



**Weill Cornell  
Medicine**

Care. Discover. Teach.

## Weill Department of Medicine

Annual  
Report  
2021

We made  
progress



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Outpatient visits in FY2020 totaled 229,428, as compared to patient visits in FY2019 at 290,488. (decrease due to the COVID-19 pandemic)

In FY20, the Weill Department of Medicine's sponsored research **portfolio increased** to \$94.0 million from \$80.0 million in FY19.

**Grant revenue increased** 22% from \$64.1 million to \$78.2 million, while clinical trial revenue decreased 1% from \$15.9 million to \$15.8 million.

## Dear Colleagues and Friends:



It is a pleasure to welcome you to our Annual Report 2021, a visual and descriptive tour that highlights the accomplishments of the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Department of Medicine. The Department remains dedicated to its tripartite mission, which is centered around clinical care, biomedical research, and education. In this report, you will find a detailed overview of activities that reflect calendar year 2020 for all of our department's divisions. The report also includes faculty honors and awards, leadership biographies, information on our residency training program in internal medicine, as well as featured news stories.

The entire academic year was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic greatly influenced every aspect of the environment in which we all worked. However, never have I been prouder of our faculty, staff, and trainees who have performed at the highest level in a stressful environment. Their collective efforts continue to ensure that all of our patients receive superb care, whether as inpatients in the hospital, through in person visits with one of our numerous ambulatory programs, or by video via telemedicine. In addition to providing outstanding patient care, the Department grew its research portfolio and enhanced educational offerings over the course of the year. Again, this is a testament to the quality and dedication of every member of our department.

While the near-term future remains uncertain in terms of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is very clear that we will continue to advance and thrive because of our diverse and inclusive culture and our steadfast commitment to excellence.

We have seen many challenges, but as the cover of this report says – We Made Progress!

Please enjoy our annual report and the remarkable accomplishments of the Weill Department of Medicine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Hollenberg'.

**Anthony Hollenberg, M.D.**

Sanford I. Weill Chair of Medicine  
Joan and Sanford I. Weill Department of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College

Physician-in-Chief  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medicine Center



A medical ultrasound image showing a cross-section of a heart. The heart is depicted with various shades of blue and red, indicating different tissue densities and blood flow. The image is framed within a dark, curved border, typical of ultrasound scans. The background of the entire page is a blurred image of medical equipment, including what appears to be a monitor and some cables.

# Division of Cardiology at the Forefront of State-of-the-Art Technology and New Approaches in Heart Disease

The Maurice R. and Corrine P. Greenberg Division of Cardiology, led by Chief, Dr. Bruce B. Lerman, Hilda Altschul Master Professor of Medicine, has long been known for its use of state-of-the-art technology and an approach to heart disease that is rooted in science. Advances over the past year have reinforced that tradition.

## Structural Heart Disease

Recruited to the division in 2020, Dr. Mark Reisman is a nationally and internationally recognized leader in structural heart disease who has led more than 100 clinical trials. He is serving as the newly appointed Director of Structural Heart Disease at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center and as Co-Director of Structural Heart Disease for NewYork-Presbyterian/Queens and NewYork-Presbyterian/Brooklyn



Dr. Mark Reisman

Methodist Hospital. Before joining the Weill Department of Medicine, Dr. Reisman served as an Attending Physician, Clinical Professor of Medicine, and as the David and Nancy Auth Endowed Chair in Cardiovascular Innovation at the University of Washington Medical Center where he was Section Head of Interventional Cardiology and the Director of Structural Heart Services at the University of Washington's Heart Institute. In his new roles at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, Dr. Reisman is implementing a structural heart disease strategic plan that encompasses business development and outreach, quality and clinical standardization, physician recruitment and clinical research trials, and cardiovascular innovation.

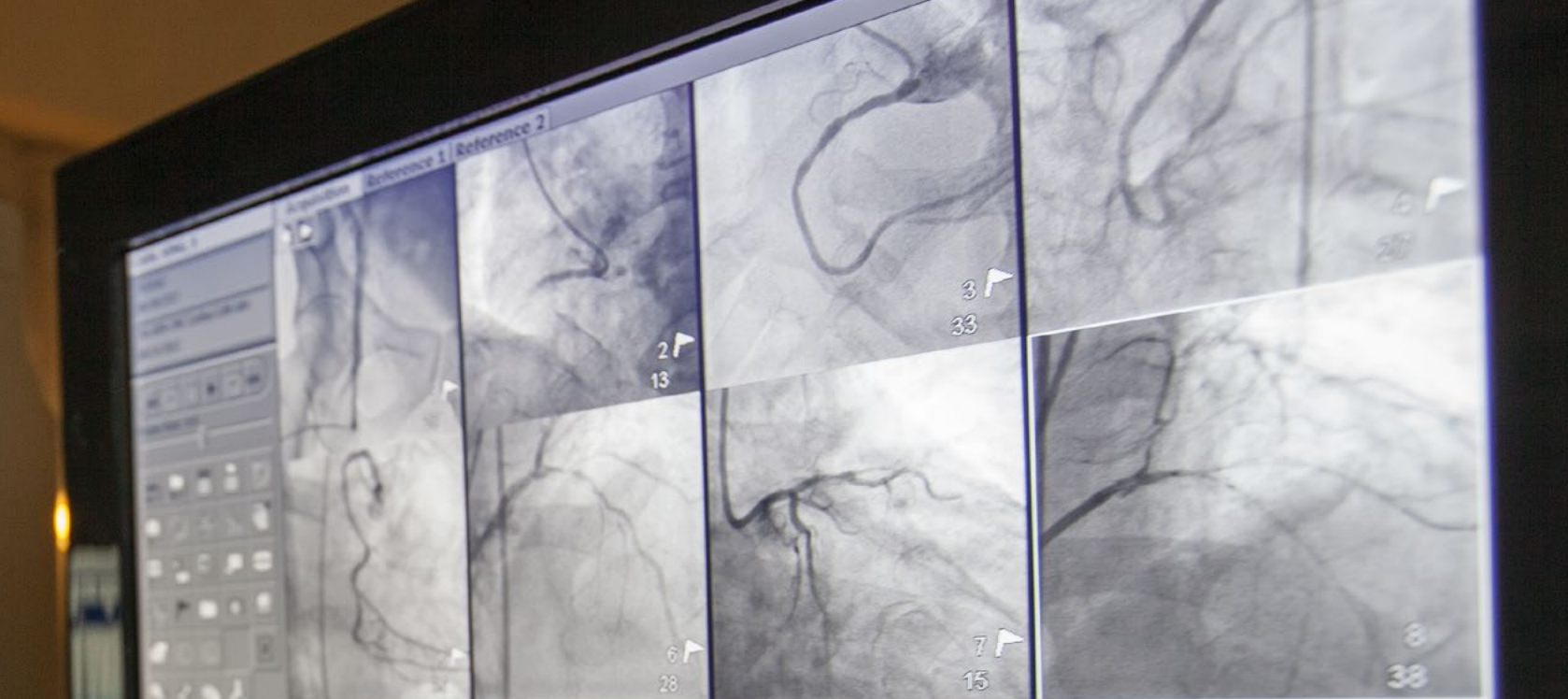
Structural heart disease involves defects or disorders in the heart's structure. These defects or disorders may be present from birth, a result of aging, or due to an underlying disease. Dr. Reisman has advanced a number of life-saving techniques for the treatment of structural heart disease using a less invasive approach.

## A New Algorithm for Diagnosing Right Ventricular Hypertrophy (RVH)

Echocardiography, which uses ultrasound technology to produce live images of the heart, has been used for many years to quantify left ventricular remodeling (changes in size, shape, and function of the left heart). However, until now, there had not been a way to assess for RVH (right ventricular hypertrophy) or abnormal enlargement and thickening of the right ventricle (RV).

Dr. Jiwon Kim, Associate Professor of Medicine and The Bruce B. Lerman, M.D. Clinical Scholar, has published a breakthrough paper (with colleagues Drs. Jonathan Kochav, Jennifer Chen, Lakshmi Nambiar, Richard B. Devereux, and Jonathan Weinsaft) in the *Journal of American Society of Echocardiography* (March 2021) that has yielded a new echocardiographic algorithm for





diagnosing RVH. As described in the paper, Dr. Kim and team used echocardiography to assess RV mass through the measurement of multiple linear dimensions, which were



Dr. Jiwon Kim

then incorporated into a geometric formula. RV mass using this novel algorithm had good diagnostic performance in relation to right ventricle hypertrophy as seen with CMR (cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging), which is the current reference standard. This echocardiographic algorithm has become the latest new and effective tool in the cardiology arsenal.

A practicing cardiologist, Dr. Kim has a clinical and research interest in valvular heart disease and cardiomyopathies with a special focus on utilizing cardiac imaging techniques,

including 3D and strain echocardiography, cardiac MRI, and cardiac CT. She received her M.D. from Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed her residency training at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center/Harvard Medical School. This was followed by a general cardiology fellowship focused on cardiac imaging at Warren Alpert Brown Medical School and an advanced cardiac imaging fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Kim has been with the division since 2015.

### Data-driven Technology Benefits Clinical Trials

Nearly a decade ago, Dr. Robert J. Kim was elected to serve on the inaugural Cardiology Steering Committee of Epic Systems. Epic, a software system that supports patient electronic health records, is used in many large hospitals and academic medical centers throughout the United States. While working on the Steering Committee, Dr. Kim surmised early on that if specific features of Epic could be made accessible to physicians, this could be of tremendous benefit for both providing high-quality care and recruiting patients for clinical trials. That hope has recently come to fruition.

“Recent upgrades in Epic have allowed appropriately trained providers to harness a more powerful data search that helps us to find candidates who are best-suited for our clinical trials. We hope that these upgrades will now allow us to bring big benefits to our patients in terms of new therapeutics and more,” says Dr. Kim.

Dr. Robert Kim, along with Dr. Samuel Kim, a new faculty member whose focus is preventive cardiology, is currently working on two Novartis-sponsored trials that exemplify the benefits of data-driven technology in medicine. The first involves a patient registry that uses basic information gathering; in this case, collecting a patient’s cholesterol levels pertaining to a particular type of cholesterol, lipoprotein(a) – abbreviated Lp(a) – as a

way to assess which patients may be at increased risk for cardiovascular disease. This registry, which was only opened to recruitment in March of 2020, has already doubled its initial anticipated enrollment from 25 to 50 patients, with several more identified who would be eligible if enrollment capacity is increased once again.



Dr. Robert J. Kim

“This registry is allowing us to determine the spectrum of levels of Lp(a) in a high-risk population and, therefore, how much of an independent risk factor it may be in causing cardiovascular disease,” explains Dr. Kim. “Having the ability to quickly identify patients who meet entry criteria allowed us to approach, consent, and enroll them in a highly-efficient and targeted manner.” According to Dr. Kim, previous data searches tended to be more difficult to build, produced less accurate results, and took longer to get results back to providers.

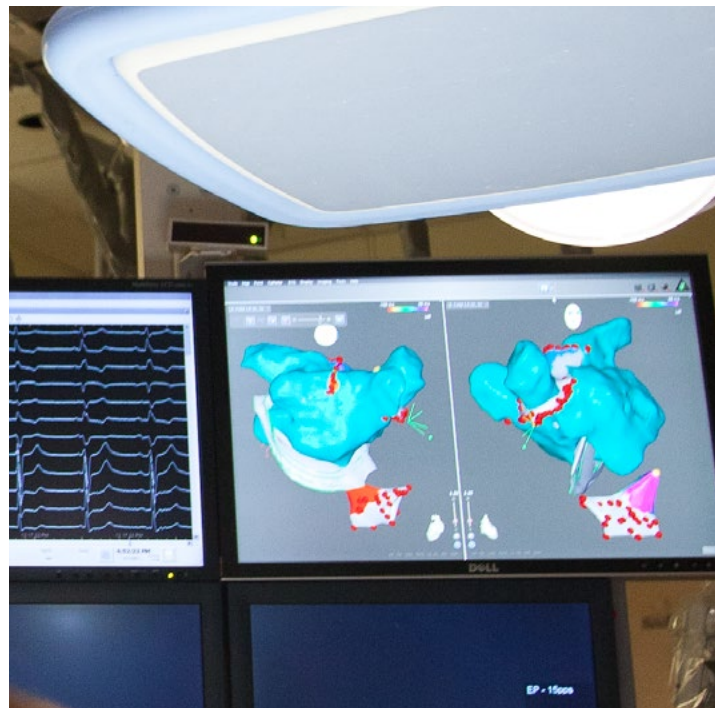
The second trial, also funded by Novartis, will be studying a new drug that will be used to specifically lower Lp(a). “Standard statin medications do not lower this type of cholesterol,” says Dr. Kim, “and most drugs to date have not been able to lower Lp(a) very much. It is hoped that the Novartis drug will substantially lower Lp(a) levels and thereby lower the risk for future cardiovascular events in patients who are already on optimal treatment.” Both Dr. Kims began working on this trial early in 2021, and have already identified over 25 patients who would be eligible, based upon their searches in Epic.

“Using Epic, as it is designed today, is much better suited for the searches we need to do as cardiologists. We can use it to identify patients who would be eligible

for novel therapies, but we can also use it to ensure we are providing the highest quality of care to our patients based on the latest evidence. The pace of innovation has only accelerated and it’s exciting to have so many therapeutic options available to our patients, but sometimes we need some assistance to make sure we think of everything that could be of benefit to each of our patients. Today, it is truly a powerful data-driven search tool that can guide and enhance the delivery of care,” says Dr. Kim.

Dr. Samuel M. Kim, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, recently completed his fellowship training in the division and has been recruited to the division’s faculty. He received his M.D. from Harvard Medical School and is an attending physician at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. He and Dr. Robert Kim are each a site principal investigator and co-investigator for the two Novartis trials.

“I am so happy to collaborate with Dr. Sam Kim,” says Dr. Robert Kim. “We are both finding that our Epic searches have dramatically facilitated the recruitment of patients, and, most importantly, have allowed us to offer them the latest in scientific developments.”



Dr. Robert J. Kim, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, received his M.D. from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and completed his fellowship training in the division. He practices general cardiology with wide-ranging expertise in cardiac arrhythmias, cardiac CT imaging, and echocardiography. He is the Director of Consultative Cardiology for the Division of Cardiology, as well as the Associate Program Director of the Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship Training Program.





# Fifth Anniversary of the WDOM's Research Retreat: Fostering the Next Generation of Researchers

In 2016, Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi, former Chair of the Weill Department of Medicine (WDOM) and now the Dean of Weill Cornell Medicine, launched the WDOM's first Research Retreat to foster a new generation of researchers. Held each year in the state-of-the-art Belfer Research Building, the retreat unites residents and postdoctoral trainees with senior faculty in the WDOM who are experts in a wide range of fields of study.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 retreat was presented on October 5 via Zoom. It was hosted by Dr. Anthony Hollenberg, Chair, WDOM; Dr. John Leonard, Executive Vice Chair, WDOM, Richard T. Silver Distinguished Professor of Hematology and Medical Oncology, and Senior Associate Dean for Innovations and Initiatives, Weill Cornell Medicine; and Dr. Steven Lipkin, Vice Chair for Research, WDOM, and the Gladys and Roland Harriman Professor of Medicine. There was record attendance by young investigators, trainees, and residents.

The goal of the WDOM'S Research Retreat is to highlight research programs within the WDOM, to expand scientific collaborations, to promote the exchange of knowledge

between trainees and senior investigators, and to foster the development of the next generation of independent researchers.

Over the years, young investigators have been given the opportunity to listen to keynote speakers who are top-tier experts in their fields. The 2020 welcomed keynote speaker, Nancy J. Brown, M.D., Dean, Yale School of Medicine and the C.N.H. Long Professor of Internal Medicine. Dr. Brown's talk was entitled, "The Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System: Old Dog New Pharmacological Tricks." Several other talks on a variety of topics were given by WDOM faculty.

The WDOM thanks the retreat's Executive Committee and all of its faculty members who participated in the event, which was a success for both trainees and senior faculty. The Executive Committee: Drs. Mary E. Choi, Marshall J. Glesby, Paraskevi Giannakakou, Lisa Kern, Lonny Levin, Holly G. Prigerson, Shahin Rafii, Kyu Y. Rhee, Joseph M. Scandura, and Jonathan W. Weinsaft.



# Lisa Rachmuth, LMSW, Appointed to Lead NYCEAC at Weill Cornell Medicine: The Lifespan Perspective and the Lost Year

“Older adults are the heart and the history of our community,” says Lisa Rachmuth, LMSW, who was appointed to lead the ongoing expansion of NYCEAC (New York City Elder Abuse Center) as of January 15, 2021. NYCEAC, a nationally and internationally renowned program established in 2010, is devoted to the eradication of elder abuse. Working in close collaboration with many governmental and NGO partners, NYCEAC is distinguished for its long tradition of forward-facing community outreach through innovative programs.

“We welcome Ms. Rachmuth as the newly appointed head of NYCEAC. She inherits a world-renowned program with an incredible staff that is the culmination of leadership and vision by a giant in the field, our own Risa Breckman. NYCEAC’s success and WCM’s central role in prevention, detection, and treatment of elder abuse will continue to be ensured because of the contributions of these remarkable women,” says Dr. Mark Lachs, co-Chief, Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine, and NYCEAC’s Chief Medical Officer.

