RONALD W. TATUM, M.D.
REMEMBERED

Ronald Tatum, Medical Director for the New Mexico Monitored Treatment Program (MTP) from 1988 - 2001 died on October 24, 2001 from complications of Cancer, and a fall. Dr. Tatum, an endocrinologist and addictions specialist, was dedicated to working with physicians and other health professionals who had the disease of addiction. He provided specialized leadership to the Monitored Treatment Program by teaching staff and patients about the specialty of health professional recovery. He facilitated groups, evaluations, education, consultation, intervention, and many other activities for MTP and for the health care community of New Mexico. He was a strong advocate of recovery for health professionals and would strongly advocate for their ability to continue practicing as long as their recovery was strong. Dr. Tatum was born in Joplin, Missouri. He graduated from Harvard and The University of Rochester. He came to Albuquerque in 1966 and began a private practice. He became the Medical Director of MTP in 1988 until February 2001, when he retired from that position. His primary practice was Endocrinology, but his subspecialty was Addiction Medicine. He always had time in his thriving Endocrinology practice to treat those who had addiction problems, especially fellow physicians and other health professionals. Dr. Tatum is survived by his wife, Yvonne Tatum, Children, Christina Hansen, Jeff Tatum, and Stacey Tatum, of Albuquerque, and Kandice Rea of Sodus, New York. A scholarship fund was developed on behalf of Dr. Tatum, when he retired from MTP, by the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. The Endowed Scholarship Fund addresses the need of medical students with the disease of alcoholism or chemical dependency. Supporting the Tatum Fund allows UNM physicians in training facing the burden of addiction to enter a substance abuse treatment program without shouldering these costs alone. Dr. Ronald W. Tatum is greatly missed by the community, colleagues, co-workers, patients and especially his family.

Holiday Issue

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WE OF AA NOW FIND OURSELVES LIVING IN A WORLD characterized by destructive fears as never before in history. But in it we nevertheless see great arenas of faith and tremendous aspirations toward justice and brotherhood. Yet no prophet can presume to say whether the world outcome will be blazing destruction or the beginning, under God’s intention, of the brightest era yet known to mankind. I am sure we AAs well comprehend this scene. In microcosm, we have experienced this identical state of terrifying, each in his own life. In no sense prudishly, we AAs can say that we do not fear the world outcome, whichever course it may take. This is because we have been enabled to deeply feel and say, “We shall fear no evil - thy will, not ours, be done.” Bill W., from “This matter of Fear” January 1962 submitted by Jaye Swoboda, MD.

HOLIDAY HINTS

1. **Attend some sober socials** *(Get some support for yourself & your program)* AA and other 12 step programs have more parties and get togethers than any other time during the year.
2. **Volunteer** *(Give of yourself)*
   AA, 12 step programs, treatment programs, and charitable organizations often need more help during the holidays. You can visit people who are in treatment or do 12-step work. Giving a gift of your time may help you keep your sobriety.
3. **Ask your sponsor for a holiday assignment**
   If you don’t have a sponsor, get one before Thanksgiving and then ask for a holiday assignment. Or think about being a sponsor for someone else.
4. **Make a wish list**
   Don’t put down tangible items, but instead ask for qualities, feelings, and thoughts. Try for 12 items and then see what it takes to make them come true.
5. **Go to more meetings**
   Not only will you gain from peoples experiences, strength and hope but others can gain from yours. It is in the true spirit of the holidays of giving and receiving.
6. **Attending non-sober functions? Plan ahead.** Often you may want or need to attend a function that is not a sober function. Prepare in advance for dealing with alcohol and people who have been drinking. Be careful of pre-mixed beverages, such as punch or eggnogs. Even coffees may contain alcohol or liquors. Consider being a designated driver and have an escape plan prepared in case it gets a bit uncomfortable.
7. **Be good to yourself**
   Live for today...don’t dwell on the past, be it good or bad, and don’t spend your time worrying about the new year. Make your new year’s resolutions **program oriented**.

MTP provides continuing care treatment in the form of weekly groups for health professionals, random drug screen testing. MTP provides a monitoring only program for those who are receiving group support elsewhere or are not in need of group support. All of the monitoring programs are done on a random color coded basis.

**MTP WEBSITE**

http://www.monitoredtreatment.com

The MTP Website, monitoredtreatment dot com provides information about MTP, and other information of interest. Each day that a random drug screen is called it is placed on the website. This information is kept on the website, so it is a good way to know when your color was called to test.

**Make it a habit to check the site regularly.**

**ALWAYS PUT YOUR MTP NUMBER ON YOUR LAB REQUISITIONS**
The Board of Directors would like wish each and everyone of you a happy and safe holiday season.

The MTP Board of Directors is made up of volunteer professionals who have an interest in supporting the belief that health professionals benefit from having an opportunity to work on their recovery with other health professionals. The board provides the MTP Program with oversight, steering and feedback. A major focus of the Board is to monitor the financial status of the program, and making periodic changes in fees or expenses as deemed necessary for the success of the program. The Board meets quarterly.

