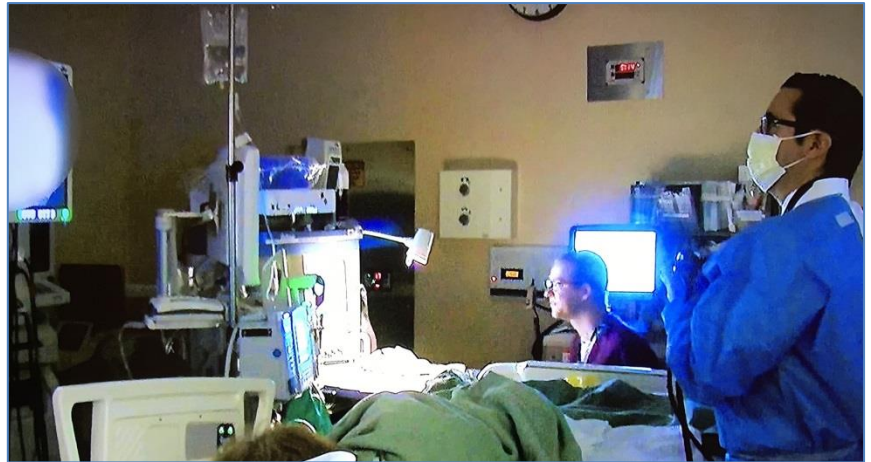




UMC's Endoscopy Center Scores Another El Paso First

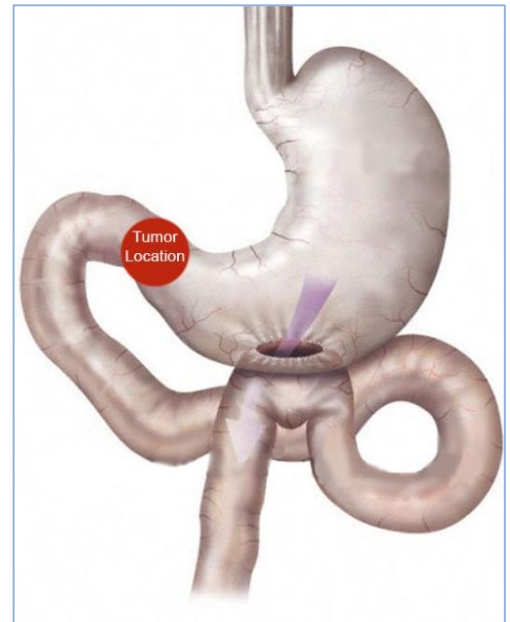
In yet another milestone for University Medical Center of El Paso, an extraordinarily advanced, successful procedure has been accomplished on a patient suffering complications from stomach cancer. The procedure has only been accomplished twice in Texas: Houston and earlier this month at El Paso's UMC.



Dr. Ladd performs an endoscopic procedure in UMC's Center for Diagnostic and Advanced Endoscopy.

The patient was unable to eat and digest food due to a blockage of his digestive tract from cancer. The procedure, called an "endoscopic jejunostomy," creates a new opening in the stomach, attaches the small intestine to the opening and then places a stent in the new pathway for food to once again pass through the patient's system. The patient can now eat again.

The procedure was successfully accomplished by Dr. Antonio Mendoza-Ladd, UMC's Director of Endoscopy. Dr. Mendoza-Ladd is also Assistant Professor in the Division of Gastroenterology at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, El Paso. "Dr. Mendoza-Ladd is among the best in our state when it comes to complex endoscopy, and he is another example of how our strong partnership with Texas Tech, along with UMC's state-of-the-art facilities, results in the best of care for El Paso." said Jacob Cintron, President & CEO.



“It is an amazing feeling and so fulfilling to be able to provide patients with immediate relief such as this,” said Dr. Mendoza-Ladd. “UMC has the best endoscopic equipment and staff able to perform these procedures, from the very basic to the most complex. I am proud to be a part of that team.”

On a related note, in 2017, UMC became the first and only hospital in El Paso to offer complex detection and treatment for a precancerous condition known as Barrett’s Esophagus, a procedure also performed at UMC’s Center for Diagnostic and Advanced Endoscopy.

Coffee With CEO Brings More Opportunities To Focus On Service

Each month, Jacob Cintron, UMC President & CEO, meets with a group of Associates from throughout the campus and clinics during his “Coffee With The CEO” breakfast to talk about anything they are interested in, while sharing some of the direction and new information about our hospital. Below are a few questions and answers raised at this month’s meeting. *(Questions and answers are edited for brevity.)*

Question:

Can we create a recycling program at UMC?

