



Measles in Texas: Increased vigilance needed

UT Southwestern plays a critical role in the health and safety of our community, especially as we respond to a rapid increase in the number of measles cases, particularly in West Texas. As of Feb. 28, 2025, 146 measles cases have been reported in Texas, more than half of the 285 cases confirmed nationwide in 2024.

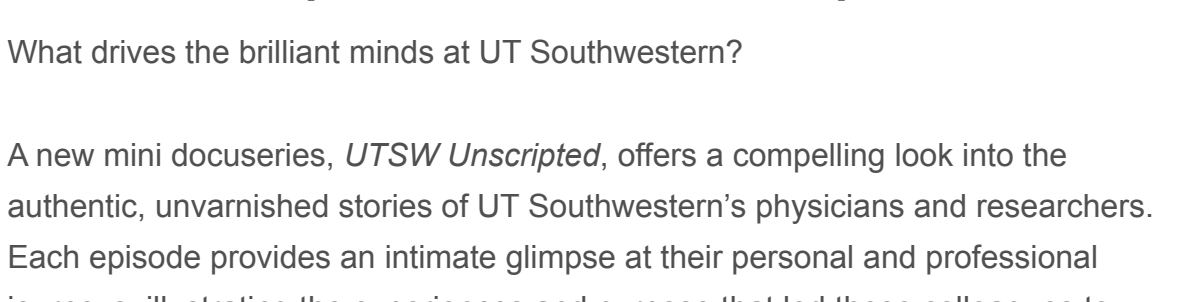
Due to the highly contagious nature of this disease, we encourage everyone to stay vigilant and use good infection control practices. For measles, the best way to prevent spread and infection is vaccination.

While no measles cases have been confirmed in Dallas County, given the rising numbers in neighboring regions, UT Southwestern Health System leaders are meeting regularly and are preparing new screening, isolation, assessment, and management guidelines for the safety of our patients, their families, and each other.

On Friday, members of our Health System received a communication that included frequently asked questions for health care professionals.

By staying vigilant and following best practices, we can help prevent further transmission and ensure the safety of those we serve. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to maintaining a safe environment for everyone.

For more information and guidance about measles, visit the [Texas Health and Human Services website](#).



UTSW Unscripted: Watch the debut episode

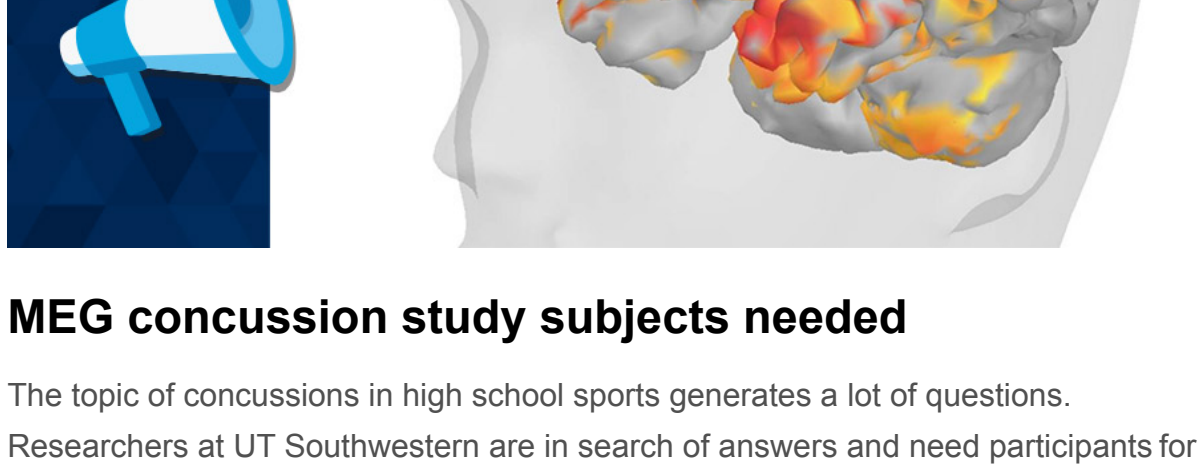
What drives the brilliant minds at UT Southwestern?

A new mini docuseries, *UTSW Unscripted*, offers a compelling look into the authentic, unvarnished stories of UT Southwestern's physicians and researchers. Each episode provides an intimate glimpse at their personal and professional journeys, illustrating the experiences and purpose that led these colleagues to UTSW. There's no script – just the raw, inspiring stories of people shaping the future of medicine.