Board Members are: Cynthia McConnell, RN, MBA, President; William Riesterer, PA-C, President Elect; Randy Marshall, Secretary-Treasurer; Patsy Duphorne, PhD, RN, Immediate Past President; William Boehm, MD; Larry O’Brien, DVM; James Pollock, MD; Robert Lucero, DDS. Chris Gallagher, M.D.; Willie Grace, R.N.; Cynde Tagg, R.N., Student Representative, Ernie Dole RRh, PhD, Stuart Willis, MD.

MTP PROVIDES EDUCATION
MTP staff is available to provide health care organizations with lectures, presentations and training sessions relating to health professionals & substance abuse. Brochures and information packets are available. Contact MTP @ (505) 271-0800 or by e-mail @ MTP@swcp.com

ELSA BARTON SCHOLARSHIP
By the American Psychiatric Association Alliance
Scholarship applications are now available for 2001-2002 fund year.
The purpose of the fund is to provide financial assistance for the post secondary educational needs of a spouse/partner or dependent of an impaired, disabled, or deceased physician who is unable to provide family income. The spouse, partner, widow or child should exhibit a need for additional financial resources in acquiring a post secondary education or vocational training. All information is confidential.
Application and additional information may be obtained from: Angela Poblocki, AAPA 202-682-6162 or email: ang3689@aol.com. or contact MTP for an application.

JCAHO PHYSICIAN HEALTH STANDARD
The Joint Commission has developed a standard for hospital medical staff affairs to implement a policy to identify and manage matters of individual physician health that is separate from the medical staff disciplinary function.
MTP can assist hospitals in drafting policy, choosing a committee, training or assisting the committee as well as providing monitoring for physicians who are being followed by the committee. For more information contact MTP at 505-271-0800 or email at mtp@swcp.com.

MTP Staff
Jaye Swoboda, M.D., Medical Director
Mary Miesem, LADAC, LPCC Program Therapist
Jon Thayer, MA, RN, CARN Administrator
Nancy Lewis Program/Outreach Assistant
Brett Nelson, LPCC, Therapist
Lane Leckman, M.D. Consulting/Supervising Psychiatrist
David Rasmussen, CPA, P.C. Accountant
FAQ’S
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the advantage to entering MTP voluntarily instead of being mandated by a licensing board.
A: By volunteering to be in the program prior to any action taken by a licensing board may provide the participant with more anonymity. When most licensing boards take disciplinary action against a licensee, it is public record. Although, what happens at MTP is confidential, and not available to the public, a participant who is mandated by disciplinary action by a board may find his or her records regarding that stipulation accessed by the media. If you think or know you have a problem with alcohol or drugs, or know a health professional who does, contacting and entering MTP prior to board discipline is by far the most advantageous route.

Q: If I know someone who is not a “licensed” health professional, but works in the health care community, i.e. nursing assistant or nursing student, can he or she be in MTP?
A: YES. Historically MTP was for licensed health professionals only, however recently, MTP has opened its doors to all health professionals and health professional students.

Q: Are there other states that have programs similar to MTP?
A: YES. Most every state has a program for physicians and nurses. Many have programs for other health professionals as well. However, few have a program like MTP where group and monitoring are done at the same place.

Submit questions to MTP via mail or email.

DRUG SCREEN PROTOCOL REMINDER

The random drug screen policy requires that you notify MTP prior to going out of town. That can be done by calling MTP, or by signing out on the clip board at the MTP office.

WHEN RETURNING FROM BEING OUT OF TOWN, YOU NEED TO CALL MTP AND LET THE STAFF KNOW YOU HAVE RETURNED.

IF YOU MISSED A RANDOM TEST, YOU WILL NEED TO HAVE A MAKE UP DONE BY HAVING YOUR MTP NUMBER CALLED.

If you have questions about this, please call the MTP staff.

Send correspondence to:
MTP 9204 Menaul Blvd, NE, Suite 6
Albuquerque, NM 87112

Quarter Ending Ending Last Year
11/3/01 8/3/01 8/3/00
TOTAL 143 138 112
MD 47 50 36
PA 5 5 3
DO 5 5 5
DDS 6 6 4
Nurse div 51 47 52
Nurse disc 7 5 1
CRNA/NP 3 2 4
RPH 9 8 1
DVM 1 1 1
MED STUDENT 3 4 3
Other 6 5 2

RANDOM DRUG SCREEN MESSAGE IS RECORDED BY 6 A.M.
271-1914 or 1-800-431-0090

The newsletter is now available on the MTP Webpage in .pdf format
EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS

CME COURSE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET.
“Physician Stress/Burnout”
www.texmed.org followed by clicking on Education/CME.
The course developed by the PHR committee, is the first AMA-PRA category 1 course offered on the Internet by TMA(Texas Medical Association). The goal of the course is to educate participants about stress and burnout in the physician population.