Jacob:

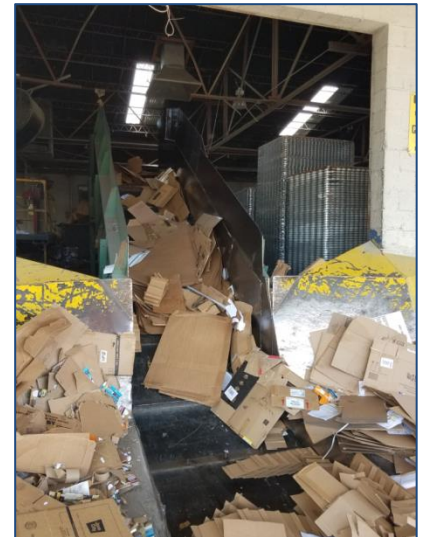
This is a great question, especially in this time of finding more ways to be efficient with the resources we have. I asked our Environmental Services team to give us an update on our recycling efforts and they have some great news. EVS has started a recycling program for all cardboard generated throughout UMC and El Paso Children's Hospital.

This effort has only recently begun and has already resulted in success. So far the savings for our facility is estimated to be \$16,100 annually (savings from the cost of hauling the cardboard to the landfill to include hauling fee and landfill disposal fee). We also are now selling our cardboard to a paper mill which recycles cardboard into paper. The annual estimated rebate on this recycled cardboard is \$22,000.

Total cost savings for recycling cardboard is approximately \$38,100 annually. We will continue to look for cost-efficient, safe ways to recycle other items we consume at our hospital.

Question:

Can we have additional volunteers for patient escort to expedite and make more efficient our admissions process? Currently, members from Admissions escort patients which slows operations for Associates and waiting patients.



UMC cardboard containers headed for a second life at a local recycling center.

Jacob:

Most of us have been patients at one time or another and want the admissions process to move as quickly as possible. Your question is a good one because it speaks to the need to help the patients we are admitting as well as those who are waiting to be admitted.

While Admitting currently has volunteer coverage in the mornings during weekdays, our Volunteer Program will be stepping up volunteer assistance and will be meeting with Admissions management to provide more volunteers. Our volunteers provide tens of thousands of hours of assistance throughout our hospital each year and we are always looking for more people willing to volunteer. If you have any questions about volunteering or know someone who wants to join our volunteer team, please give Cristy Ramirez, our Volunteer Program Supervisor, a call at (915) 521-7648.

Question:

What can the UMC Foundation do to support funding of specialized breast replacement surgical equipment at UMC?

Jacob:

One of the things we are proud of at UMC is that we have the region's latest and best equipment in the medical industry. Supporting women who have battled breast cancer with the best equipment is a big part of that. UMC Foundation is responsible for bringing some of the latest equipment into our hospital, affecting the services in many of our critical care departments, from Endoscopy to Neuroscience to our Emergency Departments and more. They are currently looking at the specifics of the type of equipment you mentioned. Thank you for asking this question as another way to support the many women in our community who are striving to defeat and recover from breast cancer.

Question:

Can something be done to reduce the notification steps on the new digital system for operators. The current system is causing our operators significant delay going through too many steps for notification.

Jacob:

I asked our IT and medical leadership to look at this issue. The good news is that the delay in your processes are temporary. As this new system comes online and is implemented, the older paging notification system is being transitioned out. Once fully operational, the new paging system will take over full system responsibility and the older system will go away. During this transition time, please know that the delay due to the phasing out of the old system is temporary.

Question:

Can something be done to get the elevators in the employee garage regularly cleaned? They are often noticeably dirty.

Jacob:

Thank you for bringing this to my attention. We reached out to our Environmental Services team and

they are assigning additional daily support to ensure our employee parking elevators are always clean and presentable for our Associates.

Northeast Emergency Department Groundbreaking Set for March 1



SAVE THE DATE

Groundbreaking

March 1 2019

CEREMONY AT 2:30 P.M.
University Medical Center of El Paso requests the pleasure of your company at our Official Groundbreaking Ceremony for our new Emergency Department at our Northeast Clinic, located at 9839 Kenworthy St, El Paso, TX 79924



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About The Pulse:

The Pulse newsletter, is a product of the UMC Public Affairs office and features news briefs and updates from around our campus. It is distributed to our El Paso community. If you have an item that you would like to have considered for *The Pulse*, email it to [Ryan Mielke, UMC Director of Public Affairs](mailto:ryan.mielke@umc-el-paso.org).