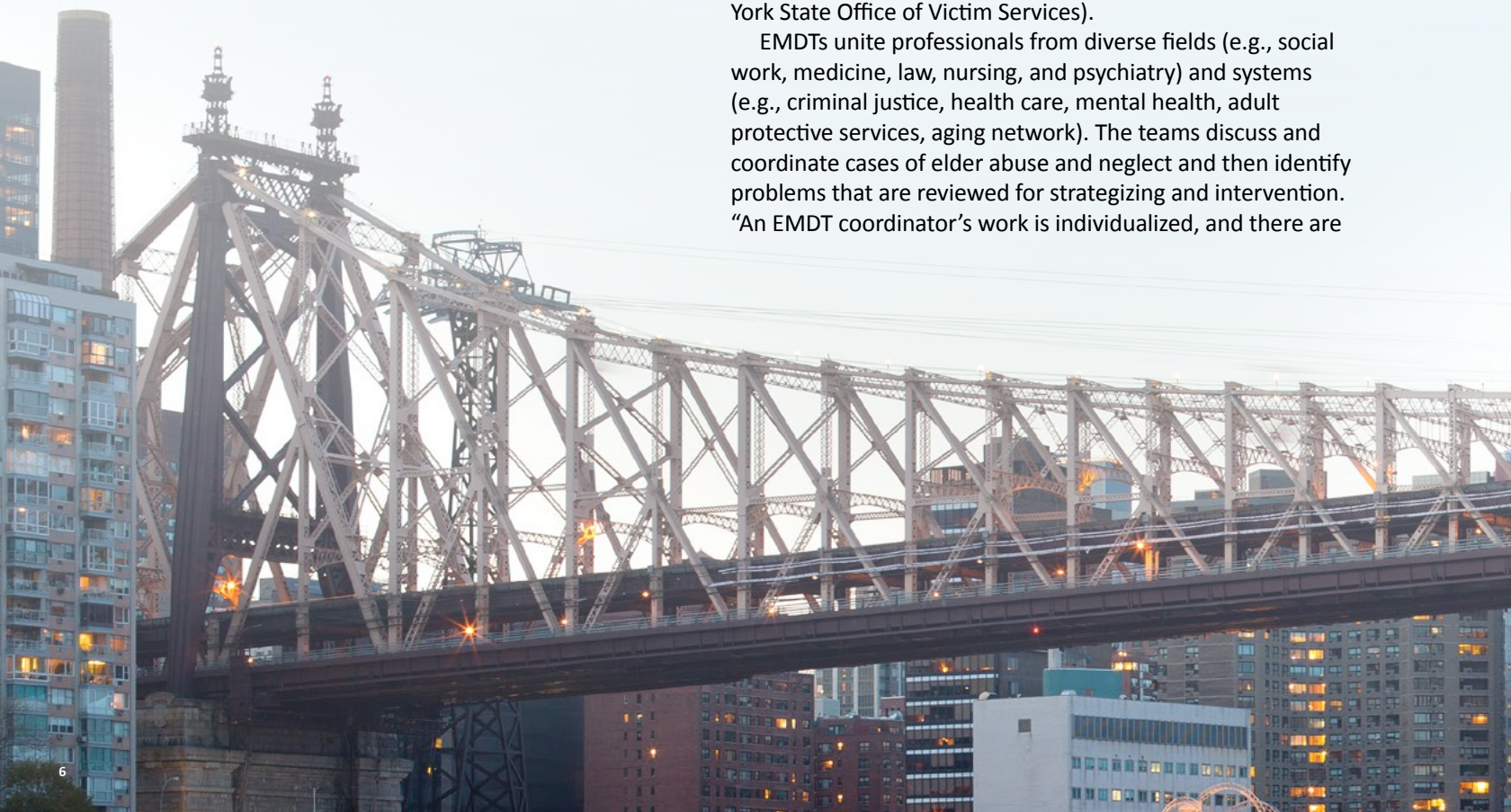


Lisa Rachmuth, LMSW

After working with Risa Breckman via a group in NYC called Building Bridges Across the Lifespan, Ms. Rachmuth was recruited to the WDOM’s Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine in 2017. She holds a Master in Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania and had previously served as the Director of Clinical Initiatives and Programming for the office of Domestic Violence and Emergency Intervention Services for the City of New York. Ms. Rachmuth initially served at NYCEAC overseeing the growth of the EMDTs, or Enhanced Multidisciplinary Teams. These teams are now operating in all five boroughs in New York City.

In her new role at NYCEAC, Ms. Rachmuth manages a large staff of experts in policy, service, and advocacy. The center has many programs and projects, including the EMDTs program (funded by the New York City Department for the Aging and Lifespan of Greater Rochester); administration of the National Elder Abuse Multidisciplinary Team Training and Technical Assistance Center (funded by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Victim Services); and administration of the Elder Abuse Helpline for Concerned Persons (funded by the New York State Office of Victim Services).

EMDTs unite professionals from diverse fields (e.g., social work, medicine, law, nursing, and psychiatry) and systems (e.g., criminal justice, health care, mental health, adult protective services, aging network). The teams discuss and coordinate cases of elder abuse and neglect and then identify problems that are reviewed for strategizing and intervention. “An EMDT coordinator’s work is individualized, and there are





very few coordinators across the country,” explains Ms. Rachmuth. “Honestly, it can be lonely work. For instance, here in NYC, we have two EMDT coordinators who cover the five boroughs and see 100 cases per year. We are pleased to be able to provide them with technical assistance, training, and more.” A new project underway involves NYCEAC’s National Elder Abuse MDT Training and Technical Assistance Center, which is collaborating with multiple national providers, including Red Wind Consulting, NCALL, Lifespan of Greater Rochester, USC Keck School of Medicine and others, to emphasize culturally competent implementation of EMDTs in many communities across the country.

Ms. Rachmuth was appointed to lead NYCEAC during the COVID-19 pandemic. “Throughout the pandemic, as well as identified racial injustice across America, NYCEAC continued its programs remotely,” she says. In fact, not even one day passed when NYCEAC was not in action. “For the elder community it was, in some ways, the lost year. They could no longer talk to neighbors they used to see walking on the street or knock on a friend’s door. The senior centers were closed. It became more difficult for physicians to track health and nutrition factors. Home health attendants still provided services, but they were often coming right after shifts they had completed at nursing homes. It was an especially difficult time for both elders and their caretakers.”

NYCEAC’s Helpline received an increase in calls during the pandemic, especially regarding psychological issues due to isolation. The Helpline continues to be a critical lifeline of information, guidance, and appropriate referrals for persons who are concerned about an elder abuse situation. The Helpline is set to expand from NYC to New York State within this year.

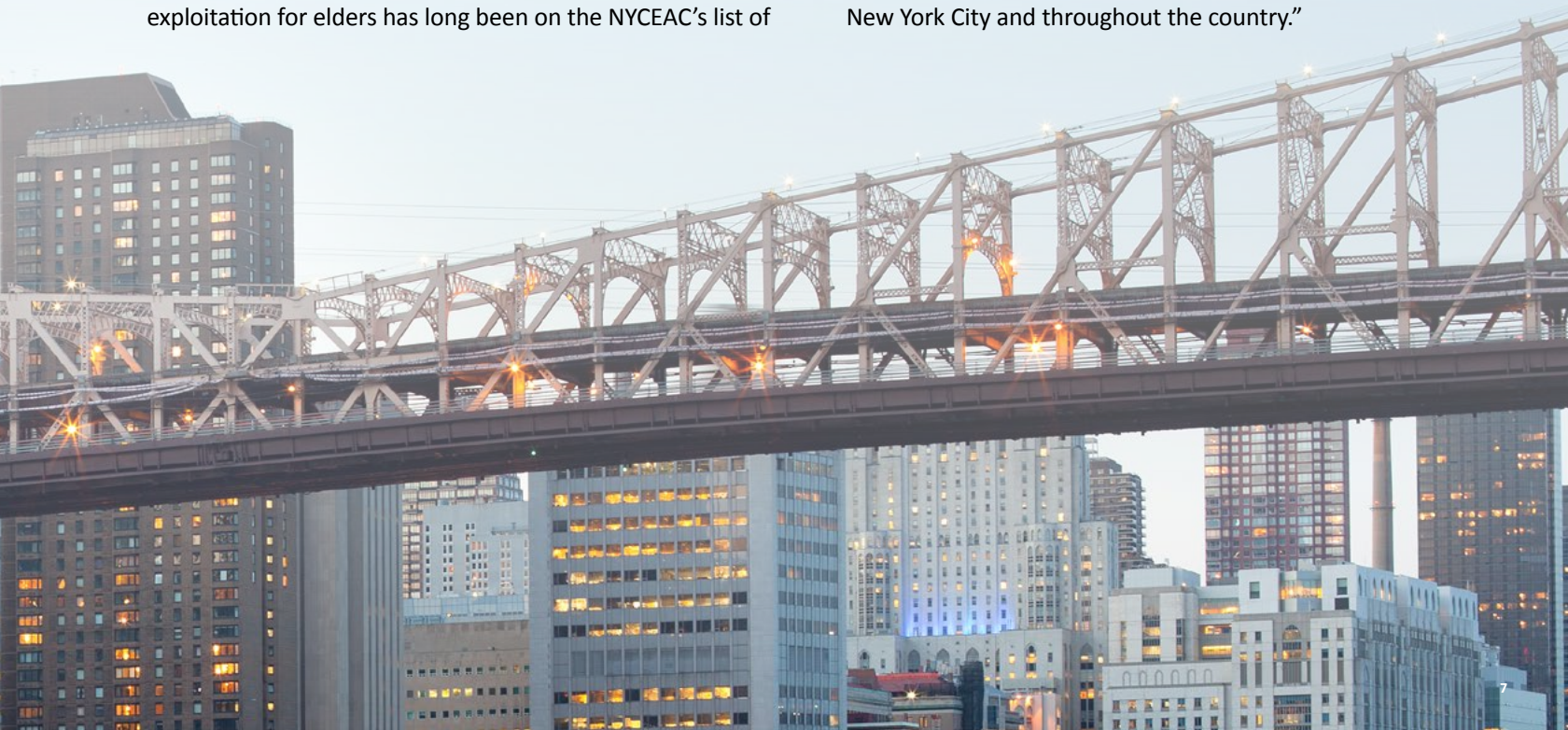
Also observed during the pandemic has been an uptick in financial exploitation. No longer could elders visit their trusted contact in person at the local bank. But the issue of financial exploitation for elders has long been on the NYCEAC’s list of

concerns, and the team continues to investigate at the city and state levels. Ms. Rachmuth emphasizes the importance of elders finding trusted contacts within their families and/or in the community, not only regarding finances but for living wills as well. “Having a trusted partner will help to ensure that things are not left up to chance and especially during a crisis such as a pandemic.”

As much as the elder community experienced a lost year due to the pandemic, so did their families. Ms. Rachmuth explains that elders possess our family and community’s history and are a source of knowledge. They provide cultural perspective, and something as simple as sitting down with multiple generations and doing simple things, such as viewing photos within a family, helps to keep that history going. “This has been a year that is void of that kind of learning and bonding.”

There are many bridge-building initiatives on Ms. Rachmuth’s vision list for NYCEAC. Her perspective involves viewing the elder community in terms of a lifespan. “We need to engage our youth in the conversation in order to end elder abuse across the country,” she says. To that end, she wants to create curricula to be used in elementary and high school so that the younger generation will be informed on elder abuse and exploitation. Her other key initiatives include the expansion of civil legal work through EMDTs at the national level; continued utilization of social and digital media to educate all generations across the lifespan; and diversification of funding in support of research on the effects of trauma and racism on older adults.

In June 2021, Ms. Rachmuth and team gave a presentation on elder abuse at the Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine’s Grand Rounds, for which the entire college was invited. “We have an outstanding team at NYCEAC. They are the doers and the shakers, and together we look forward to building bridges in our efforts to eradicate elder abuse in New York City and throughout the country.”





# Advances in Regenerative Medicine: Dr. Rafii and Team Pursue Long-term, High-risk, High-reward Research

With a focus on developing therapies for organ regeneration, physician-scientist, Dr. Shahin Rafii, has remained at the forefront of long-term, high-risk, high-reward research for three decades. Dr. Rafii began his career at Weill Cornell Medicine as an Instructor in Medicine in 1991 and established an independent laboratory soon after his arrival. His research was swiftly coined “the stem cells of success” during those early days, and his laboratory has since delivered numerous advances. Earning national and international regard, one of those advances was a transformative paradigm demonstrating that tissue-specific adult endothelial cells (ECs) are unique instructive vascular niche cells that produce paracrine “angiocrine factors” to directly induce organ regeneration.

Today, Dr. Rafii serves as the Director of the Ansary Stem Cell Institute at Weill Cornell Medicine, which is focused on regenerative medicine and stem cell biology. He is also the Chief of the Division of Regenerative Medicine in the Weill Department of Medicine and the Arthur B. Belfer Professor in Genetic Medicine. Dr. Rafii’s laboratory is known for its state-of-the-art use of multi-omics, as well as novel molecular and cell biological techniques. Throughout his journey as a scientist, Dr. Rafii has garnered support from top-tier sources, beginning with The American Society of Hematology Scholar Award, The Society for the Study of Blood Trainee’s Award, and The Jack Friedman Young Investigator’s Award, and later from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Dorothy Rodbell Foundation for Sarcoma Research, and the American Heart Association. In 2020, Dr. Rafii received an Outstanding Investigator Award (R35) from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) of the NIH. The award, which will support his project to accelerate regenerative medicine technology, provides \$1 million per year (including direct and indirect costs) for seven years.

In the mid-1990s, when Dr. Rafii’s laboratory had a couple of benches and a staff of two, Dr. Rafii was focused on pluripotent blood stem cells and their capacity for regeneration. He had explained then that he was devising a novel technique for self-renewal, or regeneration, of stem cells to be utilized in bone marrow transplantation. It had been known that blood stem cells had the capacity to regenerate and that the bone marrow contained stem cells, but it was not yet known how the stem cells actually regenerated. Dr. Rafii pursued this line of research, exploring



Dr. Shahin Rafii

stem cells that resided in the bone marrow (extremely low in number), while trying to find specific growth factor(s) supplied by the surrounding endothelial cells, or feeder cells.

“The process is complex,” Dr. Rafii had explained in 1997, “but if we can design a system to expand stem cells outside of the patient’s body – then reintroduce those stem cells back into the patient’s system – it would facilitate rapid recovery of blood counts and enhance the patient’s chances of survival.” In fact, he went on to refine his technique for expansion of the blood stem cells, ex vivo (outside of the body), and with the goal of improving treatment for various cancers, leukemia, and lymphomas. Ultimately, he had hoped to spare patients from the harsh side effects of high-dose chemotherapy.

“It is gratifying to see the clinical manifestations of the scientific process at work,” Dr. Rafii had said, and that statement has remained his guiding principle.

Currently, Dr. Rafii remains focused on identifying the molecular and cellular pathways involved in organ regeneration and tumor growth. He has established the concept that vascular endothelial cells are not just inert plumbing to deliver oxygen and nutrients, but also by production of tissue-specific growth factors, defined as angiocrine factors, support organ regeneration and tumor proliferation.

Expanding exponentially over the years, the Rafii Laboratory has many more benches now, more high-tech resources, and several new recruits on board – Drs. Raphael Lis, David Redmond, Matthias Stadtfeld, and Joe Q. Zhou, as well as Associate Director, Dr. Koji Shido.

One of Dr. Raphael Lis’s first discoveries was the conversion of endothelial cells onto a vascular niche-like environment. This discovery involved an innovative approach and represented a landmark advance towards engineered autologous bone marrow transplant and hematological disease modeling. In 2021, Dr. Lis and colleagues from Weill Cornell Medicine, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, published a paper in PNAS that corrected a major flaw in the blood-brain barrier model. The model, widely used in brain research and drug development, involved a type of cell derived from human stem cells known as an induced Brain Microvascular Endothelial Cell (iBMEC). First described by



other researchers in 2021, iBMEC was used to model the special lining of capillaries in the brain called the “blood-brain barrier.” Researchers knew that if they could get drugs past the blood-brain barrier, then many brain diseases could be better treated. Dr. Lis and collaborators analyzed the gene expression patterns of iBMECs and found that, in fact, they are not endothelial cells, and thus, are unlikely to be useful in making accurate models of the blood-brain barrier.

“Models of key tissues and structures using stem cell technology are potentially very useful in developing better disease treatments, but as this experience indicates, we need to rigorously evaluate these models before embracing them,” said Dr. Lis, the paper’s co-senior author, Assistant Professor of Reproductive Medicine in Medicine, Ansary Stem Cell Institute, and Assistant Professor of Reproductive Medicine, Ronald O. Perleman and Claudia Cohen Center for Reproductive Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine.

Dr. David Redmond, Assistant Professor of Computational Biology Research in Medicine, Ansary Stem Cell Institute, and the paper’s other senior co-author, noted, “Previously there were fewer methods for studying gene expression profiles, and there was less understanding of the patterns that make up the identities of distinct cell types.” He explains that initial studies almost a decade ago had put emphasis on the mechanical, barrier properties of iBMECs and less on their cellular identity as revealed through gene activity patterns. Thus, the recent paper in PNAS has opened up a new perspective on the blood-brain barrier.

Dr. Redmond’s early work focused on developing and improving methods to use the immune system to target cancer primarily using patient-derived omics data as a biomarker for immune checkpoint blockade. He is currently focused on using single-cell and spatial transcriptomic technologies to elucidate the interactions between the vascular and immune systems with particular relevance to autoimmune diseases, transplant rejection, and improving targeting of immunotherapies in cancer. He is also interested in vascular cell identity via omics approaches and its heterogeneity across multiple organ beds.

Dr. Matthias Stadtfeld, Assistant Professor of Cell Biology in Medicine, studies the molecular and developmental flexibility of pluripotent stem cells, which are unique among mammalian cells and capable to differentiate into all adult cell types. This feature gives them extraordinary potential for a wide range of regenerative medicine applications. The Stadtfeld lab is asking key questions, such as: How is this remarkable developmental potential established at the level of transcriptional regulation, and how can this potential be reliably maintained upon prolonged ex vivo expansion? To address these questions,

the lab is combining precise genome engineering and functional genomics. These efforts have yielded novel approaches to efficiently derive pluripotent cells that can rise to all mammalian tissues when introduced into early stages embryos, representing a powerful tool to dissect the mechanisms underlying the pluripotent state. The lab has also pioneered sensitive reporter systems to directly visualize vital chromatin marks in pluripotent cells, and this has resulted in the discovery of previously unrecognized susceptibility loci that determine the epigenetic stability, and ultimately, the developmental robustness of pluripotent cells. The activity of these susceptibility loci varies to an unexpected degree between cell lines established from different individuals; the Stadtfeld lab is exploring the use of these loci as biomarkers to identify optimal culture conditions for pluripotent cells from different backgrounds.

Dr. Joe Zhou began his laboratory to develop innovative strategies to promote regeneration and repair of the pancreas and the intestine based on deep understanding of organ development and adult stem cells. One of his key discoveries was that stomach tissues can be induced to generate insulin-secreting cells capable of reversing diabetes. A technology platform is underway to utilize discarded human stomach

tissues from weight loss surgeries at Weill Cornell Medicine, capture stomach stem cells within, and then direct them to expand in culture and produce Gastric INSulin-Secreting cells (GINS cells) suitable for transplantation to treat type 1 diabetes. Using tools, such as epigenetics, single-cell sequencing, and human organoids, his group is also pursuing potential gene therapy to remodel part of the colonic mucosa into nutrient-absorbing small intestine for treatment of the debilitating Short Bowel Syndrome.

Dr. Koji Shido, recently recruited as Associate Director of the Division of Regenerative Medicine and Ansary Stem Cell Institute, works with Dr. Rafii in a primary role that involves overall planning in support of the practice mission of the division. This includes effective research and project management, fiscal and operational

management, and education and training. Dr. Shido also contributes to the educational missions of the Weill Cornell Graduate School and Weill Cornell Medicine.

Thirty years since his arrival to the Weill Department of Medicine, Dr. Rafii’s laboratory continues to define what it means to deliver state-of-the-art research that takes risks and goes the distance. “My research group is grateful to the NIH/NHLBI for this recent award, which will enable us to forge ahead with long-term, high-risk, high-reward research to conceive of therapies for organ regeneration,” says Dr. Rafii.

When asked what drives his research 30 years later, Dr. Rafii explains, “It is still gratifying to see the clinical benefits that result from a scientific process at work.”



# Dr. S. Louis “Lou” Bridges, Jr., Appointed as Chief of the Division of Rheumatology: Optimizing New Approaches in Clinical Research and Mentoring

Dr. Lou Bridges, the newly appointed Physician-in-Chief and Chair of the Department of Medicine at Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS), was named Chief of the Weill Department of Medicine’s Division of Rheumatology as of September 1, 2020. Dr. Bridges was recruited from the University of Alabama at Birmingham where he had served as Director of the Division of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology. He is also the current President of the Rheumatology Research Foundation and a member of the Executive Committee of the American College of Rheumatology. Dr. Bridges is an internationally recognized clinician-scientist in the areas of arthritis, rheumatology, and immunology. He was the Director of the NIH-funded Consortium for the Longitudinal Evaluation of African-Americans with Rheumatoid Arthritis (CLEAR) Registry, which provided him with experience in health disparities in rheumatology patient care.