The first installment focuses on **James Thornton, M.D.**, whose lifelong passion for medicine led him to UT Southwestern in 1985. Here, Dr. Thornton has built a career defined by unwavering dedication to patients and teaching residents the value of responsibility and care. Despite personal hardships, including his daughter's traumatic accident, he learned to balance emotional resilience with the same commitment he would show his own family.

From reconstructing noses with millimeter precision to jumping out of planes at 40,000 feet, his life is a testament to perseverance, craftsmanship, and finding joy in the journey.

[Watch the video](#)



MEG concussion study subjects needed

The topic of concussions in high school sports generates a lot of questions. Researchers at UT Southwestern are in search of answers and need participants for a new time-sensitive study that employs a powerful brain signal processing tool called the MEG (magnetoencephalography) to unlock some of the mysteries.

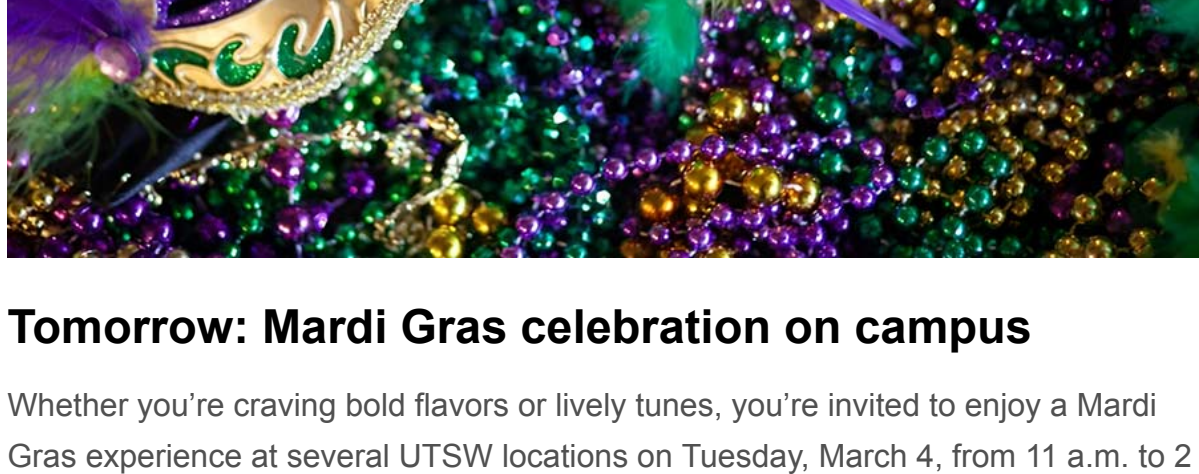
Led by **Elizabeth Davenport, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiology and Technical Director of [UT Southwestern's MEG Center of Excellence](#), the study is seeking high school athletes, ages 14-18, who participate in contact sports and have sustained a concussion in the last 72 hours. Participants will undergo noninvasive neuroimaging (with no radiation) and cognitive testing in three visits.

"On traditional neuroimaging, you don't see a concussion at all," Dr. Davenport said. "But in the MEG you can see the delta waves, which show where the brain was injured and could help predict how the patient is going to heal."

Finding and getting participants into the MEG within 72 hours has "been a feat for our whole team," Dr. Davenport added, which is why she's trying to get the word out.

For more information, including compensation, please call 214-699-7510 or email radmegresearch@utsouthwestern.edu. You can also enroll by clicking on the button below.

[Enroll](#)



Tomorrow: Mardi Gras celebration on campus

Whether you're craving bold flavors or lively tunes, you're invited to enjoy a Mardi Gras experience at several UTSW locations on Tuesday, March 4, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The events will feature Mardi Gras swag, music, fun activities, dessert bars, and more.

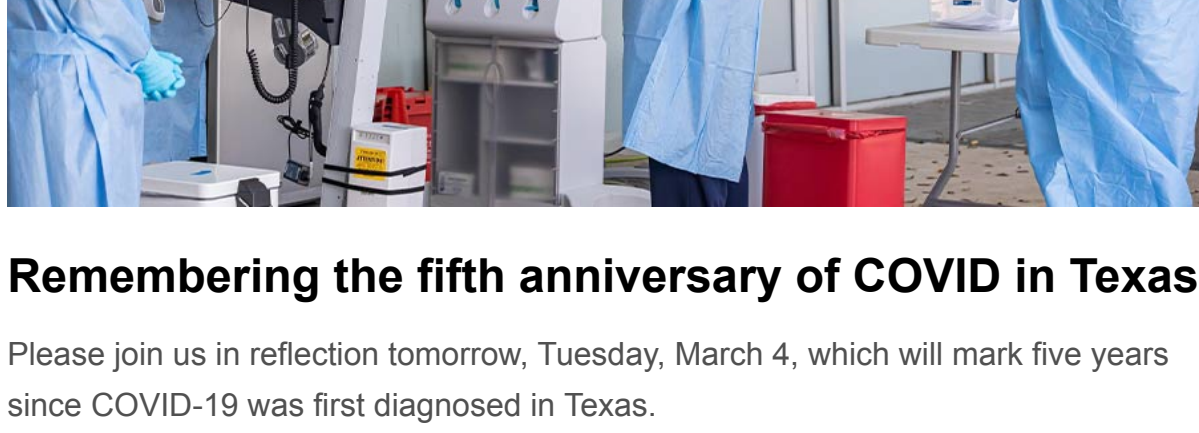
All locations will offer either Cajun cooking or a special gumbo bar. Select locations will have king cakes, beignets, and bread pudding.

