

DARTMOUTH MEDICINE seeks to convey the breadth and depth of the education, research, and clinical activities of DMS and DHMC; to serve as a publication of historical record; to stimulate thought and discussion on issues in medicine and medical education; and to reflect the range of opinions and activities among Dartmouth medical students, faculty, and alumni. Abbreviations used in these pages include DMS (Dartmouth Medical School), DHMC (Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center), MHMH (Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital), and DC (Dartmouth College). The opinions of contributors do not necessarily reflect those of DMS or DHMC.

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To reach DARTMOUTH MEDICINE:
U.S. Mail: 1 Medical Center Drive (HB 7070), Lebanon, NH 03756
FedEx/UPS: 21 Lafayette Street, #303, Lebanon, NH 03766
Phone: 603-653-0772
Fax: 603-653-0775
E-mail: DartMed@Dartmouth.edu
Web: dartmed.dartmouth.edu

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Ever Green By Sharon Tregaskis 26

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center was one of the earliest health-care organizations in the country to go “green,” more than 15 years ago. The commitment at DHMC to environmentally conscious operations hasn’t wavered since, and it’s now poised to become the first hospital in the nation to calculate its carbon footprint.

Memorable Moments By Laura Stephenson Carter 34

Emergency medicine calls for a cool head, but also a deft touch with people: With a dying child’s parents. With a patient who thinks he’s Jesus. With someone who’s slit his own throat but is still alive. Here are some compelling stories from caregivers in perhaps the most harrowing specialty.

The Right Questions By Jerome Groopman, M.D. 42

A new book by noted medical writer Jerome Groopman, about how doctors make decisions, showcases the diagnostic acumen of Dartmouth Medical School alumnus Myron Falchuk. As this saga reveals, sometimes asking the right questions is more important than having the right answers.



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COVER

If separating your household bottles and cans is a bit of a hassle—albeit the right thing to do—just consider the complexity of recycling fully 33% of the waste stream in a huge academic medical center. DHMC has done that and more since starting to go “green” nearly 20 years ago. The cover image is by Jon Gilbert Fox.