Dr. Bridges’ relocating to New York City coincided with another arrival, the COVID-19 global pandemic. Although he did not have the opportunity of meeting his new colleagues in person during his early days on board, Dr. Bridges quickly established working partnerships through virtual meetings. He has also been at the forefront of what has become a virtual “new world” for patients.

“The COVID era has given us a unique opportunity to reinvent the way we deliver patient care. Many of the changes we have seen, such as the exponential growth in telehealth, will be with us for the foreseeable future,” says Dr. Bridges. “We have learned that smartphones and other devices offer significant opportunities for patient education, enable patients to communicate symptoms to their doctors in real time, and can enhance clinical research studies.”

Dr. Bridges looks forward to building upon HSS’s “phenomenal clinical reputation” in rheumatology and to working with the Weill Department of Medicine in support of mutual goals. Some of Dr. Bridges’ priorities for the first year include enhancing the infrastructure needed to accelerate clinical research at HSS, enhancing mentoring opportunities between junior clinical investigators and established faculty members, and continuing to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion among faculty and trainees. Dr. Bridges serves on the Clinical Research Advisory Committee at HSS, which will implement recommendations for a sustained research



Dr. Lou Bridges

infrastructure using the HSS Clinical Research Taskforce as a blueprint. There will be additional pilot grants and young investigator grants for those who are pursuing innovative research ideas, with the goal of facilitating future research studies that will improve patient outcomes.

As part of “A Big Data Initiative” Dr. Bridges is at the forefront of harnessing artificial intelligence technologies to rapidly translate discovery using data from electronic health records and other sources, such as genetic studies, radiographic images, and patient reported data. There are huge datasets, including Medicare claims databases and the American College of Rheumatology’s RISE (Rheumatology Informatics System for Effectiveness), that can be integrated with clinical, demographic, and



other information available in electronic health records to address previously unanswerable questions in patient care. For example, Dr. Bridges cites one recent study in which investigators were able to create a model based on electronic health record data to predict future flares of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in individual patients. With a focus on precision medicine, Dr. Bridges hopes to build similar models such as for choosing the best drug for an individual patient.

“The use of machine learning in image analysis is another promising area of research,” says Dr. Bridges, who recently completed a crowdsourced DREAM (Dialogue on Reverse Engineering Assessment and Methods) Challenge with colleagues and teams from all over the world. Twenty teams competed to generate a computer algorithm that can automatically quantify the degree of joint space narrowing and erosions in hand and foot radiographs of rheumatoid arthritis. Traditionally, it has taken radiologists countless hours to manually inspect films in what is a complicated process. The new algorithm has provided a computational tool for easier and better reading approaches. It is hoped that it will provide a machine learning and computer infrastructure, augmented by artificial intelligence, that will automatically tell physicians the severity of a patient’s joint

damage. With funding from the Sage Bionetworks, prizes were given to the winners of this competition who were from Hungary, Israel, Michigan, and New York City.

In addition to the long-standing opportunities afforded to WDOM residents and fellows through the Division of Rheumatology, there is a new program targeted to mentoring in musculoskeletal research. Mentors and mentees will be paired in a collaborative effort between HSS and Weill Cornell Medicine (WCM). Led by Drs. Jane Salmon of HSS and Said Ibrahim of WCM, the program will provide junior faculty and fellows with opportunities to participate in rheumatology research projects based at HSS.

“This great new program,” says Dr. Bridges “envisioned new research avenues for up-and-coming investigators from the Weill Department of Medicine who have interest in rheumatology.”

“There’s a lot to be excited about in the field of rheumatology right now, and I look forward to working in partnership with the Weill Department of Medicine to further our mutual missions of patient care, research, and education,” says Dr. Bridges. He added “As we begin to put the pandemic behind us, I look forward to more personal interactions and relationships with faculty in the Weill Department of Medicine.”



# Leadership

## (2020)

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### Anthony Hollenberg, M.D.

Sanford I. Weill Chair of Medicine



Dr. Anthony Hollenberg is the Sanford I. Weill Chair of Medicine in the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Department of Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine and the Physician-in-Chief at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Hollenberg received his M.D. from the University of Calgary in Canada in 1986. He completed his Internal Medicine residency in 1989 and was Chief Resident in Medicine from 1990 to 1991 at the Beth Israel Hospital. Dr. Hollenberg then completed a fellowship in Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism at Massachusetts General Hospital in 1993 and was recruited back to Beth Israel to start his laboratory. From 2011 until his recruitment to Weill Cornell Medicine and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, Dr. Hollenberg was Chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Director of the Clinical and Translational Research Training Programs at Harvard Catalyst and Harvard Medical School where he was also a Professor of Medicine. Dr. Hollenberg's research focuses on the hormonal regulation of metabolism, with a particular

emphasis on the role of thyroid hormone. His work has important ramifications for the regulation of body weight and metabolism. Additionally, The Hollenberg Lab focuses on understanding thyroid gland development and the possibilities for regenerative medicine.

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### Robert S. Brown, Jr., M.D., M.P.H.

Vice Chair for Mentorship and Academic Development

Dr. Robert S. Brown, Jr. is the Gladys and Roland Harriman Professor of Medicine and Clinical Chief of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, as well as Vice Chair for Mentorship and Academic Development for the Weill Department of Medicine. Dr. Brown is the co-founder and Director of the Center for Liver Disease and Transplantation at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. He has been part of the liver transplant effort at Weill Cornell Medicine since 1999 and joined the faculty full-time in 2015. A pioneer in laparoscopic living liver donation, the liver transplant program has the best outcomes and among the largest volume in the region. Dr. Brown is heavily involved in clinical research on viral hepatitis, alcohol-related liver disease, and liver transplantation. He received his B.A. from Harvard College, M.D. from New York University, and his M.P.H. from the Graduate School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley. He completed his internship in medicine at Beth Israel Hospital, Harvard Medical School in Boston, and a fellowship in gastroenterology and hepatology at the University of California, San Francisco. An internationally recognized expert in liver disease and liver transplantation, he has co-authored more than 200 peer-reviewed articles and mentored many trainees and junior faculty. He is the incoming Editor-in-Chief of *Liver Transplantation*, an Associate Editor for *Hepatology*, and published a book, *Common Liver Diseases and Transplantation: An Algorithmic Approach to Work-up and Management*. Dr. Brown is the recipient of a Young Investigator Award from the American Society of Transplant Physicians, the Senior Attending Teacher Award from Columbia University Medical Center, and the American Liver Foundation New York Chapter's Physician of the Year.





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## Joseph T. Cooke, M.D.

Chief of Medicine at NYP/Queens

Vice Chair, Weill Department of Medicine



Dr. Joseph T. Cooke is the Chief of the Department of Medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian/Queens and is Vice Chair of the Weill Department of Medicine. Beginning with internship and residency, Dr. Cooke has served in numerous roles through what is now his 35th year at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Before joining NewYork-Presbyterian/Queens, Dr. Cooke, an Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine and Public Health, was the department's Chief of the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Chairman of the General Faculty Council, and Chief Quality and Patient Safety Officer for NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Board certified in internal medicine, pulmonary disease, and critical care medicine, Dr. Cooke is a fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians and the American College of Physicians. He earned an undergraduate degree in Biology with honors from New York University and obtained his M.D. from SUNY Downstate. He and Dr. Vlad Kvetan founded and co-chaired the Critical

Care Leadership Network of GNYHA (2006-2009). Dr. Cooke is the Treasurer for the Queens County Medical Society and continues to serve on the Medical Advisory Board for the New York Organ Donation Network. He had previously served on the Institute of Medicine's subcommittee on organ donation after cardiac death. In addition to earning numerous teaching awards at Weill Cornell, Dr. Cooke has been honored with the NYPH Physician of the Year Award, the New York Weill Cornell Center Alumni Council Award for Outstanding Service, and the Lorraine Tredge Award from HHC for leadership in quality and patient safety. At the 2008 HRSA National Learning Congress, he was named one of 11 national champions for his work in organ donation for NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

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## Orli R. Etingin, M.D.

Vice Chair for Faculty

Dr. Orli R. Etingin is the founder and Medical Director of the Iris Cantor Health Center at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, a multidisciplinary group practice sponsored by the Departments of Dermatology, Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Radiology, Surgery and Urology. She is the Lisa and Sanford B. Ehrenkranz Professor of Clinical Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine and serves as Vice Chair for Faculty in the Weill Department of Medicine.

Dr. Etingin's clinical expertise is in internal medicine and coagulation disorders, such as blood clotting in pregnancy. Dr. Etingin received her undergraduate degree from Johns Hopkins University. After receiving her M.D. from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, she completed residency training in internal medicine, subspecialty training in hematology-oncology and a Chief Residency at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. As the recipient of an NIH Clinical Investigator Award from 1987 to 1992, she conducted basic scientific research on thrombosis in vascular cells, leading to numerous publications in the journals *Cell*, *Biochemistry*, and *Journal of Clinical Investigation*. Dr. Etingin is listed in *Who's Who*, *Castle Connolly's Best Doctors Guides*, and *US News Top Doctors*. She was the associate editor of the *Textbook of Women's Health*, a comprehensive manual for physicians in the field. A frequently invited speaker at women's health symposia, she has served as Moderator of the annual Women's Health Symposium at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital since 1998 and as Moderator of the annual Women and the Brain Conference since 2006. Dr. Etingin is a member of the American Medical Women's Association and the American Medical Association. She is the editor of two nationally distributed newsletters, *Women's Health Advisor* and *Women's Nutrition Connection*, and is a contributor to *Everyday Health*.





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**Kirana Gudi, M.D.**  
Vice Chair of Education



Dr. Gudi serves as Vice Chair of Education in the Weill Department of Medicine. As Vice Chair, she oversees a broad range of training programs and works closely with the Weill Department of Medicine to advance its educational mission in furthering faculty development. Dr. Gudi is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine and is the Program Director of the department's residency training program in internal medicine. She received her medical training on the Weill Cornell campus, beginning with an M.D. from Weill Cornell Medicine. She served as a Chief Resident and completed her residency training, as well as a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. She maintains an active outpatient pulmonary practice, attends on the Inpatient Pulmonary Consult and the ICU Consult services, and is a passionate advocate of medicine and medical education.

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**Renuka Gupta, M.D.**  
Chief of Medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian/Lower Manhattan Hospital

Dr. Renuka Gupta is the Chief of Medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian/Lower Manhattan Hospital (NYP/LMH). In this role she oversees and coordinates the outpatient and inpatient activities of WDOM faculty at LMH, serving an important role as liaison for the faculty, Division Chiefs, Chair of Medicine, and Hospital Leadership. Dr. Gupta joined the WDOM in the Division of General Internal Medicine (Hospital Medicine) at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine in 2010. In addition to her roles as a clinician and educator, Dr. Gupta is an expert on hospital operational efficiency, hospital systems, health care policy, and quality improvement. She has played key roles in improving both efficiency and functionality in the hospital as well as reducing average length of stay and two years ago was appointed as the Physician Liaison for Operational Efficiency in Medicine at NYP. She is also a leader in the academic domain of discrimination against physicians. Dr. Gupta completed medical school at Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma, India, followed by internal medicine residency training and a Clinical Nutrition Fellowship at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center.





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## Jennifer I. Lee, M.D.

Vice Chair for Quality and Patient Safety



Dr. Jennifer I. Lee is an Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine and a hospitalist in the Division of General Internal Medicine. Board certified in internal medicine, Dr. Lee earned her M.D. from the State University of New York Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and completed her combined internal medicine and pediatrics residency at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City. In her role as Vice Chair for Quality and Safety, she collaborates with the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital's Division of Quality and Patient Safety, Weill Cornell Medicine Physician Organization QPS, and Weill Department of Medicine aiming to align improvement efforts across the institution. She designed and co-chairs the department's Quality Improvement/Patient Safety (QIPS) committee and spearheaded the launch of the Quality Improvement Academy, an advanced QI faculty development program designed to provide a pathway for promotion for junior faculty in all clinical departments through academic achievement in quality improvement.

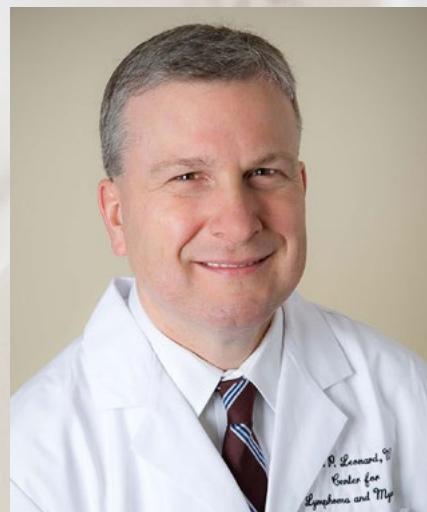
She was awarded the AAMC Learning Health Systems Champion Research Award and was featured as the Research on Care Community's Member spotlight. Her focus is the education of students, residents and faculty in quality improvement and safety science to ensure high-quality, high-value care delivery for patients in both the inpatient and outpatient settings.

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## John P. Leonard, M.D.

Executive Vice Chair, Weill Department of Medicine

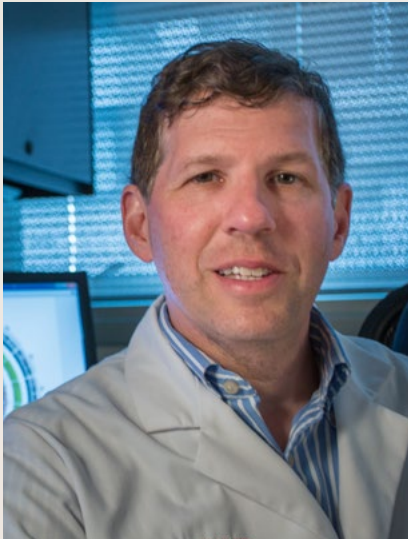
Dr. John P. Leonard is the Executive Vice Chair of the Weill Department of Medicine, a role in which he is advancing key academic and educational activities as well as other critical initiatives for the department. A nationally and internationally recognized authority on hematological malignancies, Dr. Leonard serves as the Senior Associate Dean for Innovation and Initiatives at Weill Cornell Medicine. The Richard T. Silver Distinguished Professor of Hematology and Medical Oncology, Dr. Leonard has pioneered the development of novel therapeutics in lymphoma, and he serves as one of the leaders of the national lymphoma clinical trials effort as leader of the Lymphoma Committee for the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology (a part of the National Clinical Trials Network of the National Cancer Institute). Dr. Leonard has been an elected member of the American Board of Internal Medicine subspecialty board for Hematology and has also been elected to membership in the American Society of Clinical Investigation. He has served as Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board and Board Member of the Lymphoma Research Foundation and Board Member of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society/New York City Chapter. In 2017, he received the Miriam G. Wallach Award for Excellence in Humanistic Medical Care from NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Leonard has spearheaded many innovative initiatives in the Weill Department of Medicine to facilitate cutting-edge patient-oriented research.



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## Steven M. Lipkin, M.D., Ph.D.

Vice Chair for Research



Dr. Steven M. Lipkin, Professor of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, is the Vice Chair for Research. Dr. Lipkin works with departmental and divisional leadership to enhance and foster the research activities of our faculty and trainees. A nationally and internationally regarded leader in the field of adult genetics, he was recently elected as a Member of the American Society of Clinical Investigation. His research focuses on genetic testing for hereditary cancer disorders, including the Lynch Syndrome, Familial Adenomatous Polyposis, and Hereditary Pancreatic Cancer, among others. He is an authority on cancer genetic syndromes, with a particular emphasis on hereditary gastrointestinal cancer syndromes, and authored MAPP-MMR, a bioinformatic program that is used to interpret whether Lynch syndrome missense variants are deleterious mutations or benign polymorphisms. Dr. Lipkin has more than 80 published papers in the top peer-reviewed journals and is the author of *The Genome Generation: Tales From the Front Lines of Genetic Medicine*,

published in 2016 by Beacon Press. Dr. Lipkin has practiced at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medicine since 2009. He trained in internal medicine at Duke University and in medical genetics at the National Human Genome Research Institute, where he performed postdoctoral work in the laboratory of Francis Collins, now Director of the NIH.

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## Susana R. Morales, M.D.

Vice Chair for Diversity

Dr. Susana R. Morales serves as the Vice Chair for Diversity in the Weill Department of Medicine. An Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Dr. Morales joined the Weill Cornell Medicine faculty in 1998. She serves as the Associate Director of the House Staff Training Program in Internal Medicine and is the Director of the Education Core for the Cornell Center for Health Equity. In 2018, she became the Principal Investigator and Director of the Weill Cornell Medicine Diversity Center of Excellence. At Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, Dr. Morales had previously served as Assistant Director for Education and Training in the Division of General Medicine. She has served as a member of the governing Council of the Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) and on the Advisory Boards of the Commonwealth Fund's "Bettering the Health of Minority Americans" program and the National Hispanic Medical Association. She is also a board member of both the United Hospital Fund and the Latino Commission on AIDS and has served on the NYS Council on Graduate Medical Education. In 2017, Dr. Morales served on the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital Disaster Medical Response Team in Puerto Rico. Dr. Morales obtained her M.D. from the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and completed residency training in internal medicine at the Presbyterian Hospital of the City of New York. Her honors include: J. James Smith Memorial Award; National Medical Fellowships Community Service Award; "Senior List" (selected by four graduating classes at Weill Cornell Medicine); Pioneers in Diversity/Bruce Laine Ballard M.D. Award for Excellence in Mentoring (Office of Faculty Diversity in Medicine and Science, Weill Cornell Medicine); Elnora M. Rhodes SGIM Service Award; and Hispanic Health Leadership Award from the National Hispanic Medical Association.





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## Stephen J. Peterson, M.D.

Chief of Medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian/Brooklyn Methodist Hospital  
Vice Chair, Weill Department of Medicine



Dr. Stephen J. Peterson has been Chief of the Department of Medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian/Brooklyn Methodist Hospital (NYP/BMH) and Professor of Clinical Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine since August 2013 and Vice Chair of the Weill Department of Medicine since April 2018. He is also the Assistant Dean of Weill Cornell Medicine for the NYP/BMH Campus. Dr. Peterson is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and has a wealth of experience in the field of medicine. He is particularly renowned for his basic science research in the field of obesity. He has over 120 publications in peer-reviewed journals and has been awarded the coveted titles of Master of the American College of Physicians, Fellow of the American Heart Association, and Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine. He is a former President of the New York Chapter of the American College of Physicians. Dr. Peterson is dedicated to teaching and has numerous teaching awards from four institutions over 35 years. He was named in the 2017 and 2018 Top Doctor lists for Brooklyn, New York.

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## Tsiporah B. Shore, M.D.