Participating locations:

- South Campus: Southside Dining and Aston Café
- North Campus: Northside Eatery and Cancer Center Café
- West Campus: Outpatient Building (OPB) Café and West Campus Building 3 (WCB3)
- East Campus: Radiation Oncology (EC)
- Offsite: Empire Central

Don't miss out! Grab some delicious food and enjoy the celebration, courtesy of the Auxiliary Restaurant Group (ARG). And laissez les bons temps rouler!

[Details](#)



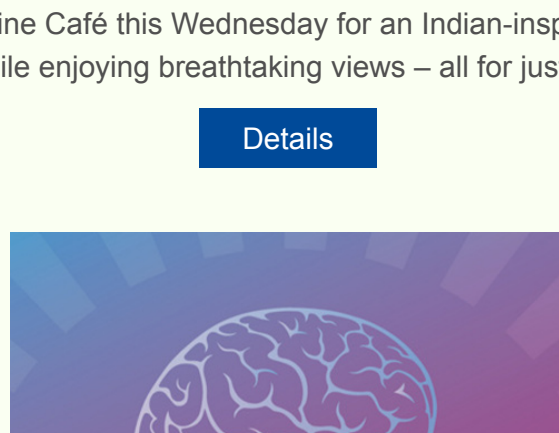
Remembering the fifth anniversary of COVID in Texas

Please join us in reflection tomorrow, Tuesday, March 4, which will mark five years since COVID-19 was first diagnosed in Texas.

The date was established last year by the Texas State Legislature as COVID Heroes and Memorial Day to honor the incredible teamwork and monumental effort put forth by Texas health care providers, first responders, and essential workers in rising to the challenge of the pandemic. The observance also pays tribute to the nearly 95,000 Texans who lost their lives to the disease.

We'd like to send a heartfelt thank-you to everyone who played a role in the fight against COVID-19, both directly and indirectly. Your contributions won't be forgotten.

Insider Guide



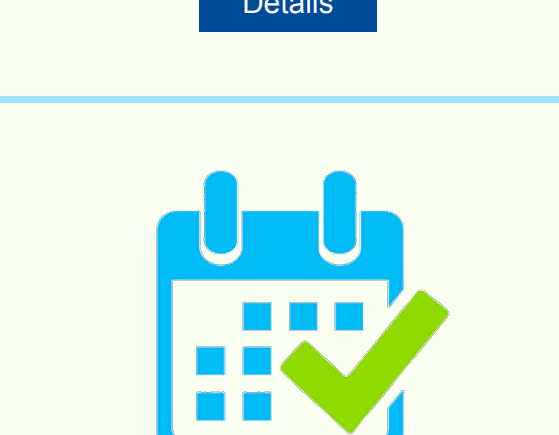
Skyline Café buffet

11 a.m.-2 p.m., March 5

T. Boone Pickens Biomedical Building, Skyline Café

Head to the ND14 Skyline Café this Wednesday for an Indian-inspired feast! Savor classic Indian flavors while enjoying breathtaking views – all for just \$12.79 per plate.

[Details](#)



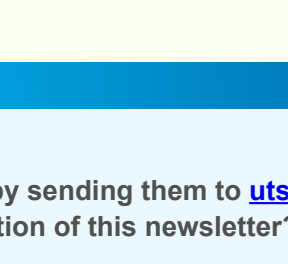
Hope After Brain Injury Conference

8 a.m.- 1 p.m., March 8

William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital, Education and Conference Center

This annual, community-based event provides up-to-date literature and resources on living with and managing long-term traumatic brain injury, as well as social and community support for survivors and their care partners. This year's theme is "A Bridge to Brain Health and Community." [Register](#) today to attend.

[Details](#)



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](#)

Share your *Insider* suggestions by sending them to utswinsider@utsouthwestern.edu. Looking for an item in a past edition of this newsletter? Check out our [Insider archive](#).

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