grafts have healed, his newly grown skin has begun to scar and shrink — typical side effects for burn victims. The effect has hindered movement of one eyelid, all limbs and skin on the neck and face.

Dr Tobin said he is excited that he and his colleagues will be able to train Dr Mzoughi in American burn treatment and trauma techniques. Dr Mzoughi then can take the knowledge back to Ukraine.

"Providing instruction on burn care has a tremendous impact in underdeveloped countries because the best burn care results from proper techniques, not technology," Dr Tobin said. "You don't need expensive equipment like heart-lung machines

and laser devices to provide outstanding care."

The Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance arranged for Ruslaan, Ms Useinova, and Dr Mzoughi to stay at Hospital Hospitality House throughout their stay in Louisville. Alliance members and various local groups are assisting with hospitality, providing food, transportation, child care, clothing, incidentals, and companionship with peers throughout their stay.

Ruslaan Litvinchuk has been abandoned by his family, but a woman in Simferopol wishes to adopt him upon his return.

Kentucky Begins Surveillance of Occupational Burns

Occupational burns place a tremendous burden on the workforce, the medical community, and employers in Kentucky. In cooperation with the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH), the Occupational Injury Prevention Program (OIIPP) at the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center (KIPRC) is establishing a statewide occupational burn surveillance system to identify causes and trends of work-related burns and monitor progress toward reducing these injuries. Funding for this project is provided by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). Case identification began in January 1998 and will continue for 5 years.

According to a report from KIPRC, between 1994 and 1996, 52 workers died from burns, explosions or electrocutions. Most of these workers were less than 40 years old. In 1995, 1,195 Workers' Compensation claims were filed for work-related burns; 55 workers were hospitalized. The industries with the most claims were retail trade (34%) and manufacturing (23%). About 68% of the claims resulted in lost work time and 32% resulted in temporary disability. There

was an average of 6.4 days lost from work, and the total value for these claims was more than \$2.6 million.

This initiative for a statewide burn injury surveillance system focuses on identifying risk factors associated with the workplace (eg, the task, environment, machine, worker) in order to develop injury prevention strategies. Using epidemiologic principles, the specific aims of the project are to:

- Identify the incidence of burns as an occupational injury (including thermal, electrical, chemical, friction, and radiation burns)
- Identify trends in burn cases quickly
- Develop and implement interventions to reduce the incidence of burn injury
- Evaluate the economic savings of interventions

Cases will be identified primarily through hospital burn units, emergency departments, the Kentucky Department of Workers' Claims, Kentucky Employers' Mutual Insurance, and death certificates.

KIPRC believes that members of the medical community, most notably private physicians and emergency department personnel, are in an excellent position to notify OIPP of work-related burn cases presenting for treatment; that only through the active involvement of health care providers can this project succeed in identifying and ultimately reducing the incidence of these traumatic injuries; and additionally, that practitioners will be an invaluable part of the project by disseminating prevention information to patients whose work histories indicate a potential for burn injuries.

KIPRC advises that data generated from burn surveillance activities will be disseminated to workers and employers, trade organizations, health professionals, public agencies, and the general public via news media.

Surveillance is a key component of occupational injury control. It provides baseline data and the

opportunity to monitor trends. Over the next 5 years, the occupational burn injury surveillance project will enable KIPRC to identify risk factors for burn injury, implement effective prevention strategies, and reduce the incidence of these costly injuries in Kentucky.

For more information please contact Amy Scheerer, Project Manager, at 606-257-6712 or 1-800-204-3223.

NEW MEMBERS

Members of the Kentucky Medical Association and their respective county medical societies join in welcoming the following new members to these organizations.

Boyd

John Timothy Garner MD — FP
539 Eden Place, Ashland 41101
1994, W. Virginia U

Davies

John D Robinson, MD — P
1000 Industrial Dr, Owensboro 42301-8715
1977, U of Missouri, Columbia

Fayette

Tony W Dotson DO — OBG
4745 Hartland Pkwy, Lexington 40509
1997, Chicago Homeopathic Med Col

Floyd

David J Jenkinson MD — ORS
485 E Dorton Blvd, Staffordsville 41256
1974, Queens U of Belfast

Green

Thomas A Castillo DO — OPH
262 Creason Lane, Greensburg 42743
1977, Chicago Col of Osteopathy

Jefferson

Paul A Atkins MD — IM
5030 Fertig Creek Rd, Floyd Knobs
47119-9212

1992, Indiana U
Robert T Barowsky MD — OPH
2817 Eastwood Fisherville Rd,
Fisherville 40023-9727

1980, U of Wisconsin
Ricky S Collis MD — AN
6613 Northridge Cir, Louisville 40241-6533

1992, U of Louisville
Tyrone L Daniels MD — C
1400 Twin Ridge Rd, Louisville 40242-3817

1983, U of Iowa
Dale S Horne MD — NS
6420 Dutchmans Pkwy Ste 190,
Louisville 40205

1990, Washington U, St. Louis
Diana G Irvin MD — IM
1139 Cherokee Rd, Louisville 40204

1982, U of Kansas, Lawrence
Mary E Lacher MD — PD
7003 Shallow Lake Rd, Prospect 40059
1985, Creighton U, Omaha

McCracken

Yale R Smith MD — AN
2507 Broadway, Paducah 42001
1985, U of Dominica, Ross U

Mercer

Steven C Hall MD — FP
PO Box 9, Harrodsburg 40330
1988, Dalhousie U, Canada

In-Training

Fayette

Andrea S Kristofy MD — AN
Adam Wooten DO — P

Kenton

Corey Gallus DO — FP
David Frederick Lowe MD — FP
Michael P Minning MD — FP
Rhonda R Pfaff, MD — FP