Vice Chair for Compliance

Dr. Tsiporah B. Shore serves as the Vice Chair of Compliance in the Weill Department of Medicine (WDOM) and as Clinical Director for Inpatient Oncology Operations in the WDOM's Division of Hematology & Oncology. She is the Associate Director of the Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplantation Program in the Division of Hematology and Medical Oncology at Weill Cornell Medicine and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, as well as the Chief of the Inpatient Bone Marrow Transplantation Service. A Professor of Clinical Medicine, Dr. Shore graduated from medical school and served her residency training at the University of Manitoba in Canada and the University of Toronto (internship). She then went on to complete a hematology/oncology fellowship at Tufts New England Medical Center in Boston. She completed an additional two-year subspecialty fellowship in Bone Marrow Transplantation in Seattle and Vancouver and subsequently developed and directed the Manitoba BMT Program in Winnipeg, Canada. Dr. Shore has extensive experience in the diagnosis and management of all hematological malignancies, including leukemias, lymphomas, myeloma, and myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative disorders. In 2001, Dr. Shore joined the staff of Weill Cornell Medicine with her practice located at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. While Dr. Shore has experience in all facets of hematology and oncology, she is especially interested in continuing to advance the field of bone marrow/stem cell transplantation and malignant hematologic disorders utilizing novel therapies and clinical trials in addition to standard therapies. She teaches and mentors students, residents, and fellows. Dr. Shore did FACT inspections for many years and has done clinical trials for stem cell transplantation with CALGB, BMT-CTN, NMDP, and the MPD Research Consortium. She is a member of ASH, ASCO, CALGB, and ASBMT and was elected to the Special Populations Subcommittee of the BMT CTN. She volunteers for the Bone Marrow Foundation's Ask the Expert program. She reviews articles for multiple medical journals related to stem cell transplantation.



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## Dana Zappetti, M.D.

Vice Chair for Clinical Operations



Dr. Dana Zappetti is the Vice Chair for Clinical Operations in the Weill Department of Medicine. In this role Dr. Zappetti is focused on advancing ambulatory programs across the department. She works to grow and enhance the capabilities of divisional ambulatory programs in this new era ensuring the best use of space and resources to meet the growing needs of patients at WCM and NYP. She is also focused on both patient and faculty and staff satisfaction in a new environment where both virtual and in-person visits are occurring. Dr. Zappetti is an expert in all areas of pulmonary and critical care medicine with a special interest in pulmonary infections in immunocompromised patients and the pulmonary complications of stem cell transplantation. She received her M.D. from Brown University School of Medicine and completed her residency training in internal medicine and a fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine.

Since joining the faculty of the WDOM's Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine in 2005, Dr. Zappetti has excelled in many leadership roles, including as Program Director for the Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Fellowship and as Key Clinical Faculty for the Internal Medicine Residency at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine. Dr. Zappetti has served as Weill Cornell Medicine's Associate Dean for Student Affairs and has earned numerous awards over the years, such as the J.J. Smith Memorial Award, Senior List, Excellence in Teaching Award, and Department of Medicine Consultant of the Year.

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## Thomas A. McGrath, M.B.A.

Thomas A. McGrath, M.B.A., serves as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Weill Department of Medicine. Mr. McGrath directs administrative and business activities within the department, including finance, accounting, research administration, clinical operations, capital planning, ITS, academic appointments and education. Before joining Weill Cornell Medicine, Mr. McGrath served as Chief Operating Officer at the University of Miami Health System, Director of Finance and Administration for the Department of Medicine at Stanford University, and Vice President and UCH Officer of the Comer Children's Hospital at The University of Chicago. He holds a B.A. and an M.B.A. from the University of Illinois.







## Honors and Awards





# Honors & Awards

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## Research Awards

### The Department of Medicine Young Investigators Award

This award is presented annually to members of the Weill Department of Medicine below the rank of professor who perform on outstanding levels in the areas of clinical and/or basic biomedical research. Supported by the Michael Wolk Foundation.

#### Winners

John Richard Lee, M.D., M.S., F.A.S.N.

Topic: Microbiome Profiles Diagnostic and Predictive of Urinary Tract Infection

Division: Nephrology & Hypertension

Robert Schwartz, M.D., Ph.D.

Topic: Hedgehog Signaling Demarcates a Niche of Fibrogenic Peribiliary Mesenchymal Cells

Division: Gastroenterology & Hepatology

#### Runners-Up

Tibor Krisko, M.D.

Topic: Gut Microbe and Glucose Metabolism

Division: Gastroenterology & Hepatology

Megan Ritter, M.D.

Topic: The Role of Nuclear Corepressor 1 in Thyroid Hormone Signaling and Sensitivity

Division: Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism

### The David E. Rogers Memorial Research Award

This award was established in 1995 to encourage medical residents to continue their investigative research in internal medicine. Four finalists are chosen to present their research at Medical Grand Rounds. The award was founded and is chaired by Holly S. Andersen, M.D., Director of Education and Outreach at The Ronald O. Perleman Heart Institute (and Associate Attending Physician at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College) and is funded by the Holly Andersen Heart Foundation.

#### Winner

Montreh Tavakkoli, M.D.

Topic: Epichaperome Abundance Predicts Response to the Epichaperome Inhibitor PUH-71 in Acute Myeloid Leukemia

#### First Runner Up

Daniel Helbig, M.D.

Topic: Outcomes in CLL Patients with NOTCH1 Regulatory Pathway Mutations

#### Finalists

Dario Villamar, M.D.

Topic: Serial Circulating Tumor DNA (ctDNA) Measurement Predicts Clinical Response in Advanced Urothelial Carcinoma Patients

Brian Yum, M.D.

Topic: Left Atrial Strain Impairment is a Novel Early Marker of Diastolic Dysfunction – A Multimodality Validation Study

### The Department of Medicine Annual Fellow in Research Award

Initiated in 2002, the Fellow Award in Research is presented annually to fellows within the Weill Department of Medicine who have presented outstanding research.

#### Winner

David R. Price, M.D., M.S.

Topic: Effect of Neutropenic Critical Illness on Development and Prognosis of Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

#### Runners-Up

Divya Shankaranarayanan, M.B.B.S.

Topic: Calcium Release Activated Calcium (CRAC) Channel is a Novel Target to Promote Tolerance

Michael Shusterman, M.D.

Topic: A Phase II Randomized Controlled Trial of Medical Intensive Nutrition Therapy to Improve Chemotherapy Tolerability in Malnourished Patients with Solid Tumor Malignancies

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## Visiting Professors

Scherl-Roberts Visiting Professor

January 15, 2020

Stefan Schreiber, M.D.

Kiel University, Germany

Ralph Nachman, MD Visiting Professor

January 22, 2020

Joyce Bischoff, Ph.D.

Harvard Medical School

Weinstein Visiting Professor

February 12, 2020

David Brenner, M.D.

University of California San Diego School of Medicine

B.H. Kean-Boxer Family Foundation Lecture in Global Health

October 21, 2020

Charles Rotimi, M.D.

National Institutes of Health

Arthur Ashe Endowment-Christopher L. Barley, MD Lecturer

December 2, 2020

Joseph (Mike) McCune, M.D.

HIV Frontiers, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

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## Endowed Professorships

Dr. Ronald D. Adelman

Emilie Roy Corey Professor in Geriatrics and Gerontology

Dr. Laura Alonso

Herbert J. and Ann L. Siegel Distinguished Professor of Medicine



Dr. David Artis  
Michael Kors Professor in Immunology

Dr. Louis J. Aronne  
Sanford I. Weill Professor of Metabolic Research

Dr. Phyllis August  
Ralph A. Baer Professor of Medical Research

Dr. Ann B. Beeder  
Jeanette and Jeffrey Lasdon Associate Professor of Clinical Public Health and Psychiatry

Dr. Julie Blander  
Gladys and Roland Harriman Professor of Immunology in Medicine

Dr. Carl Blobel (HSS)  
Virginia F. and William R. Salomon Chair in Musculoskeletal Research

Dr. Jon David Blumenfeld (Rogosin Institute)  
Maxwell Professor of Clinical Medicine

Dr. S. Louis "Lou" Bridges, Jr. (HSS)  
Joseph P. Routh Professor of Rheumatic Diseases in Medicine (as of October 2021)  
Franchellie M. Cadwell Chair (incumbent)

Dr. Robert Brown, Jr.  
Gladys and Roland Harriman Professor of Medicine

Dr. Lewis C. Cantley  
Meyer Directorship Endowed Chair  
Margaret and Herman Sokol Professor in Oncology Research

Dr. Mary E. Charlson  
William T. Foley Distinguished Professor in Medicine

Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi  
Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean, Weill Cornell Medicine

Dr. David E. Cohen  
Vincent Astor Distinguished Professor of Medicine

Dr. Mary K. Crow (HSS)  
Joseph P. Routh Professor of Rheumatic Diseases in Medicine (January to August 2020)  
Benjamin M. Rosen Chair in Immunology and Inflammation Research

Dr. Ronald G. Crystal  
The Bruce Webster Professor of Internal Medicine

Dr. Andrew J. Dannenberg  
Henry R. Erle, MD-Roberts Family Professor of Medicine

Dr. Orli R. Etingin  
Lisa and Sanford B. Ehrenkranz Professor in Women's Health

Dr. Douglas Fearon  
Walter B. Wriston Professor of Pancreatic Cancer Research

Dr. Joseph J. Fins  
E. William Davis, MD Professorship of Medical Ethics

Dr. Richard R. Furman  
Morton Coleman, MD Distinguished Professor of Medicine

Dr. Roy M. Gulick  
Rochelle Belfer Professorship

Dr. Barbara Hempstead  
O. Wayne Isom Professor of Medicine

Dr. Manuel Hidalgo  
E. Hugh Luckey Distinguished Professor of Medicine (through 2020)  
Walter B. Wriston Professor of Pancreatic Cancer Research (as of September 2021)

Dr. Anthony N. Hollenberg  
Sanford I. Weill Chair of the Department of Medicine

Dr. Julianne L. Imperato-McGinley  
The Abby Rockefeller Mauzé Distinguished Professorship in Endocrinology in Medicine

Dr. Lionel B. Ivashkiv (HSS)  
David H. Koch Chair for Arthritis and Tissue Degeneration Research  
Richard L. Menschel Chair

Dr. Elizabeth Leef Jacobson  
Ehrenkranz Family/Orli R. Etingin, MD Associate Professor in Women's Health

Dr. Warren D. Johnson, Jr.  
B. H. Kean Professor of Tropical Medicine

Dr. Yoon Kang  
Richard P. Cohen, MD Associate Professor of Medical Education

Dr. Gary Koretzky  
Frank H.T. Rhodes Distinguished Professor in Cardiovascular Biology and Genetics

Dr. Mark S. Lachs  
The Irene F. & I. Roy Psaty Distinguished Professor of Clinical Medicine

Dr. John P. Leonard  
Richard T. Silver Distinguished Professor of Hematology and Medical Oncology

Dr. Bruce B. Lerman  
Hilda Altschul Master Professor of Medicine

Dr. Steven M. Lipkin  
Gladys and Roland Harriman Professor of Medicine

Dr. C. Ronald MacKenzie (HSS)  
C. Ronald MacKenzie, MD, Chair in Ethics and Medicine

Dr. Fernando J. Martinez  
Bruce Webster Professor of Internal Medicine

## Honors & Awards (continued)

Dr. Bassem M. Masri  
Daisy and Paul Soros/Recanati-Kaplan Family Assistant  
Professor in Preventive Cardiology

Dr. Ari Melnick  
Gebroe Family Professor of Hematology-Oncology

Dr. Henry W. Murray  
Arthur R. Ashe, Jr. Professor of Medicine

Dr. David M. Nanus  
Mark W. Pasmantier Professor of Hematology and  
Oncology in Medicine

Dr. Stephen A. Paget (HSS)  
Stephen A. Paget, MD, Chair in Rheumatology

Dr. Jean William Pape  
Howard and Carol Holtzmann Professor in Clinical Medicine

Dr. Alessandra B. Pernis (HSS)  
The Peter Jay Sharp Chair in Lupus Research

Dr. Geoffrey Pitt  
Ida and Theo Rossi Distinguished Professor of Medicine

Dr. Erica Phillips  
Jack Fishman Associate Professor of Clinical Cancer  
Prevention (as of September 2021)

Dr. Holly G. Prigerson  
Irving Sherwood Wright Professor in Geriatrics

Dr. Shahin Rafii  
Arthur B. Belfer Professor in Genetic Medicine

Dr. M. Carry Reid  
Irving Sherwood Wright Associate Professor in Geriatrics  
and Gerontology

Dr. Linda Russell (HSS)  
The Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Chair in Perioperative  
Medicine

Dr. Monika Safford  
John J. Kuiper Professor of Medicine

Dr. Jane E. Salmon (HSS)  
Collette Kean Research Chair

Dr. Ellen J. Scherl  
Jill Roberts Professor of Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Dr. Sergio Schwartzman (HSS)  
Franchellie M. Cadwell Chair (Emeritus)

Dr. Manish Shah  
Bartlett Family Associate Professor of Gastrointestinal  
Oncology

Dr. Eugenia L. Siegler  
Mason Adams Professor of Geriatric Medicine

Dr. Harsimran Singh  
David S. Blumenthal Assistant Professor of Medicine

Dr. Manikkam Suthanthiran  
Stanton Griffis Distinguished Professor of Medicine

Dr. Scott Tagawa (3/1/2015-3/31/2020)  
Dr. Peter Martin (4/1/2020-present)  
Richard A. Stratton Associate Professorship in Hematology  
and Oncology

Dr. Harold E. Varmus  
Lewis Thomas University Professor of Medicine

### Clinical and Research Scholars

The Clinical and Research Scholar Endowment is designed to provide outstanding junior faculty members in the Weill Department of Medicine with financial support early in their careers. Support is provided specifically to help young physicians balance patient care with research and teaching. The awards allow junior faculty to make a commitment to academic medicine and, as a result, support promising new talent.

Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou  
Madeline and Stephen Anbinder Clinical Scholar in Hematology/  
Oncology

Dr. Eftychia Apostolou  
Raymond and Beverly Sackler Research Scholar

Dr. Erica Chu (10/1/2020-present)  
Dr. Sonal Mehta (4/1/17-3/31/2020)  
Joachim Silbermann Family Clinical Scholar in Geriatric  
Palliative Care

Dr. Tessa Del Carmen  
Roland Balay Clinical Scholar

Dr. Pinkal Desai  
Charles, Lillian, and Betty Neuwirth Clinical Scholar in Oncology

Dr. Jennifer Downs  
Friedman Research Scholar

Dr. Kathryn M. Dupnik  
Nan and Stephen Swid Research Scholar

Dr. Bishoy Faltas  
Gellert Family-John P. Leonard, M.D. Research Scholar

Dr. Maria G. Karas  
Michael Wolk Heart Foundation Clinical Scholar in Cardiology

Dr. Jiwon Kim  
Bruce B. Lerman Clinical Scholar



Dr. Sonal Kumar  
Anne and Ken Estabrook Clinical Scholar in Gastroenterology

Dr. Lindsay Lief  
Abby Joseph Cohen Clinical Scholar in Women's Health

Dr. Cynthia Lien  
Joachim Silberman Family Clinical Scholar in Geriatrics

Dr. Margaret L. McNairy  
Bonnie Johnson Sacerdote Clinical Scholar

Dr. Ana Molina  
Anne Moore M.D. Clinical Scholar in Hematology-Oncology

Dr. Hasina Outtz Reed  
Manning Foundation Research Scholar

Dr. Sarah Rutherford  
John P. Leonard, M.D./Gwirtzman Family Research Scholar in Lymphoma

Dr. Michael Satlin  
William Randolph Hearst Foundation Clinical Scholar in Microbiology & Infectious Diseases

Dr. Edward Schenk  
James P. Smith M.D. Scholar

Dr. Amy Shaw  
Joachim Silberman Family Clinical Scholar

Dr. Allison Liao Yang  
Linda Horowitz Cancer Research Foundation Clinical Scholar in Gastroenterology

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### Teaching Awards

The WDOM congratulates its faculty who received teaching awards at the Weill Cornell Medicine Class of 2021 commencement ceremony held virtually on May 20, 2021.

**The Charles L. Bardes, M.D. Teaching Prize**  
Ernie Esquivel, M.D.

**Leonard Tow Humanism Teacher**  
Amanda Ramsdell, M.D.

**The House Staff Teaching Award**  
Lauren Balkan, M.D.

**Class of 1952 Resident Physician Prize**  
Chou Chou, M.D.

**Volunteer Clinical Faculty Award of Alpha Omega Alpha**  
Ashita Batavia, M.D.

**Second Year Teaching Award**  
Juliet Aizer, M.D.

### Senior List

Juliet Aizer, M.D.  
Pamela Charney, M.D.  
Kevin Ching, M.D.  
Justin Choi, M.D.  
Ernie Esquivel, M.D.  
Sydney Katz, M.D.  
Bryan Leppert, M.D.  
William Levine, M.D.  
Anthony Ogedegbe, M.D.  
Amanda Ramsdell, M.D.  
Michael Torres Lizardi, M.D.