Care for Caregiver: Behavioral and Emotional Problems. Homestudy or Internet Study.
Participants will learn about non-substance abuse-related disorders, including symptoms of emotional stress. For presentation or home study packet, contact Linda Kuhn, Texas Medical Association 800-880-1300. To access the course on the Internet go to the TMA Web site at www.texmed.org; click on Education/CME; then click Continuing Medical education.

Please submit conference, workshop or CEU information to MTP by calling 271-0800 or email to mtp@swcp.com

NETWATCH

There are many places on the internet and world wide web where information about chemical dependency, recovery, mental health, health and medicine can be found. Some may be of interest while some others may not. Information will be updated as it is made available to us. If you have any website information, please pass it on to us.

- MTP: http://www.monitoredtreatment.com
- NM Medical Society: www.nmms.org/nmms
- State physician health programs: www-psy.bsd.uchicago.edu/~Larry/statprog.htm
- Web of addictions: www.wel.com/user/woal
- Gamblers anonymous: e-mail @isoain@gamblersanonymous.org
- Mayo Health Info: www.mayohealth.org
- Continuing Education by HomeStudy; Institute of Addiction Awareness www.FORCEUS.com
- Books That Change Lives; from the Life Issues Publisher www.hci-online.com
- International Nurses Society on Addictions information about the organization, addictions, current events involving treatment etc, as well as many links to other sites of interest. http://www.intnsa.org
- Continuing Education for Nurses on line. www.nursingceu.com
- Recovery Works Resource Center www.addicts.org/recoveryworks
- Recovery & Sobriety Resources www.medicaledge.com
- Continuing Education www.addiction-ed.com/cont_ed.htm

MTP SCHEDULE

MTP provides facilitated support groups, random urine drug screen testing, advocacy and education.
Groups: MTP groups are 90 minutes and facilitated by a licensed staff member, either one or two therapists or a therapist and the Medical Director.
Weekly group times are:
Tuesday: 7 am, 11:30 am, 4 pm and 5:30 pm
Thursday: 12 noon, 2pm
Recovery 2 Group meets Thursday 6 pm
Monthly group is either the 1st Monday at 7:30 pm or last Friday at Noon
Relapse Prevention Group takes place several times a year. It meets weekly for 6 weeks usually on a wednesday evening for 90 minutes.

To get involved in a group, please contact the clinical staff at MTP.

MTP NEW FAX NUMBER

505-275-6646
RONALD TATUM, M.D. ENDOWED MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Approximately ten percent of all medical students will struggle with the disease of alcohol or chemical dependency. For those individuals seeking treatment in New Mexico, an assessment averages $300 and inpatient treatment can cost between $15,000 and $20,000 per month, easily amounting to $50,000 by the conclusion of treatment. These daunting fees, along with cumbersome student loans, often discourage medical students from seeking professional assistance for substance abuse problems.

The UNM School of Medicine’s Ronald Tatum, M.D. Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund will address this need. The Tatum Fund will provide assessment and/or treatment costs for UNM medical students identified as needing treatment for alcohol or chemical dependency.

Supporting the Tatum Fund will allow UNM physicians in training facing the burden of addiction to enter a substance abuse treatment program without shouldering these costs alone.

When you make a gift to the Ronald Tatum, M.D. Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund, you will be helping others struggling with chemical dependency overcome this disease, emerging to serve as caregivers who can make a difference within their communities.

This endowed scholarship fund honors Dr. Ronald Tatum for his commitment to treating healthcare professionals working to overcome chemical dependency. His peaceful death in October left both a sadness for his loss, but a rich memory for those whose lives he touched.

Dr. Ronald Tatum was a substance abuse counselor for 25 years and served as medical director for the New Mexico Monitored Treatment Program for 13 years and medical director of Cottonwood de Albuquerque for five years. Dr. Tatum also practiced endocrinology for 34 years.

Dr. Tatum played a crucial role in developing and strengthening the New Mexico Monitored Treatment Program. Of the 339 healthcare professionals who participated in the program since he became its medical director in 1988, 188 were practicing physicians or medical students. In this way, Dr. Tatum directly participated in the treatment and recovery of 52 percent of New Mexico’s existing pool of physicians.

For more information on the Tatum Fund contact:

Adam Hathaway
UNM School of Medicine
Office of the Dean
BMSB, Room 182A
Albuquerque, NM 87131-5116
Phone: (505) 272-5112
Fax: (505) 272-6581
Email: AHathaway@salud.unm.edu

Ronald Tatum, M.D. Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund

To make a gift, complete this form and mail it to the address below. Should you have any questions, please call the School of Medicine’s development office at (505) 272-5112.

Enclosed is my gift of:

- $5,000 or more
- $1,000
- $500
- Other

Please bill my:

- Visa
- MasterCard

Number: __________________________
Exp. Date: _________________________
Signature: _________________________
Name: _____________________________
Address: ___________________________
Phone: ____________________________
MTP PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING SERVICES FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS:

- Continuing Care Treatment
- Monitoring
- Consultation
- Education
- Evaluations

For Information Call (505) 271-0800

MTP
9204 Menaul Blvd, NE, Suite 6
Albuquerque, NM 87112

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