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### Forum set to discuss health care costs, wellness initiatives

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Oct. 19, 2009

**Contact:** Professor Reed Humphrey, chair, UM School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, 406-243-2417, [reed.humphrey@umontana.edu](mailto:reed.humphrey@umontana.edu).

### **FORUM SET TO DISCUSS HEALTH CARE COSTS, WELLNESS INITIATIVES**

#### **MISSOULA—**

The University of Montana will hold a forum Friday, Oct. 30, to advance preventive health and wellness and talk about ways to reduce the economic and social burden of illness.

The forum, “Exploring Community Connections to Reduce Health Care Costs through Prevention & Wellness Initiatives,” is designed for business owners, human resource directors, insurance providers, clinicians, educators, worksite wellness practitioners and consumers.

Events will take place from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Skaggs Building Room 117. The forum is sponsored by UM’s College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences and is free and open to the public, but RSVPs are requested. To RSVP, e-mail [reed.humphrey@umontana.edu](mailto:reed.humphrey@umontana.edu).

Events begin at 12:30 p.m. with a welcome and overview presented by David Forbes, dean of the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences, and UM Adjunct Assistant Professor Dave Levison.

Following is the forum schedule:

- **12:45-1:15 p.m.:** “Getting the Stakeholders to the Table: Providers, Payors, and Consumers.” The Northeast Ohio Health Care Summit Experience presented by physical therapist Jim Porterfield.
- **1:15-2:15 p.m.:** Panel – “Prevention & Wellness from Academia to Community.” Topic: Programs and projects under way at UM to prepare graduates and advance prevention

and wellness. Panel moderator: Professor Reed Humphrey, chair, UM School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation.

- **2:30-3:30 p.m.:** Panel – “At the Community Level.” Topic: What is happening in the community and the workplace – the priorities of key stakeholders to improve the health and wellness of the citizenry. Panel moderator: Larry White, director of the Western Montana Area Health Education Center at UM.
- **3:30-3:45 p.m.:** “Wellness: Montana’s Council on Work Force Wellness.” Presenter: Jill Young, director, UM Faculty-Staff Wellness.
- **3:45-4:30 p.m.:** Discussion and next steps. Presenter: Professor Reed Humphrey, chair, UM School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation.

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