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### The National Academy of Medicine (NAM)

Dr. Jeremiah A. Barondess (NY Academy of Medicine - Emeritus)  
Dr. Lewis C. Cantley  
Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi  
Dr. R. Gordon Douglas, Jr. (Emeritus)  
Dr. Joseph J. Fins  
Dr. Antonio M. Gotto, Jr. (Dean Emeritus)  
Dr. Rainu Kaushal  
Dr. Gary A. Koretzky  
Dr. Ralph L. Nachman (Emeritus)  
Dr. Carl F. Nathan  
Dr. Jean W. Pape  
Dr. Jane E. Salmon (HSS)  
Dr. Andrew I. Schafer  
Dr. Harold E. Varmus

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### Association of American Physicians

Dr. Omar Abdel-Wahab (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Peter B. Bach (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Jeremiah A. Barondess (NY Academy of Medicine - Emeritus)  
Dr. Carl P. Blobel (HSS Affiliate)  
Dr. Mary E. Charlson  
Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi  
Dr. Bayard D. Clarkson (MSKCC Affiliate - Emeritus)  
Dr. David E. Cohen  
Dr. Ronald G. Crystal (Emeritus)  
Dr. Andrew J. Dannenberg  
Dr. Luis A. Diaz, Jr. (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. R. Gordon Douglas, Jr. (Emeritus)  
Dr. James A. Fagin (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Daniel Fitzgerald  
Dr. Michael Glickman (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Antonio M. Gotto, Jr. (Dean Emeritus)  
Dr. Roy M. Gulick  
Dr. Katherine A. Hajjar (secondary appt)  
Dr. Barbara L. Hempstead  
Dr. Anthony Hollenberg

## Honors & Awards (continued)

Dr. Julianne L. Imperato-McGinley  
Dr. Lionel B. Ivashkiv (HSS Affiliate)  
Dr. Warren D. Johnson, Jr.  
Dr. Philip W. Kantoff (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Attallah Kappas (Rockefeller Affiliate - Emeritus)  
Dr. Gary A. Koretzky (Cornell University, Ithaca)  
Dr. Mary Jeanne Kreek (Rockefeller Affiliate)  
Dr. James Krueger (Rockefeller Affiliate)  
Dr. Ross L. Levine (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Fernando Martinez  
Dr. Ari M. Melnick  
Dr. Henry W. Murray (Emeritus)  
Dr. Ralph L. Nachman (Emeritus)  
Dr. David M. Nanus  
Dr. Carl Nathan (secondary appt)  
Dr. Kenneth Offit (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Eric G. Pamer (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Geoffrey Pitt  
Dr. Marcus M. Reidenberg (Emeritus)  
Dr. Neal Rosen (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Jane E. Salmon (HSS Affiliate)  
Dr. Charles L. Sawyers (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Andrew I. Schafer  
Dr. David A. Scheinberg (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Howard I. Scher (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. David B. Solit (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Wadi N. Suki (Baylor - Emeritus)  
Dr. Manikkam Suthanthiran  
Dr. Marcel R.M. van den Brink (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Thomas J. Walsh  
Dr. Babette B. Weksler (Emeritus)  
Dr. Marc E. Weksler (Emeritus)  
Dr. Jedd Wolchok (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Alastair J. J. Wood (Courtesy - Emeritus)

### The American Society for Clinical Investigation

Dr. Omar Abdel-Wahab (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Abdul B. Abou-Samra (Hamad Medical Corporation Affiliate)  
Dr. Laura C. Alonso  
Dr. Peter B. Bach (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Marina Fernandes de Barros Caskey (Rockefeller Affiliate)  
Dr. John Blass (secondary appt - Emeritus)  
Dr. Richard S. Bockman (HSS Affiliate)  
Dr. Renier J. Brentjens (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Sarat Chandarlapaty (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Yu Chen (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Ping Chi (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi  
Dr. Bayard D. Clarkson (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. David E. Cohen  
Dr. Ronald G. Crystal  
Dr. Andrew J. Dannenberg  
Dr. Luis A. Diaz, Jr. (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. R. Gordon Douglas, Jr. (Emeritus)

Dr. James A. Fagin (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Daniel W. Fitzgerald  
Dr. Michael S. Glickman (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Antonio M. Gotto, Jr. (Dean Emeritus)  
Dr. Roy M. Gulick  
Dr. Katharine A. Hajjar  
Dr. Alan M. Hanash (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Barbara L. Hempstead  
Dr. Tobias M. Hohl (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Peter R. Holt (Rockefeller Affiliate)  
Dr. Katherine C. Hsu (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Lionel B. Ivashkiv  
Dr. Richard N. Kolesnick (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Gary Koretzky  
Dr. James G. Krueger (Rockefeller Affiliate)  
Dr. Dan A. Landau  
Dr. C. Ola Landgren (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Jeffrey C. Laurence  
Dr. John P. Leonard  
Dr. Ross L. Levine (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Steven M. Lipkin  
Dr. Piro Lito (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Ari M. Melnick  
Dr. James K. Min (secondary appt)  
Dr. Henry W. Murray  
Dr. Thangamani Muthukumar  
Dr. Ralph L. Nachman (Emeritus)  
Dr. David M. Nanus  
Dr. Carl F. Nathan  
Dr. Douglas F. Nixon  
Dr. Kenneth Offit (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Alessandra B. Pernis (HSS Affiliate)  
Dr. Geoffrey S. Pitt  
Dr. David N. Posnett (Emeritus)  
Dr. Shahin Rafii  
Dr. Marcus M. Reidenberg (Emeritus)  
Dr. Kyu Y. Rhee  
Dr. Arleen B. Rifkind (secondary appt)  
Dr. Charles M. Rudin (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Michel Sadelain (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Charles L. Sawyers (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Andrew I. Schafer  
Dr. David A. Scheinberg (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Kendall A. Smith  
Dr. David Solit (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Wadi N. Suki (Baylor)  
Dr. Manikkam Suthanthiran  
Dr. William D. Tap (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Marcel R.M. van den Brink (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Alan M. Weinstein  
Dr. Babette B. Weksler (Emeritus)  
Dr. Marc E. Weksler (Emeritus)  
Dr. Jedd Wolchok (MSKCC Affiliate)  
Dr. Alastair J.J. Wood (Courtesy)  
Dr. Stefan Worgall (secondary appt)



## Castle Connolly Top Doctors

*This list is based on an online search of Castle Connolly Top Doctors conducted as of March 2021.*

### Allergy & Immunology

Dr. Michael J. Chandler  
Dr. Elena S. Resnick

### Cardiac Electrophysiology

Dr. Jim Cheung  
Dr. Seth H. Goldbarg (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. James Ip  
Dr. Bruce Lerman

Dr. Steven M. Markowitz  
Dr. David J. Slotwiner (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. Gioia Turitto (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Miguel Valderrabano (Houston Methodist)

### Cardiovascular Disease

Dr. Olakunle Akinboboye (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. Holly Andersen  
Dr. James A. Blake  
Dr. David S. Blumenthal  
Dr. Jeffrey S. Borer  
Dr. Robert D. Campagna  
Dr. Adam Deutsch  
Dr. Richard B. Devereux  
Dr. Hajir E. Dilmanian (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Timothy C. Dutta  
Dr. Jeffrey D. Fisher  
Dr. Kenneth W. Franklin  
Dr. Richard M. Fuchs  
Dr. Harvey L. Goldberg  
Dr. Kirsten O. Healy  
Dr. John F. Heitner (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Evelyn M. Horn  
Dr. Lawrence A. Inra  
Dr. Mazen O. Kamen  
Dr. Robert J. Kim  
Dr. Karla M. Kurrelmeyer (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. John J. Mahmarian (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Bassem M. Masri  
Dr. Ellen Mellow  
Dr. David H. Miller  
Dr. Richard L. Mueller  
Dr. Sherif F. Nagueh (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Lynne V. Perry-Pottinger (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. Martin R. Post  
Dr. Miguel A. Quinones (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Mary J. Roman  
Dr. Howard S. Rubin (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Allison Spatz

Dr. Theodore Tyberg  
Dr. Nir Uriel (NYP/Columbia)  
Dr. Michael J. Wolk  
Dr. Hooman Yaghoobzadeh  
Dr. William A. Zoghbi (Houston Methodist)

### Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism

Dr. Laura C. Alonso  
Dr. Richard S. Bockman  
Dr. Edmund W. Giegerich (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Dale J. Hamilton (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Lainie Hurst  
Dr. Barry J. Klyde  
Dr. Andrew J. Martorella  
Dr. Steven M. Petak (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Richard J. Robbins (Houston Methodist)  
Joseph M. Tibaldi (NYP/Queens)

### Family Medicine

Dr. George J. Kessler  
Dr. Thomas G. Molnar (NYP/Queens)

### Gastroenterology

Dr. Paul M. Basuk  
Dr. Robert S. Brown, Jr.  
Dr. Michael C. Cantor  
Dr. Bradley A. Connor  
Dr. Robert B. Cooper  
Dr. Gulchin A. Ergun (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Sonal Kumar  
Dr. Arnon Lambroza  
Dr. Susan L. Lucak  
Dr. Franklin Marsh, Jr.  
Dr. Paul F. Miskovitz  
Dr. Jerry Nagler  
Dr. Michel E. Nussbaum (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. James A. Rand (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. Moshe Rubin  
Dr. Ellen Scherl  
Dr. Michael J. Schmerin  
Dr. Felice Schnoll-Sussman  
Dr. Won Sohn (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Meyer N. Solny  
Dr. Donald N. Tsynman (NYP/Lower Manhattan)  
Dr. Wallace J. Wang  
Dr. Arnold L. Weg  
Dr. Gil Weitzman

### Geriatric Medicine

Dr. Ronald D. Adelman  
Dr. Mark S. Lachs  
Dr. Sonal S. Mehta  
Dr. Barrie Lynn Raik  
Dr. Eugenia L. Siegler  
Dr. George E. Taffet (Houston Methodist)

### Hematology

Dr. Perry C. Cook (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Maria De Sancho  
Dr. John P. Leonard  
Dr. Ruben Niesvizky  
Dr. Raymond David Pastore  
Dr. Gail J. Roboz  
Dr. Andrew Schafer  
Dr. Koen W. Van Besien  
Dr. David J. Wolf

### Hospice & Palliative Medicine

Dr. Cynthia X. Pan (NYP/Queens)

### Infectious Disease

Dr. Barry Brause  
Dr. Ashley L. Drews (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Marshall J. Glesby  
Dr. David C. Helfgott  
Dr. Harold W. Horowitz (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Henry W. Murray  
Dr. Sorana Segal-Maurer (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. Paul T. Smith  
Dr. Rosemary Soave  
Dr. Ole Vielemeier

### Internal Medicine

Dr. Monica Altman  
Dr. Louis J. Aronne  
Dr. Christopher L. Barley  
Dr. Baquar M. Bashey (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Allan E. Beyda (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. Roger M. Chung (NYP/Lower Manhattan)  
Dr. Richard P. Cohen  
Dr. Symra A. Cohn  
Dr. Trenton R. Collier  
Dr. Arturo Constantiner (NYP/Lower Manhattan)  
Dr. Chad Michael Craig (HSS)

## Castle Connolly Top Doctors (continued)

Dr. Ward Cunningham-Rundles  
Dr. Howard Eison  
Dr. Orli Etingin  
Dr. Laura Lani Fisher  
Dr. Marina Gafanovich  
Dr. Flavia A. Golden  
Dr. Daniel Goldin  
Dr. Catherine C. Hart  
Dr. Len H. Horovitz  
Dr. Matteethra Chandry Jacob (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Jason S. Kendler  
Dr. Helang Cho Kravitz (NYP/Lower Manhattan)  
Dr. Keith LaScalea  
Dr. Meredith Lash-Dardia  
Dr. Michael R. Leonard  
Dr. Amy Lichtenfeld  
Dr. George Liu  
Dr. Bruce D. Logan  
Dr. Samuel J. Mann  
Dr. Jacqueline M. Mayo  
Dr. Parag H. Mehta (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Jennifer Meller  
Dr. Mark L. Meyer  
Dr. Shari Rochelle Midoneck  
Dr. Serena A. Mulhern  
Dr. Thomas Nash  
Dr. Deena J. Nelson  
Dr. Y-Uyen L. Nguyen (NYP/Lower Manhattan)  
Dr. Sonal Parr  
Dr. Mark S. Pecker  
Dr. Perry Pong (NYP/Lower Manhattan)  
Dr. Arthur I. Radin  
Dr. Jill M. Rieger  
Dr. Tsun Y. Shen (NYP/Lower Manhattan)  
Dr. Todd L. Simon (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Rachel M. Smerd  
Dr. Adam R. Stracher  
Dr. Judy Tung  
Dr. Jessica Weiser-McCarthy  
Dr. Wendy S. Ziecheck

### Interventional Cardiology

Dr. Douglas Ray Bree (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Sorin Brener (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Neal S. Kleiman (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Shing-Chiu Wong

### Medical Oncology

Dr. Alan B. Astrow (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Jenny C. Chang (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Morton Coleman  
Dr. Julian A. Decter  
Dr. David C. Dosik (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Lauren Elreda (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. Howard A. Fine  
Dr. Robert M. Gelfand  
Dr. Manuel Hidalgo  
Dr. Nancy E. Kemeny (MSKCC)  
Dr. Bernard M. Kruger  
Dr. Ana Molina  
Dr. David M. Nanus  
Dr. Allyson J. Ocean  
Dr. Mark W. Pasmantier  
Dr. Anna C. Pavlick  
Dr. Bonnie S. Reichman  
Dr. Joseph T. Ruggiero  
Dr. Scott T. Tagawa  
Dr. Gina M. Villani (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. Andrew D. Zelenetz (MSKCC)

### Nephrology

Dr. Phyllis August  
Dr. Jon D. Blumenfeld  
Dr. Stuart Saal  
Dr. David Serur  
Dr. Bruce S. Spinowitz (NYP/Queens)  
Dr. Lawrence E. Stam (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. John C. Wang  
Dr. Ruth L. Wintz (Houston Methodist)

### Pulmonary Disease

Dr. David Berlin  
Dr. Lester W. Blair (NYP/Lower Manhattan)  
Dr. Clinton H. Doerr (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Andrea B. Feng (NYP/Lower Manhattan)  
Dr. Brian D. Gelbman  
Dr. Liziamma George (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Fabio Giron  
Dr. Daniel M. Libby  
Dr. Rameen M. Miarrostami (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)

Dr. Michael S. Niederman  
Dr. Anthony Saleh (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Abraham Sanders  
Dr. Eugene Shostak  
Dr. Sidney K. Stein  
Dr. Jeremy A. Weingarten (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)  
Dr. Dana Zappetti

### Rheumatology

(Hospital for Special Surgery)

Dr. Juliet B. Aizer  
Dr. Dalit Ashany  
Dr. Anne R. Bass  
Dr. Doruk Erkan  
Dr. Theodore R. Fields  
Dr. Allan Gibofsky  
Dr. Susan M. Goodman  
Dr. Jessica K. Gordon  
Dr. Alana B. Levine  
Dr. C. Ronald MacKenzie  
Dr. Steven K. Magid  
Dr. Joseph A. Markenson  
Dr. Stephen Paget  
Dr. Edward Parrish  
Dr. Linda Russell  
Dr. Lisa R. Sammaritano  
Dr. Sergio Schwartzman  
Dr. Robert Spiera  
Dr. Richard Stern  
Dr. Hendricks H. Whitman III  
Dr. Arthur M. F. Yee

### Sleep Medicine

Dr. Dianne M. Augelli  
Dr. Ana C. Krieger  
Dr. Gerard T. Lombardo (NYP/Brooklyn Methodist)

### Sports Medicine

Dr. Lisa R. Callahan (HSS)  
Dr. Scott E. Rand (Houston Methodist)  
Dr. Christian M. Schupp (Houston Methodist)





## Division Profiles





# Cardiology



**Bruce B. Lerman, M.D.**

Chief, Maurice R. and Corinne P.  
Greenberg Division of Cardiology

Hilda Altschul Master Professor of  
Medicine

Professor of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

The Maurice R. and Corrine P. Greenberg Division of Cardiology is a leader in cardiovascular research, education, and clinical care. The division's mission is to remain at the forefront of scientific and technological developments that are revolutionizing cardiology and to translate these findings to the clinical bedside. Our internationally renowned programs investigate the basic mechanisms of cardiovascular disease, including the genetics of heart disease, the cellular signals and transcription factors responsible for cardiac development, the transformation and homing of stem cells for myocardial regeneration, and the delineation of the molecular bases for cardiac arrhythmias. Strategies are continually implemented to enhance physical space, expand comprehensive clinical programs, and continue our history of cutting-edge research. The division continues to develop and deliver cutting-edge therapies for heart disease and to advance clinical investigation. Expert faculty provide mentoring, training, and supervision to medical students, internal medicine residents, and fellows in cardiology, preparing them as tomorrow's leaders. The faculty also provide a host of weekly conferences for internal and external colleagues.

From basic science, investigating the mechanisms of arrhythmias and large population-based studies of new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches, to a vast array of cardiovascular conditions and diseases, the focus is on improving patient care. This involves our faculty and all cardiology fellows-in-training, as well as postdoctoral trainees and graduate and medical students, thus creating a rich intellectual milieu in which trainees develop into experienced investigators.

Clinical services achieve superior outcomes in all areas, from interventional and imaging laboratories, to outpatient consultative and ongoing care. Patient care covers the full spectrum of heart and vascular diseases, including, but not limited to, arrhythmias, coronary and peripheral arterial disease, valve disease, inherited heart diseases, as well as heart failure and transplantation cardiology. To facilitate immediate treatment of patients presenting in the early stages of a heart attack, there exists 24-hour, in-hospital coverage of the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit, Telemetry and Step-Down Unit, and the interventional laboratory.

The division is particularly proud of its Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory and performance under the leadership of Dr. Shing-Chiu Wong. In the latest data published by the New York State Department of Health (2016), the Cornell Catheterization Laboratory had the lowest risk-adjusted mortality for percutaneous angioplasty for any laboratory in the state. Of note, the NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center is the only hospital in the State of New York that has a significantly lower all case mortality rate in the latest 2017 report and also over the most recent three-year period (2015-2017).

In 2020, the division welcomed Dr. Mark Reisman, a nationally and internationally recognized leader in structural heart disease. Dr. Reisman serves as Director of Structural Heart Disease at NYP/Weill Cornell Medical Center and as Co-Director of Structural Heart Disease for NYP/Queens and NYP/Brooklyn Methodist Hospital. Dr. Reisman plays a key role in implementing a structural heart disease strategic plan that encompasses business development and outreach, quality and clinical standardization, physician recruitment and clinical research trials, and cardiovascular innovation. Previously, Dr. Reisman served as an Attending Physician, Clinical Professor of Medicine, and was the David and Nancy Auth Endowed Chair in Cardiovascular Innovation at the University of Washington Medical Center (UW). At UW, he served as Section Head of Interventional Cardiology and Director of Structural Heart Services at the University of Washington's Heart Institute. He is triple board certified in interventional cardiology, cardiovascular disease, and internal medicine, and has been a principal investigator on more than 100 clinical trials.





Dr. David Majure

Dr. David Majure has been recruited to serve as the Director of the Heart Transplant Service at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Dr. Majure obtained his M.D. from The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and a Master in Public Health from Johns Hopkins' Bloomberg School of Public Health. Board certified in Internal Medicine and Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant Cardiology, he specializes in the care of patients with advanced heart failure, patients who require or who have a heart transplant or ventricular assist device (LVAD), and patients with pulmonary hypertension. Dr. Majure's recruitment has occurred at an opportune time, as NYP/WCMC is planning on bringing heart transplantation to the campus in 2022 pending requisite regulatory approvals.

Four of the division's graduating fellows were recruited to the faculty: Dr. Samuel Kim (lipid management); Dr. Nupoor Narula, who recently won the WDOM's Fund for the Future

award (vascular medicine); Dr. Syed Saad Mahmood, a cardio-oncologist; and Dr. Ashely Beecy, a general cardiologist who is also working with NYP's Innovation Group.

A number of faculty received divisional leadership appointments in 2020: Dr. Rebecca Ascunce, Cardiology Patient Safety & Quality Leader; Dr. Jiwon Kim, Associate Director, Echocardiography Lab; Dr. Jonathan Weinsaft, Director, Non-Invasive Imaging & Research; and Dr. Tracy Paul, Assistant Director, CCU.

Throughout 2020, the faculty continued to publish papers in the top-tier journals, including findings on COVID-19 and the heart. Additionally, the division congratulated Dr. Geoffrey S. Pitt, Ida and Theo Rossi Distinguished Professor of Medicine, on receiving an NIH R01 grant that will fund a project (through 2024) focused on the role of CaV1.2 in aortic valve stenosis.



Dr. Geoffrey S. Pitt

## Cardiology Fellowships

- Cardiology: three-year program that prepares highly qualified candidates for careers in investigative and clinical cardiology. Harsimran Singh, M.D., Program Director
- Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology (CCEP): two-year training fellowship for intensive clinical training in mapping and ablation of complex arrhythmias. Jim W. Cheung, M.D., Program Director
- Interventional Cardiology: one-year advanced training fellowship in all areas of interventional cardiology, including drug eluting stents, rotational atherectomy, thrombectomy devices, distal protection devices and intravascular ultrasound. Luke Kim, M.D., Program Director
- Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant Cardiology: one-year training program in the management of the advanced congestive heart failure patient population. Irina Sobol, M.D., Program Director

# Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluative Sciences Research



## **Mary E. Charlson, M.D.**

Chief, Division of Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluative Sciences Research

Executive Director, Center for Integrative Medicine

William T. Foley Distinguished Professor of Medicine

Professor of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

The Division of Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluative Sciences Research draws upon the talents and experience of a multidisciplinary group of faculty based at Weill Cornell Medicine, Cornell University-Ithaca, Cornell Tech, and other institutions. Faculty members are experts in qualitative and quantitative research methodology, health services research, clinical epidemiology, medical informatics, decision sciences, health disparities research, community-based participatory research, clinimetrics, outcomes research, and behavioral science. They work together in a series of activities designed to encourage, and systematically support, the development of new research initiatives within, and outside, the division.

