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New UICOMP fellowship with OSF to train doctors specializing in care of sickest patients

PEORIA, Ill. [March 21, 2017] – The University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria, in partnership with OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, is pleased to announce a new physician training program in pulmonary diseases and critical care medicine.

Beginning in July 2017, the three-year fellowship program will train doctors in diagnosing and treating lung conditions and diseases, and managing and stabilizing life threatening medical problems of the critically ill. As many as 4-6 million Americans are admitted annually to intensive care units across the U.S.

“The Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship will benefit patients locally by adding to the already high level of care provided, including attracting and filling the need for future physicians in pulmonary critical care, an area of need especially in Illinois,” said Dr. Subramanyam Chittivelu, director for the fellowship.

Dr. William Tillis, a pulmonary and critical care specialist at OSF, said the fellowship was the result of collaboration at OSF and UICOMP. “The establishment of this program has been an incredible undertaking with tremendous support and will help us sustain the high quality of medical care for patients in downstate Illinois,” he said.

Physicians in the fellowship program are trained to perform several invasive procedures, managing patients on ventilators, and will rotate through other specialties, such as sleep medicine and palliative care. They also will gain experience in pulmonary rehabilitation, critical care ultrasound, and airway management, including out-patient experience in managing COPD, asthma, allergy, cystic fibrosis, lung cancer, and pulmonary hypertension.

This is the fourth new UICOMP fellowship added in partnership with OSF in as many years: Cardiovascular Disease in 2012, Gastroenterology in 2014, and Simulation in 2016.

The University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria (UICOMP) educates more than 150 medical students and nearly 300 physician residents annually. The College of Medicine is home to the Cancer Research Center, the Center for Outcomes Research, and a collaborator in Jump Simulation. Learn more about UICOMP at <http://peoria.medicince.uic.edu>.

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