

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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## FEATURES

### **A Single Microbial Sea** By Doug McInnis **34**

Once upon a time, the developed world thought infectious diseases had been more or less wiped out by vaccines and antibiotics. But today we're battling AIDS and SARS and bird flu. And tomorrow we may be contending with contagions as yet unknown. What happened? And, more to the point, what can we do about it?

### **Critical Concept** By Laura Stephenson Carter **40**

The intensive care unit at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. It was a pioneering concept back in 1955. And DHMC has remained a leader in critical-care medicine ever since.

### **House Calls with John** By John F. Radebaugh, M.D. **48**

A retired member of the DMS faculty reflects on his varied career—and makes the case for the powerful healing effects of the house call.

## COVER

The history of the concept of intensive care is the subject of this issue's cover feature. The cover depicts a detail from a painting by Joseph Dwaihy, DMS '06, and Sara Dykstra. The painting in its entirety, and the 1950s photo on which it's based, are reproduced in the article—which starts on page 40. The original painting hangs outside Zimmermann Student Lounge at DHMC.



11



48



68

## DEPARTMENTS

### **Discoveries** **3**

New look at mammograms 3  
Reimbursements revisited 7  
How paramedics cope 8  
... and more.

### **Vital Signs** **9**

Big needs behind bars 10  
Addressing addiction 11  
Good reason to celebrate 12  
Surgery sans scalpels 16  
This research is unreal 18  
... and more.

### **Letters** **28**

### **Point of View** **32**

By Marjorie Dunlap

### **Student Notebook** **33**

By Kristen Thornton

### **Grand Rounds** **55**

By Jonathan M. Ross, M.D.

### **Development** **56**

### **Faculty Focus** **58**

Michael Zubkoff, Ph.D.

### **Alumni Album** **60**

James Norton '69 and  
Ph.D. '79

### **Bench to Bedside** **64**

By Alan I. Green, M.D.

### **For the Record** **66**

By Stephen P. Spielberg,  
M.D., Ph.D.

### **Art of Medicine** **68**

Patrick Saine