Research efforts in the division include a strong track record with the NIH and PCORI and an ongoing commitment to fostering a new generation of investigators via training grants and other opportunities. As leaders in population health research, the division plays a unique role at Weill Cornell Medicine through its contributions to behavioral science, health disparities, and population health, and it has enrolled more than 3,000 patients in clinical research studies.

The division provides national leadership in bending the cost curve by implementing innovative and evaluative strategies for population management focused on interventions in high comorbidity patients.

Related areas of investigation include studies to improve clinical outcomes, behavioral science research, research on complex patients with a significant burden of comorbidity,



Dr. Charlson with trainees.

and comparative effectiveness. The division seeks to stimulate and support new clinical, health services, and outcomes research within and outside of Weill Department of Medicine. Divisional faculty lead graduate training programs in clinical epidemiology and research methodology. Graduates of the Master's program in Clinical Epidemiology and Health Services Research have received more than \$200 million in peer-reviewed funding. Faculty in the division continue to publish top-tier research papers focused on improving outcomes of patients with chronic illness.

## **Hunter-Cornell NHLBI Health Disparities Fellowship**

Carla Boutin Foster M.D., M.S.

Rodrigo Valles, Ph.D.

Mary E. Charlson, M.D.

A two-year training program (T32 NHLBI Fellowship Program) that trains pre- and post-doctoral students and residency physicians to conduct methodologically rigorous research focused on cardiovascular health disparities in a multidisciplinary environment.



# Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism

As part of a world-class academic medical center, the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism is dedicated to excellence in providing quality care to patients with endocrine and metabolic disorders; conducting ground-breaking research to advance the frontiers of endocrinology and diabetes; and training of highly motivated and dedicated physicians to become successful clinicians and physician-scientist leaders in academic medicine.

Endocrinology provides the highest standard of care for patients with type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes mellitus, offering a multidisciplinary team approach for diabetes care with comprehensive case management and the development of an individualized treatment plan. Expert teams are composed of diabetologists, certified diabetes educators, and registered nutritionists who are experienced in intensive diabetes management, including insulin pump therapy, continuous glucose monitoring systems, and state-of-the-art hybrid closed-loop systems. The division receives federal funding to support ongoing clinical research in diabetes.

The division's areas of expertise in clinical care also include: general endocrinology; reproductive endocrinology, including the treatment of menstrual irregularities, hirsutism, and menopause; all forms of thyroid disease including thyroid nodules and cancer; disorders of calcium metabolism, osteoporosis, and metabolic bone disease; and disorders of the pituitary and adrenal glands. Should surgery be necessary for the treatment of an endocrine disorder, physicians routinely collaborate with a team of experienced endocrine surgeons.

The subspecialty fellowship training program in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism is designed to provide the education and experience necessary to acquire not only the clinical competencies critical to becoming an expert in this field, but also mentoring towards a basic or clinical endocrine research career in academia.

The division conducts promising state-of-the-art research to generate new knowledge and improve understanding with the ultimate goal of applying the latest scientific and medical advances for the prevention, detection, and treatment of patients with endocrine diseases. In 2019, Dr. Alonso brought her state-of-the-art laboratory research to the division, which is focused on the goal of identifying approaches to increase the insulin-producing capacity of the pancreas to prevent or treat diabetes. Her work is funded by the NIH and the American Diabetes Association.



## **Dr. Laura Alonso**

Chief, Division of Endocrinology,  
Diabetes and Metabolism

Director, Weill Center for  
Metabolic Health

Herbert J. and Ann L. Siegel  
Distinguished Professor of  
Medicine

Professor of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Drs. Anthony Hollenberg, Marcus Goncalves, Megan Ritter, Kristen Vella, and Rohit Sharma also direct endocrine research in the Belfer Research Building. Dr. Hollenberg, a physician-scientist, serves as Chair of the Weill Department of Medicine and is the recipient of the Sidney H. Ingbar Distinguished Lectureship Award and multiple NIDDK R01s. Dr. Goncalves is a physician-scientist with grants from the NCI (K08) and the Lung Cancer Research Foundation. Dr. Ritter is a physician-scientist and the recipient of a Fund for the Future Award.

The division's clinical studies in diabetes include The Epidemiology of Diabetes Intervention and Complications Trial (EDIC), a continuation of the multicenter Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT) showcasing the lasting effects of intensive glucose control on long-term complications of diabetes. The division participated in the Action to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes (ACCORD) trial, an important multicenter study that outlined the limits of benefit of tight control in patients with type 2 diabetes, as well as the multicenter PERL study (Prevention of Early Renal Loss) that determined that lowering uric acid did not prevent kidney disease in type 1 diabetes. Ongoing quality Improvement projects include: standardizing and streamlining the Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) Guidelines in the Weill Cornell Medical ICU and in the Lower Manhattan Hospital's ICU, including a nurse-directed DKA protocol and an effective subcutaneous-delivery DKA protocol that was widely adopted during the COVID-19 pandemic; a new, simpler inpatient diabetes regimen using the oral medication sitagliptin; integrating each patient's blood glucose data into their outpatient visit for all of the latest diabetes technologies; and a new program helping young adults with type 1 diabetes transition seamlessly from pediatric to adult endocrine care.

Other research includes: Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC), for which Dr. Imperato-McGinley serves as the Principal Investigator and Program Director of Weill Cornell Medical College's \$46 million NIH-funded Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA). The CTSC supports a wide range of clinical research training and advances that extend far beyond endocrinology.

The Comprehensive Weight Control Center is directed by Dr. Louis J. Aronne, Professor of Clinical Medicine and the Sanford I. Weill Professor of Metabolic Research. Dr. Aronne and a staff of endocrinologists, nutrition, and obesity medicine specialists have developed and provide a uniquely effective form of "weight-centric" patient care to achieve weight loss in complex cases, which has provided the clinical foundation for the field of Obesity Medicine. The research staff runs clinical trials on the management of obesity and metabolic disease with diet, medication, and novel devices, and has fostered collaborations with multiple divisions and departments at Weill Cornell to develop cross-discipline treatment and research programs. The center trains students at all levels and mentors Master's students from the Institute for Human Nutrition, Columbia University, and Weill Cornell Medical College.

2020 was a banner year for honors and news. NYP's Endocrinology Divisions at Weill Cornell and Columbia

## Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism Fellowship

Aaron Schulman, M.D.  
Program Director

Associate Program Directors  
Felicia Mendelsohn Curanaj, M.D.  
Stephanie Fish, M.D.  
Richard S. Bockman, M.D., Ph.D.

The Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism fellowship is a joint program with NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and the Hospital for Special Surgery. It is a two-year training program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

## Obesity Medicine Fellowship

Leon I. Igel, M.D.  
Program Director

Associate Program Directors  
Rekha B. Kumar, M.D., M.S.  
Katherine H. Saunders M.D.  
Louis J. Aronne, M.D.  
Beverly Tchang, M.D.

Alpana Shukla, M.D.  
Research Director



In collaboration with The Academy for Teachers, Dr. Alonso spearheaded an educational conference that was focused on empowering educators throughout the school system. The event included lectures on diabetes, as well as the function and impact of the thyroid, given by Dr. Alonso and Dr. Anthony Hollenberg, Chair, WDOM.

achieved a stellar #5 ranking for Endocrinology by *US News and World Reports*. Dr. Alonso, Division Chief, was invited by the Department of Health and Human Services (NIH) to serve as the Chairperson of the Molecular and Cellular Endocrinology Study Section, Center for Scientific Review (through June 2022). Dr. Tchang was accepted into Weill Cornell's Leadership in Academic Medicine Program. Dr. Megan Ritter received the department's Young Investigators Award for her project on the role of nuclear corepressor 1 in thyroid hormone signaling and sensitivity, a Fund for the Future grant, and a grant from the American Thyroid Association. Dr. Julianne Imperato-McGinley was awarded a supplementary grant from the NIH for \$1.5 million for the WCM Clinical & Translational Science Center: Disparities in COVID Disease Severity and Outcomes in New York City. Dr. Aronne and the Comprehensive Weight Control Center were featured in *The Wall Street Journal* regarding new strategies on combating obesity.

Other awards and grants included: Dr. Gwendolyn Anyanate Jack, Weill Cornell Medicine Diversity Center of Excellence HRSA Health Equity COVID-19 grant (Tele-REACH: Leveraging teleservices to Recognize, Empower, and Advocate for Community Health (Reach) Partnership); Dr. Marcus Goncalves, American Association for Cancer Research (Targeting Insulin to Improve Endometrial Cancer); Dr. Arturo Mendoza, JumpStart Research Career Development Grant; Dr. Ezequiel Dantas, American Association for Cancer Research grant (Metabolic Regulation of Lung Cancer Cachexia by STAT-3); and Dr. Jane Seley, Donna Tomky Award for Excellence in Practice (advances in the integration of diabetes self-management behaviors with clinical management through practice, health plan, or health system innovation). Dr. Alpana Shukla was awarded the Fellowship of the Obesity Society (FTOS) for her contribution to obesity research and clinical care. Dr. Tiffany Yeh was selected for the Advanced QI Training and Faculty Development Program for her project, "Development of a Pediatric to Adult Transition Clinic for Young Adults with Type 1 Diabetes for Continuity of Care."



# Gastroenterology and Hepatology



**David E. Cohen, M.D., Ph.D.**

Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Vincent Astor Distinguished Professor of Medicine

Professor of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

The Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology provides outstanding patient care in a wide range of subspecialty areas, including hepatology, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), gastrointestinal reflux disease, advanced endoscopic diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, functional bowel disorders, gastrointestinal infections and gastrointestinal cancer prevention and treatment. The division houses the Jay Monahan Center for Gastrointestinal Health, the Center for Liver Disease and Transplantation, and The Jill Roberts Center for Inflammatory Bowel Disease. There is also a pancreas program. Patient care addresses the prevention and treatment of viral and alcoholic hepatitis, fatty liver, obesity, gastrointestinal cancers, Barrett's esophagus, IBD, disorders of gastrointestinal motility, pancreatic lesions, gastrointestinal diseases, and more.

Numerous research projects and clinical trials are underway. Dr. David E. Cohen, Division Chief, is world-renowned for leading the frontiers of molecular regulation of nutrient metabolism and energy homeostasis by membrane lipids. His seminal advances in research are directly benefiting the clinical setting with a focus on obesity-related liver disease. Dr. Robert S. Brown, Jr., the division's Clinical Chief and the WDOM's Vice Chair for Mentorship and Academic Development, continues to direct a robust liver transplant program. The Center for Liver Disease and Transplantation combines the Liver Transplantation program and the general hepatology program within the division, as well as the Liver Transplant Surgery Division of the Department of Surgery. This interdepartmental program has laid the foundation for a comprehensive hepatology program at Weill Cornell Medicine with clinical trials in hepatitis B and C, fatty liver

disease, and alcoholic hepatitis. Dr. Brown (in collaboration with Dr. Benjamin Samstein, Chief of liver transplantation and hepatobiliary surgery in the Department of Surgery at NYP/WCMC) received United Network for Organ Sharing certification in support of a "living donor" liver transplant program, thus expanding access to life-saving liver transplants for those in need.

Dr. Felice Schnoll-Sussman serves as Director of Endoscopy, including the 11 new high-tech endoscopy suites at the David H. Koch Center on York Avenue. Dr. Schnoll-Sussman is also Director of the Jay Monahan Center for Gastrointestinal Health, which offers a wide breadth of expertise including endoscopic ultrasound, capsule endoscopy, colorectal genetics, colon cancer prevention, endoscopic treatment of Barrett's esophagus, and esophageal motility. Dr. Reem Sharaiha, Director of Interventional Endoscopy, also oversees the Endoscopic Bariatric Program, which provides the full spectrum of novel technologies related to endoscopic treatment of obesity. This advanced endoscopy group offers endoscopic suturing, confocal endomicroscopy for early detection of GI cancers, photodynamic therapy and radiofrequency ablation for pancreato-biliary cancers, endoscopic drainage of pseudocysts, endoscopic necrosectomy and EUS-guided ERCP, and POEM (treatment of esophageal achalasia). Dr. Randy Longman is Director of the Jill Roberts Center for Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), which provides state-of-the-art patient care for IBD patients at the David H. Koch Center. This center has enabled the division to recruit multiple new faculty members who are providing expert care. Dr. Sonal Kumar is Director of a multidisciplinary fatty liver disease and weight management clinic named the Innovative Center for Health and Nutrition in Gastroenterology (ICHANGE). Dr. Robert Burakoff serves as the Site Chief for the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at NYP/Lower Manhattan Hospital and Weill Cornell Medicine, where Dr. Tibor Krisko serves as Associate Site Chief.

The Jill Roberts Institute for Research in Inflammatory Bowel Disease employs a multidisciplinary approach in translating scientific discoveries into new preventative and treatment strategies for IBD. The close collaboration between researchers at the Roberts Institute (Director, Dr. David Artis) and clinicians at the Jill Roberts Center at Weill Cornell Medicine and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

is enabling a trend towards more personalized treatment for IBD. The Jill Roberts Center is active in research studies focused on moderate to severely active Crohn's Disease and ulcerative colitis, eating patterns and disease activity in patients with IBD, and health care maintenance in patients with IBD.

In 2020, the division lost one of its most beloved benefactors, Jill Roberts. The founder of the Jill Roberts IBD Center and the Jill Roberts Institute at Weill Cornell Medicine, Mrs. Roberts was enthusiastically involved in our institutions and committed to improving the lives of those with IBD. An impassioned hands-on philanthropist, she passed away peacefully and will be remembered for her devotion to helping people and ameliorating pain and suffering.



Dr. Ellen Scherl

2020 was a banner year for honors and awards. Dr. Ellen Scherl, the Jill Roberts Professor of Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, WDOM, was honored with the Rosenthal Humanitarian Award from the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. As part of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation's 53rd Annual Gala – known as “The Great Gatsby” – Dr. Scherl's distinguished career and pioneering advances in IBD were celebrated in a virtual event that included research collaborators, medical colleagues, the families of patients, and friends. A world-renowned expert in IBD, Dr. Scherl joined Weill Cornell in 2002. Upon arrival, she established an IBD Center at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center with 3,000 patients who had followed her from private practice to Weill Cornell. For more than 15 years, Dr. Scherl shared a mutual mission – providing better care for IBD – with her patient, friend, and Weill Cornell benefactor, Jill Roberts. Their pioneering work on IBD led to progress in many fields from nutrition, osteoporosis, psychological support, nephrology, and dysplasia, to colon cancer screening using novel techniques.

Dr. Cohen, Division Chief, was one of two distinguished Weill Cornell Medicine physician-scientists to be elected to the prestigious Association of American Physicians (AAP).

Election to the AAP is considered one of the top honors in the field of health and medicine, recognizing physician-scientists who have demonstrated excellence in the pursuit of medical knowledge and in the advancement of basic and clinical science discoveries and their application to clinical medicine.

Dr. Gregory Sonnenberg received the ICIS-LUMINEX John R. Kettman Award for Excellence in Interferon & Cytokine Research. The award recognized Dr. Sonnenberg for his “innovative research program which continues to make seminal scientific contributions at the interface of immunology and microbiology.” Dr. Iliyan Iliev received the Pathogenesis of



Infectious Disease Award from Burroughs Wellcome Fund, which provides early-career scientists with \$500,000 over five years to investigate the interplay between humans and pathogens, and how such encounters can lead to disease. Dr. Julie Magarian Blander received a Weill Cornell Medicine Grant in support of her innovative research on COVID-19. Two of the division's

faculty, Dr. Kristy Brown and Dr. Allison Yang, were accepted into the Leadership in Academic Medicine Program at Weill Cornell Medicine. The division was also delighted to congratulate Sarah Patel, DScPAS, PA-C, MBA, on being selected by ATPA as one of the top 10 PAs in the United States.

The division had many research publications during 2020, which included: Dr. Cohen's paper in *Cell Metabolism* suggested that gut microbiome controls blood glucose levels through the liver; Dr. Iliyan's paper in *Cell Host & Microbe* revealed that some ulcerative colitis patients benefit from fecal microbiota transplant (FMT); Dr. Artis's paper in *Immunity* on ILC2s showed that ramped-up production of Tph1 helps ILC2s to enter an inflammatory state, a finding that may lead to future drugs that could suppress Tph1 in an attempt to alleviate allergic and inflammatory conditions; and a paper by Drs. Charles Maltz, Paul Miskovitz and Kaveh Hajifathalian in the *Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology* revealed lactulose may reduce Clostridium difficile-related diarrhea among patients receiving antibiotics (a one-year retrospective review of the incidence of Clostridium difficile infection in NYPH/WCM inpatients).

## Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellowship

Carl Crawford, M.D.  
Program Director

A three-year program that focuses on specialized rotations and research, including opportunities to participate in clinical research (e.g., hepatology, inflammatory bowel disease, cancer screening, endoscopic ultrasound, the microbiota of the GI tract, endoscopic imaging techniques). We continue to recruit top candidates nationally and our fellows are pursuing academic careers in hepatology, advanced endoscopy, IBD, motility, as well as other disciplines within gastroenterology.



# General Internal Medicine



**Monika Safford, M.D.**

Chief, Division of Internal Medicine

John J. Kuiper Professor of Medicine

Professor of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

The Division of General Internal Medicine is home to the sections of Adult Internal Medicine, Hospital Medicine, Integrative Health, and the Research Group, and includes more than 300 employed and voluntary faculty. The division's tripartite mission is focused on providing compassionate, comprehensive, coordinated, and state-of-the-art patient-centered care for every patient through evidence-based practice; educating the next generation of Internal Medicine physicians; and generating new evidence on how to optimize the overall health and well-being of patients and communities via collaborative research. The division's multidisciplinary faculty is deeply committed to excellence and advancement in patient care via its Hospital Medicine, Adult Internal Medicine, and Integrative Health programs; resident and medical student education; and cutting-edge research.

Division Chief, Dr. Monika Safford, is an expert in diabetes, cardiovascular epidemiology and prevention, patient-centered care, and health disparities. She is the author of more than 450 peer-reviewed publications, receives ongoing funding from the National Institutes of Health and other sources, and has chaired several national meetings. Dr. Safford is the Founding Co-Director of the university-wide Cornell Center for Health Equity, serving as co-Director, along with Jamila Michener, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Government, and Jeff Niederdeppe, PhD, Professor, Department of Communication, at Cornell University. Dr. Safford is also the founder of the Patient Activated Learning System ([palsforhealth.com](http://palsforhealth.com)), a novel patient education platform being developed in collaboration with division and other college faculty members.

Dr. Judy Tung is the Division's Section Chief of Adult Internal Medicine (AIM) and served as Chair of the Department of Medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian/Lower Manhattan Hospital until 2020. The AIM program includes over 40 academic full-time members who provide high-quality and comprehensive primary care for a diverse group of patients representing a

cross section of the ethnic, cultural, and economic diversity that is New York City. The program integrates faculty and trainee practices at locations on the Upper East Side (Weill Cornell Internal Medicine Associates [WCIMA]), in lower Manhattan and in Long Island City, Queens. Services include preventive health care, treatment of acute and chronic illness, and coordination of care for those with medical complexity. Regardless of insurance plan type, patients seen in the AIM practices are cared for by a cadre of outstanding health care providers.

Dr. Judy Tung



This Section is the primary hub for general medicine ambulatory education for the Internal Medicine Residency Training Program.

Dr. Arthur Evans is the Division's Section Chief of Hospital Medicine. The Hospital Medicine program includes 83 faculty members from around the country. All faculty are



Dr. Art Evans

board certified in Internal Medicine and many have additional training and subspecialty expertise (e.g., infectious disease, emergency medicine, nephrology, critical care, medical informatics, pain management, quality improvement, and clinical research). On any given day, the faculty provides care for over 200 inpatients at both the Upper East Side

and NewYork-Presbyterian/Lower Manhattan and Weill Cornell campuses. Physicians are responsible for the general medicine house staff service, medicine consult service, and medicine-orthopedics trauma service, and they oversee the medicine Physician Assistants service.

# General Internal Medicine

The Integrative Health and Wellbeing program, led by Executive Director Dr. Chiti Parikh, provides clinical services at the David H. Koch Center on the Upper East Side. Patients receive a whole person approach to medical care, offering comprehensive evaluation (e.g., laboratory testing and services such as acupuncture, massage therapy, nutrition counseling, yoga instruction, mindfulness coaching, and meditation instruction).

Dr. Fred Pelzman, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, continues to serve as Medical Director of WCIMA, and directs the Primary Care Innovations Program, a philanthropic initiative to increase innovation in primary care.

The Research Group is led by Dr. Safford, assisted by Associate Director for Research, Dr. Lisa Kern. The group generates new evidence to optimize the health and functioning of people living with chronic diseases. There are studies on chronic disease prevention with attention to the elimination of health disparities and the care of vulnerable populations in the U.S. and abroad. Funded programs include cardiovascular and cancer clinical epidemiology and population health, implementation science, behavioral interventions, and whole person care for patients with advanced chronic illness. Research Group faculty are funded by the NIH, Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute, Commonwealth Fund, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, American Heart Association, and private sponsors. Projects include: disparities in receipt of treatment for hepatitis C (Dr. Martin Shapiro); disparities in cardiovascular disease outcomes and interventions to overcome them (Dr. Safford); fragmented ambulatory care and health outcomes and by race among cancer survivors (Dr. Lisa Kern); an epidemiology cohort being constituted in Haiti to study the hypertension epidemic in young adults (Dr. Margaret McNairy); community-engaged research to eliminate health disparities in Brooklyn and obesity in Black women (Dr. Erica Phillips); peer support to improve health outcomes in arthritis (Dr. Iris Navarro-Millan); deprescribing in older adults with heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (Dr. Parag Goyal); improving heart failure care by home health aides (Dr. Madeline Sterling); cancer disparities (Dr. Laura Pinheiro); clinical decision-making (Dr. Justin Choi); disparities in health related to natural disasters (Dr. Arnab Ghosh); vaccine hesitancy online (David Scales, MD, PhD); health outcomes in Syrian women displaced in Lebanon (Dr. Sasha Fahme); social influences on obesogenic behaviors in young Latino men (Dr. Christopher Gonzalez). The division hosts students and trainees to provide immersive mentored research experiences.

The GIM Research Fellowship trains general internists for research careers in primary care, hospital medicine, and health services research. The program focuses on physicians who aim to become extramurally funded independent scientists. It is uniquely designed to deepen trainees' understanding of health care, local, and international healthcare delivery systems, epidemiology of disease, and interventions to improve health outcomes, especially for disadvantaged populations. The two- to three-year fellowship (co-directors, Drs. McNairy and Safford) provides the skills to design and conduct patient-centered and health systems research and prepare for NIH K-award submissions by the end of the program, and includes one-on-one faculty mentorship and multidisciplinary collaborations with faculty at Weill Cornell Medicine, Cornell Center for Health Equity, Weill Cornell Center for Global Health, Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center, Cornell Tech, and other affiliated programs.

The one-year Hospital Medicine Clinical Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) Fellowship, led by Drs. Tanping Wong and Gregory Mints, provides overall proficiency in basic and advanced point-of-care ultrasound, instruction leading to national certification, and participation in POCUS research with the goal to present results at national meetings. The two-year Integrative Medicine Clinical Fellowship offers comprehensive education and hands-on experience in the field of Integrative Medicine.

The division founded the Hospital Medicine POCUS Training program (led by Drs. Tanping Wong, Gregory Mints, Todd Cutler, Elaine Gee, and Paula Roy-Burman) geared to practicing hospitalists and residents to achieve competency in POCUS. Faculty span two hospitals and have taught ultrasound at the national level at the American College of Physicians and the Society of Hospital Medicine and are involved in developing policy around HM-POCUS sponsored by the Society of Hospital Medicine.

The division includes the College-wide year-long faculty development program Leadership in Academic Medicine Program (LAMP), directed by Dr. Judy Tung. Dr. Laura Pinheiro completed into LAMP for 2020-2021. It also includes leadership of the College-wide Quality Improvement Academy led by Dr. Jennifer Inhae Lee; selected fellows learn principles of quality improvement and rigorous evaluation over a year-long program designed to expand expertise in quality improvement among Weill Cornell's clinical faculty.

Faculty continued to lead the Cornell Center for Health Equity (CCHEq), a university wide center whose mission is to advance health equity by generating and sharing new



knowledge; training outstanding investigators, with an emphasis on people from underrepresented groups; educating students, trainees, faculty, and communities; engaging with diverse communities in this work; and applying knowledge to maximize its impact on practice and policy. Co-Directors are Drs. Monika Safford (WCM), Jeff Niederdeppe, and Jamila Michener (the latter two from Cornell University). The Education Core is co-led by division members Dr. Susana Morales (WCM) and Dr. Gen Meredith (Cornell University). The activities of the Education Core are funded by an HRSA Diversity Center of Excellence grant led by Drs. Morales and Safford and dedicated to increasing the number of underrepresented minority (URM) physicians in academic medicine and is expanding pipeline programs from middle school through undergraduates; enhancing support for URM medical students and trainees; expanding faculty development for hiring and retention of URM faculty; and generating new knowledge on how to achieve health equity. The Investigator Development Core of the CCHEq is led by Drs. Martin Shapiro and Joseph Osborne (both of WCM), and the Community Engagement Core is led by Dr. Erica Phillips (WCM) and Mr. Adam Hughes of the Cornell Cooperative Extension (Cornell University).

The division formed an Anti-Racism Task Force (led by Drs. Iris Navarro-Millán, Andrea Card, and Amanda Ramsdell), which is coordinating efforts department- and college-wide to promote a comprehensive program based in diversity for the entire division. The “Make Your Match” diversity open house, which helps underrepresented medical students regarding the residency match process, was held virtually in 2020 (275 participants and 16 WCM/NYP residency programs); the Internal Medicine breakout session was able to connect with 58 participants in small groups that included leadership from Dr. Anthony Hollenberg, Chair, WDOM, and Dr. Kirana Gudi, the WDOM’s Residency Program Director.

During 2020, Dr. Paul Martin received the Physician of the Year Award from NYP’s Department of Nursing; Dr. Safford was an invited panelist at the Utah Translational Hypertension Symposium (Hypertension in the COVID-19 Pandemic) and an invited speaker on COVID-19 and Cancer for the Sociedade

Brasileira de Oncologia Clinica/American Association for Cancer Research Joint Congress; Dr. Goyal received The Paul B. Beeson Emerging Leaders Career Development Award in Aging; and Dr. Phillips was one of three WDOM faculty to receive a grant from Weill Cornell Medicine in support of innovative COVID-19 research. Dr. Renuka Gupta, an expert on operational efficiency, was appointed to Chief of Medicine at NYP/Lower Manhattan Hospital. Dr. Tung was appointed to Associate Dean for Faculty Development at Weill Cornell Medicine.

Weill Cornell Medicine was thrice competitively selected as a #ProudtobeGIM institution by the Society for General Internal Medicine. Our successful application was spearheaded by Dr. Tung. The division hosted the third annual Primary Care and Hospital Medicine Innovations Symposium in conjunction with the national #ProudtobeGIM campaign in the Belfer Research Building (130 attendees from Weill Cornell Medicine, NYP Brooklyn Methodist, NYP Queens, Lincoln Medical Center, Mount Sinai Health System). The daylong event covered the full spectrum of GIM programs. An inspirational keynote address was given by Dr. Abby Spencer, Vice Chair of Education,

Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, on “Why GIM doctors are leading medical education.” #ProudtobeGIM week’s Twitter campaign hashtag reached 4.7M impressions.

Drs. Parag Goyal, Justin Choi, Laura Pinheiro, and Safford continued to lead the division’s COVID-19 Registry, which has resulted in over two dozen reports in high-impact journals and several extramurally funded grants.

Dr. Ernie Esquivel became the inaugural Assistant Dean for Academic Achievement, a role in which he oversees the Office of Academic Achievement to provide enhanced, individualized

academic and clinical skills support across all phases of the curriculum. The Medicine Clerkship is under the direction of Drs. Bryan Leppert, Aram Annie Kim, and Michael Torres.



Dr. Paul Martin

# Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine



**Ronald D. Adelman, M.D.**  
Co-Chief, Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Care  
Medical Director, Irving Sherwood Wright Center on Aging  
The Emilie Roy Corey Professor in Geriatrics and Gerontology  
Professor of Clinical Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital



**Mark S. Lachs, M.D., M.P.H.**  
Co-Chief, Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Care  
Director, Geriatrics for the NewYork-Presbyterian Health System  
The Irene F. and I. Roy Psaty Distinguished Professor of Clinical Medicine  
Professor of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

The Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine is guided by a patient-centered culture of care. By integrating high-quality clinical care, the teaching of geriatric and palliative medicine, and scientific research, the division seeks to improve the quality of life for older adults and for patients of all ages facing chronic illness and end-of-life. The division also supports the networks of patient families and caregivers.

The division is home to the recently opened Center on Aging, located at Payson 2 on the NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center campus. Division co-Chief, Dr. Ronald D. Adelman, Emilie Roy Corey Professor of Geriatrics and Gerontology, serves as Executive Director of the Center on Aging. Dr. Tessa Del Carmen, Assistant Professor of Medicine and Roland Balay Clinical Scholar, serves as its Medical Director. This new practice is designed to enable superb care for geriatric patients in a state-of-the-art setting and to meet the complex needs of older adults, together with the needs of their families and other caregivers. Mental health professionals, geriatrics nurses, nurse practitioners, social workers, and nutrition specialists complement the work of the geriatricians. The practice excels in patient satisfaction scores within the Ambulatory Care Network of NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. For homebound patients, comprehensive services are provided in the home through the EGL House Call Program.

Board-certified physicians in palliative medicine, along with an interdisciplinary team of nurse practitioners, social workers, and chaplains see adults of all ages in the inpatient and outpatient settings. Dr. Milagros Silva, Assistant Professor of Medicine, is Medical Director of the outpatient palliative care team, which works closely with Weill Cornell oncologists and other divisions to address pain and other symptom management and wellness needs for a wide range of patients. Outpatient reach has been expanded to include a focus on patients who require the use of interpreters to make medical decisions. The newly created Palliative Care/Hospice Unit is located on Greenberg 14S. Under the leadership of Dr. Larry Asprek, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine, and Liz

Capano, NP, the Unit receives patients from throughout the hospital who are receiving palliative/end-of-life care.

Dr. Sara J. Czaja, Professor of Gerontology in Medicine, leads the Weill Cornell Center on Aging and Behavioral Research. Internationally renowned for her research on behavioral interventions for older adults, aging and technology, older adults in the workplace, and family caregiving, Dr. Czaja has received ongoing NIH funding since 1995.

The Cornell Center for Research on End-of-Life Care, co-directed by Dr. Holly Prigerson, Irving Sherwood Wright Professor in Geriatrics, is home to numerous NIH-funded research projects focused on factors that promote informed decision-making and the receipt of value-consistent, more humane care of patients confronting death. Evidence derived from these studies informs the development of interventions to reduce suffering in seriously ill patients.

The NIA-funded Roybal Center, directed by Dr. M. Cary Reid, Irving Sherwood Wright Professor in Geriatrics, investigates pain in later life and the role of palliative care in pain and symptom relief. Drs. Prigerson and Reid also serve as co-PIs on a five-year T32 grant from the NIH; this grant prepares highly qualified M.D. and Ph.D. doctors for successful careers in aging and palliative medicine research.

The research of Dr. Veerawat Phongtankuel, Assistant Professor of Medicine, focuses on improving the quality of life for older adults and their caregivers at the end of life. He is in his second year of a 5-year NIA career development award (K76) to implement a technology-based intervention to improve care delivered to hospice patients and their caregivers.

Dr. Catherine Riffin, Assistant Professor of Psychology in Medicine, has been awarded a K01 to develop, implement, and pilot test a screening-referral system for family caregivers who accompany older adults to their primary care visits. Dr. Riffin conducted the first ever nationwide survey of caregiver screening practices among U.S. providers (physicians, nurses, social workers, physician assistants) working in primary care.



Her research is now leveraging partnerships with diverse primary care practices to develop, refine, and pilot test the screening-referral protocol in clinical practice, which will set the stage for a future pragmatic trial.

The division's NYC Elder Abuse Center (NYCEAC) is a leader in developing innovative and effective responses to elder abuse, neglect and exploitation through an unprecedented level of collaboration and coordination between government, non-profit agencies, and financial institutions. Division co-Chief, Dr. Mark Lachs, Irene F. and I. Roy Psaty Distinguished Professor of Medicine, is NYCEAC's Chief Medical Officer, and Lisa Rachmuth, LMSW, was recently appointed to lead NYCEAC's next phase of growth. She

succeeded Risa Breckman, LCSW, who founded NYCEAC. NYCEAC provides a streamlined and rapid response to elder abuse cases through its enhanced multidisciplinary teams (EMDTs), case consultations, and technical assistance. With a total of over \$3.2M in annual funding from city and state government and the Department of Justice, NYCEAC has successfully launched EMDT case

consultation services and training for professionals in all five boroughs and has partnered with Lifespan of Greater Rochester to bring EMDTs to every New York State county. NYCEAC also spearheads training and technical assistance for EMDTs nationwide. The Elder Abuse Helpline provides confidential and immediate help to those assisting NYC-residing elder abuse victims, and the Interview of Decisional Abilities (IDA) tool assists Adult Protective Services (APS) caseworkers in gathering information to assess their clients' decision-making abilities related to elder abuse risks.

The division's faculty trains medical residents in geriatrics and palliative medicine. During their rotations, medical residents make hospice and geriatrics house calls; accompany geriatric care managers on client visits; visit a nursing home, an independent living site, and other levels of senior housing; see an elder abuse shelter; present cases at weekly divisional meetings; and assist with the division's transitional care clinic, HIV/Aging program and geriatric clinic walk-in patients. Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, a community partner, offers an opportunity for medical residents to talk with older adults in a non-clinical setting. Medical students participate in a Primary Care Clerkship, working alongside faculty members at the outpatient clinic, shadowing doctors and fellows in inpatient settings on the Acute Care for Elders (ACE) Unit and on Geriatric Consultation Rounds, and accompanying the EGL House Call Program team. The division hosts the Geriatrics and Palliative Scholarship (GPS) summer program through which selected medical students are immersed in clinical and didactic activities to deepen their understanding of the aging



population. The student scholars also conduct research with a universal focus on aging, culminating their research with presentations to the WCM community and at the American Geriatrics Society Annual Scientific Meeting.

2020 was a banner year for honors and awards. Dr. Czaja received the M. Powell Lawton Award from the Gerontological Society of America. The award recognizes outstanding contributions from applied gerontological research that have benefited older people and their care. Dr. Megan Johnson Shen, Assistant Professor of Psychology in Medicine, received an NIH-funded R37 award for a study on Advance Care Planning at End-of-Life. To meet

patients' reported need to incorporate loved ones into the advance care planning decision-making process, Dr. Shen is developing and testing a mobile health (mHealth) application known as PACT (Planning Advance Care Together). Dr. Erica Chu, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine and Joachim Silbermann Family Clinical Scholar in Geriatric Palliative Care, was accepted into the department's Leadership in

Academic Medicine Program. Dr. Cynthia Lien, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine and Joachim Silbermann Family Clinical Scholar in Geriatrics, was named Director of the Longitudinal Educational Experience Advancing Patient Partnerships (LEAP). LEAP is a part of the medical student and physician assistant student curriculum, designed to provide an integration of basic sciences and clinical practice by providing early access to patient care.

## Fellowships

The division houses a Geriatrics Fellowship and, jointly with Columbia University Medical College, a Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship. The Fellowship program includes numerous rotations, teaching opportunities, and a variety of quality improvement and clinical research initiatives.

### Geriatrics Fellowship

Karin Ouchida, M.D.  
Program Director

Sonal Mehta, M.D.  
Associate Program Director

### Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship

Randi Diamond, M.D.  
Weill Cornell Site Co-Director

Navendra Singh, M.D., M.P.H.  
Weill Cornell Site Co-Director



# Hematology and Medical Oncology



## **Manuel Hidalgo, M.D.**

Chief, Division of Hematology and Medical Oncology

The E. Hugh Luckey Distinguished Professor of Medicine (2020)

Walter B. Wriston Professor of Pancreatic Cancer Research (as of 9/2021)

Professor of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian

The Division of Hematology and Medical Oncology has 90 full-time faculty members who are dedicated to world-class patient care, scientific research, and teaching. Within the division, the clinical services are comprised of Solid Tumor Oncology, Leukemia, Lymphoma, Myeloma, Stem Cell Transplant, and Non-Malignant Hematology. The primary sites of operation are NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital (NYP) Main Campus (third floor), Weill Greenberg Ambulatory Care Building, David H. Koch Center (fourth floor), the Myeloma Center at 425 East 61st Street, and New York-Presbyterian/Lower Manhattan Hospital. Faculty practices continue to expand and grow at two additional network sites: New York-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital and New York-Presbyterian Queens. The division works closely with these sites in Brooklyn and Queens to advance the integration of cancer programs; programs include breast, prostate, and lung cancers. The Cancer Program at NYP/Weill Cornell Medical Center and NYP/Columbia Medical Center ranked number 20 in the country for clinical cancer care in *U.S. News and World Report* (2020).

The Division's rapid COVID-19 response, coupled with the adoption of expanded use for telemedicine, led the way for cancer care throughout the country and beyond the NYC epicenter. This adaptation and transformation of cancer care during the pandemic resulted in many high-impact journal publications (e.g., *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, *JAMA Network*, and *NEJM Catalyst*). Much of the clinical research program was temporarily halted in 2020 due to COVID, but, in the latter part of the year, many clinical studies restarted. Clinical research programs enrolled 269 people in approximately 87 interventional clinical trials, including expanding the division's footprint to NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital (NYP-BMH) and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital Queens (NYP-Q).

More than \$18.4 million in new funding for cancer and blood disease research was received in 2020. This resulted in 67 new research projects for a total of 115 active projects. Under Dr. Evi Giannakakou's leadership, the division has a major emphasis on translational research. The National Cancer Institute (NCI)-funded T32 Postdoctoral Training Program on Molecular and Translational Oncology Research (MTOR), co-led by Dr. Giannakakou, offers a unique training opportunity for early career scientists interested in

translational cancer research. Laboratory-based faculty are involved in the translational components of numerous clinical trials, working hand-in-hand with clinical researchers and using cutting-edge technology to address oncologic questions that impact patient care and outcomes. The division maintains a central role in the growth of the Meyer Cancer Center, working with its director, Lewis Cantley, Ph.D., to recruit basic science and translational researchers.

The Richard T. Silver, M.D. Center for Myeloproliferative Neoplasms (MPN), led by Scientific Director, Dr. Joseph Scandura, has novel research underway on neoplastic myeloid biology. The center has a clinical informatics platform, biorepository and web presence, and provides coordinated care for patients with MPNs and related non-hematologic complications. The Weill Cornell Clinical and Translational Leukemia Program, led by Dr. Gail Roboz, offers a variety of novel investigator-initiated, cooperative group, and industry-sponsored clinical trials on acute leukemia and myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS). The clinical care team runs one of the largest inpatient leukemia services in the country. The Myeloma Center leads in drug development, clinical trials, biology scholarship, and translational research under the leadership of Dr. Ruben Niesvizky. In 2020, the Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplant (BMT) Program, led by Dr. Koen van Besien, performed 127 autologous and allogeneic transplants, and 25 additional infusions, including immunotherapies such as CAR-T cells. The number of procedures decreased due to the COVID pandemic, which had a major impact on operations. Nevertheless, the BMT Program continued to take care of many patients under difficult circumstances. The National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), which oversees the largest public dataset related to bone marrow and stem cell transplantation, determined that out of the 50 largest centers in the U.S., the WCM/NYP BMT Program continues to take on the most complex and challenging patients in the country with outcomes improving each year for the past five years in a row. The program is particularly proud of recent bench to bedside research efforts resulting in enrolling the first patients on a unique CAR T treatment – based on Weill Cornell science – for patients with advanced thyroid cancer. Dr. Peter Martin leads the Lymphoma Program, which continues to grow strategically; researchers are advancing high-impact clinical trials that provide therapy for various disease subtypes. The Non-Malignant Hematology Service and Center for Blood Disorders, led by Drs. Maria De Sancho and Raymond Pastore, delivers state-of-the-art treatments for people with all types of blood disorders.

The Weill Cornell Solid Tumor Program continues to thrive under the leadership of Dr. Manish Shah. Breast Center's breast oncology program, led by Dr. Tessa Cigler, Clinical Director, and Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou, Research Director, delivers advanced treatment and comprehensive care for patients with all stages of breast cancer and those at increased risk for developing breast cancer. The center is accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC). The triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) and survivorship programs continue to grow, along with the triple



negative breast cancer registry and biobank. A research collaboration for patient-derived xenografts (PDX) to evaluate tumor behavior has been established. The Gastrointestinal (GI) Oncology Program, led by Dr. Shah, continues to offer innovative clinical trials and multidisciplinary therapeutic options that advance care across the spectrum of gastric, esophageal, pancreatic, colorectal, liver, and other rare gastrointestinal cancers. The Genitourinary Oncology Program, led by Dr. Scott Tagawa, continues to expand its clinical research portfolio and build on niche expertise in prostate specific membrane antigen (PSMA) targeted therapies. The Thoracic Oncology Program employs immunotherapies, targeted therapies, and other biological agents to treat lung cancer and is bringing better outcomes to patients. The Head, Neck and Endocrine Oncology Program unites diverse specialty cancer care and research expertise in partnership with the Department of Otolaryngology (ENT), Head and Neck Surgery and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Dentistry. Dr. Anna Pavlick was recruited to Weill Cornell Medicine as the founding Director of the Melanoma and Cutaneous Oncology Program. Dr. Pavlick will expand clinical and research expertise across a wide array of skin cancer (e.g., melanoma, basal cell cancer, squamous cell cancer and Merkel cell carcinoma, ocular melanoma, eyelid tumors, other rare solid tumor malignancies).

There were a number of pivotal appointments made in 2020. Dr. John Leonard, Executive Vice Chair of the WDOM, was appointed to Senior Associate Dean for Innovation and Initiatives at Weill Cornell Medicine. He is establishing an office of entrepreneurship while working closely with senior leadership and investigators at Weill Cornell Medicine, Cornell's Ithaca campus, Cornell Tech, the Tri-Institutional community, and other partners. Dr. Tsiporah Shore was appointed to serve as the WDOM's Vice Chair for Compliance and Clinical Director for Inpatient Oncology Operations: she represents the WDOM on compliance matters related to the department and provides leadership in support of the inpatient service to ensure high-quality patient care. Dr. Sebastian Mayer was appointed to Ambulatory Director for the Division of Hematology and Medical Oncology: he works closely with Weill Cornell Medicine and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital leadership to promote and ensure exceptional patient care in the ambulatory setting.

2020 was a banner year for honors and publications. Dr. Dan Landau was named a 2020 Vallee Scholar. He was one of six scientists from around the world to receive this prestigious honor which provides \$300,000 in discretionary funds to be spent over four years for basic biomedical research. Dr. Ari Melnick was named an honoree for the 2020 Ernest Beutler Lecture and Prize (ASH). This honor recognized Dr. Melnick for significant research contributions regarding the treatment of acute myeloid leukemia through an improved understanding of epigenetics. Dr. Monica L. Guzman was named one of the 100 inspiring Hispanic/Latinx



A member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), Dr. Anne Moore received one of the organization's most prestigious and special awards – FASCO (Fellow of the American Society of Clinical Oncology). This award is bestowed upon leaders in cancer care who have “transformed” their field. The FASCO award recognizes ASCO members for their extraordinary volunteer service, dedication, and commitment to ASCO. Dr. Moore, a Professor of Clinical Medicine, recently completed her 50th year of service at Weill Cornell Medicine and has pioneered landmark advances in breast cancer that have set the standard for best practices in patient care. She serves as the Director of the Iris Cancer Breast Cancer Survivorship Program, part of the Weill Cornell Medicine Breast Center.

scientists in America in *Cell Mentor* (*Cell Press and Cell Signaling Technology*). The list of the 100 inspiring Hispanic/Latinx scientists working in the United States was presented in honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month. Dr. Lewis Cantley, Meyer Director of the Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center at Weill Cornell Medicine and NYP/Weill Cornell Medical Center, won the prestigious 2020 Dr. Paul Janssen Award for Biomedical Research. Dr. Bishoy Faltas and Dr. Jorge Monge were accepted into the Leadership in Academic Medicine Program at Weill Cornell Medicine.

The division continues to publish numerous papers in the peer-reviewed journals and many advances in research were achieved in 2020. A few highlights... Dr. Manuel Hidalgo, Division Chief, published COMBAT trial data in *Nature Medicine* that revealed a triple combination approach holds promise for advanced pancreatic cancer. Patients with the most common type of metastatic pancreatic cancer showed improved results when treated with a combination of an investigational drug, an immunotherapy drug, and chemotherapy. Dr. Ari Melnick and colleagues published a paper in *Nature* that showed certain histone H1 mutations are drivers of lymphoma. Dr. Gail Roboz served as senior author of a paper in *The New England Journal of Medicine* on azacitidine as maintenance therapy for acute myeloid leukemia (AML). It was found that patients with AML strongly benefit from taking a pill form of azacitidine as a maintenance treatment for AML based on results from an international large-scale phase 3 clinical trial at Weill Cornell Medicine and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. Results from the trial have led to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval of oral azacitidine (Onureg) as a maintenance therapy for AML, which is now being used as part of standard patient care.

2020 was a record year for recruitment of new physicians and scientists, with 10 clinicians (Drs. Nicole Cruz, Christine Ann Garcia, Alexandra Gomez Arteaga, Peter Gregos, Jini Hyun, Justin Kaner, Uqba Khan, Jorge Monge, Anna C. Pavlick, Nikhil Premprakash Uppal) and 5 researchers (PhDs: Meng Li, Rosella Marullo, Inna Serganova, Nuria Mencia Trinchant, Roberta Zapposodi).

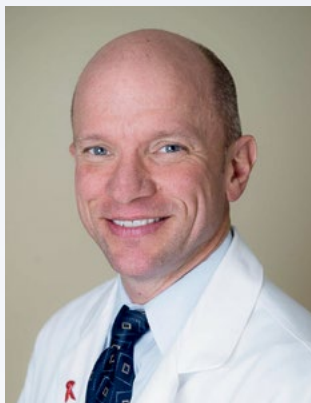
## Hematology and Medical Oncology Fellowship

Ronald J. Scheff, M.D.  
Program Director

Adrienne Phillips, M.D.  
Associate Program Director

A three-year fellowship comprised of rotations through the inpatient and outpatient clinical subspecialty services at NYP/Weill Cornell Medical Center, as well as supervised basic, translational, and clinical research. The fellowship program matches and enrolls 5-6 new ACGME fellows annually.

# Infectious Diseases



**Roy M. Gulick, M.D., M.P.H.**

Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases

Rochelle Belfer Professorship

Professor of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian  
Hospital

The Division of Infectious Diseases provides expertise in research, clinical care, and education and training. Internationally recognized physician-scientists conduct cutting-edge basic laboratory, translational, clinical, and epidemiologic research in infectious diseases in New York City and abroad. Research in the division investigates bacterial infections (including multidrug-resistant organisms), fungal infections, hepatitis B and C, HIV/AIDS, hospital-acquired infections, human papillomavirus (HPV), parasitic infections (Babesia, malaria), transplant/oncology infectious diseases, tuberculosis, and other viral infections (adenovirus, endogenous retroviruses, influenza, parainfluenza, rhinovirus, and, most recently, SARS-CoV-2. Additionally, the division provides both inpatient and outpatient infectious diseases clinical consultations. Dr. Ole Vilemeyer, along with a roster of highly experienced infectious diseases physicians, provide care and advice for a broad range of infectious diseases and international travel issues.

The division's programs in laboratory, translational, and clinical research, remain robust. The Golightly Lab (Director: Dr. Linnie Golightly) is working on the pathogenesis of cerebral malaria, as well as a novel noninvasive, cell phone-based device to diagnose and determine the severity of malaria. The Jones Lab (Director: Dr. Brad Jones) and the Nixon Lab (PI: Dr. Douglas Nixon) work side-by-side conducting breakthrough laboratory research on HIV/AIDS. Drs. Jones and Nixon serve as co-Principal Investigators of an NIH-funded \$28 million grant in support of the "BELIEVE in a Cure" Martin Delaney Collaboratory along with more than a dozen other scientists from Brazil, Canada, and Mexico to translate breakthrough lab findings into life-saving therapies for HIV/AIDS – and ultimately a cure. The Kirkman Lab (Director: Dr. Laura Kirkman) studies drug-resistance mechanisms in malaria and, more recently, Babesia, a parasite transmitted by ticks in the northeast U.S. The Rhee Lab (Director: Dr. Kyu Rhee) continues its highly innovative

work on Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTb) using novel mass spectrometry-based metabolomic approaches. The Walsh Lab (Director: Dr. Tom Walsh) investigates fungal pathogens and develops and tests newer antifungal strategies and treatments in laboratory experiments and animal models. The HIV Clinical Trials Unit (Director: Dr. Marshall Glesby, with co-investigators Drs. Grant Ellsworth, Teresa Evering, Carrie Johnston, Roy Gulick, Kristen Marks, Mary Vogler, and Timothy Wilkin) conducts clinical research in the treatment and prevention of HIV infection, the treatment and prevention of viral hepatitis, and the assessment and treatment of human papillomavirus (HPV) infection. The Transplant/Oncology Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Unit (Director: Dr. Catherine Small, along with co-investigators Drs. Alex Drelick, Priya Kodiyankal, Markus Plate, Michael Satlin, Rosemary Soave, and Tom Walsh) conduct cutting-edge clinical research in patients who have undergone organ transplantation, or have cancer, and develop infections. Both clinical research units also took on the challenge of studying new agents for COVID-19 treatment and prevention.

Research in the division remains robust. Dr. Gulick and colleagues recently received a renewal from the NIH/NIAID in support of their HIV Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) grant in the amount of \$18.9 million through 2027. The renewal provides funding for studies of the national AIDS Clinical Trials Group and HIV Prevention Trials Network. Dr. Wilkin is the Principal Investigator on a new \$8.3 million grant from the National Cancer Institute for HPV Clinical Trials. The grant will fund critical studies on HPV-related cancers in people living with HIV and will include clinical trials focused on two forms of cancer – oropharyngeal and cervical.

A number of developments continued on the COVID-19 front throughout 2020. Dr. Gulick continued to serve as the co-Chair of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Panel. Dr. Jones and collaborators published breakthrough findings in *Blood* regarding T-cells from recovered COVID-19 patients. Dr. Marks continued her research as Principal Investigator on NIH Phase 3 randomized studies to evaluate the safety and efficacy of two different COVID-19 vaccines from Moderna and Novavax. Dr. Robert Peck was one of three WDOM faculty to receive a grant from Weill Cornell Medicine in support of his innovative research on COVID-19 in Tanzania.

Drs. David Calfee and Matthew Simon serve as the Hospital Epidemiologists for NYPH/WCM. Dr. Calfee recently was named Editor-in-Chief of *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology*. Drs. Calfee and Simon are noted for their strong efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as day-to-day strategies to decrease hospital-acquired infections at NYPH/WCM. The Center for Special Studies (CSS), the HIV primary care



service, continues to provide care for over 2,500 HIV-infected patients and recommends HIV prevention strategies for at-risk HIV-negative individuals. At NYP/Lower Manhattan Hospital, the inpatient and outpatient infectious diseases service and hospital epidemiology-infection control are led by Dr. Harjot Singh. At NYP/Brooklyn Methodist Hospital, the Division of Infectious Diseases is led by Dr. Harold Horowitz.

An NIH-sponsored T32 training grant, “Research Training in Infectious Diseases” (PI: Dr. Gulick), continues to support training of developing infectious diseases physician-scientists; the grant was recently renewed through 2025. This grant supports infectious diseases fellows to conduct basic, translational, clinical, and epidemiologic research projects. Fellows study a wide variety of infectious diseases, currently including aging in HIV-infected patients, biomarkers of infection, drug-resistant bacterial infections, hospital-acquired infections, the intestinal microbiome, and tuberculosis, among others.



Dr. Lish Ndhlovu

In 2020, new faculty recruit Dr. Lish Ndhlovu, Professor of Immunology in Medicine, successfully established the Laboratory of HIV Immunopathogenesis in the Belfer

Research Building. Dr. Ndhlovu grew up and received his medical training in Zambia, his Ph.D. in Japan, and his post-doctoral training at the University of California, San Francisco. His research is focused on aging with HIV with an emphasis on the brain, and he has developed specific expertise and strategies to prevent, slow, or eliminated complications associated with HIV infection. He is a member of the International Neuro-HIV Cure Consortium, which provides cutting-edge investigation and expertise globally.



Dr. Teresa Evering

Dr. Ndhlovu was joined by a second new faculty recruit, Dr. Teresa Evering. She received her M.D. from Weill Cornell Medical College and completed her internal medicine training at Columbia University and infectious diseases training at Albert Einstein. She joined Rockefeller University's clinical scholars program where she developed an HIV-1-pathogenesis translational research program focused on using phylogenetic, molecular, and system biology approaches to study HIV-1-associated central nervous system disorders. Active in laboratory, translational, and clinical research, Dr. Evering also leads NIH-sponsored studies investigating treatment strategies for outpatients with COVID-19.

## Infectious Diseases Fellowship

Matthew Simon, M.D.  
Program Director

A two- to three-year training program that includes individualized training through clinical rotations, didactic course work, mentored research, and faculty guidance to develop the next generation of infectious diseases physician-scientists and academic clinicians.

# Center for Global Health

The Center for Global Health's mission is to decrease health care inequalities and improve the health of people in lower-income countries through clinical care, research, and training. Directed by Dr. Dan Fitzgerald, the center has 15 core faculty members, five post-doctoral fellows, and more than 50 collaborating faculty members from multiple WDOM divisions, including Clinical Epidemiology, General Internal Medicine, and Infectious Diseases. The center has long-standing programs in Brazil, Haiti, India, Tanzania, and



Uganda. Research and training programs in cardiovascular disease, women's and maternal-child health, and infectious diseases are supported by the United States' National Institutes of Health (NIH), foundations, and individual donors.

In 2020, the Haiti program led by Weill Cornell Medicine (WCM) WDOM faculty members, Drs. Jean William Pape, Vanessa Rouzier, and Oksana Ocheretina, continued to expand tuberculosis (TB) clinical research. Weill Cornell's partner organization in Haiti is GHESKIO, (the French acronym for The Haitian Group for the Study of Kaposi's Sarcoma and Opportunistic Infections). GHESKIO is a Haitian non-profit organization established in 1982 to address tuberculosis (TB), HIV/AIDS, and other communicable diseases in Haiti. GHESKIO is the largest TB treatment Center in Haiti, diagnosing and treating over 1,500 TB patients annually. Weill Cornell Medicine and GHESKIO has successfully competed for two major research grants to conduct clinical trials to develop new TB treatments. The U.S. NIH-sponsored Clinical Trials Unit in Haiti focuses on TB in adults, adolescents, pregnant women, and children living with HIV and TB (PI: Dr. Jean Pape, 2020-2027). WCM and GHESKIO also competed for a 10-year contract with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Tuberculosis Trials Consortium to conduct trials on new TB drugs and treatment (PI: Dr. Dan Fitzgerald, 2021-2030). Weill Cornell faculty collaborate closely with the Haitian National TB Program to translate the results of these trials

into improved treatment for people in Haiti. For example, in 2020, Haiti initiated a simple short course regimen for the treatment of multidrug resistant TB.

Dr. Molly McNairy, Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, and a member of the Center for Global Health, received the Jessica M. & Natan Bibliowicz Award for Excellence in Mentoring Women Faculty. Dr. McNairy, who conducts research in Haiti on cardiovascular disease and improving care for chronic diseases, was acknowledged for her outstanding commitment to training and mentoring the next generation of women physicians and scientists. This includes trainees from WCM partner institutions in low-income countries. Dr. McNairy and WCM are training future leaders in low income countries who will develop and implement evidence-based interventions to improve health care for all.



Dr. Molly McNairy (third from the left) with Drs. Jean Pape, Gerard Pierre, and Vanessa Rouzier (left to right).

In nominating Dr. McNairy, one of her trainees stated, "Molly is an inspiration to women faculty. I look up to her as a role model for career, personal, and interpersonal excellence." Another stated, "Molly encouraged me beyond my wildest dreams to complete a study and a paper that was accepted in *The New England Journal of Medicine*. She stood behind me every step of the way, and I learned what a true, committed mentor can do to help you achieve your goals."

The Center for Global Health has been addressing the COVID-19 pandemic across the globe. Many faculty returned to New York City to serve at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital in the spring of 2020. Drs. Pape and Rouzier led national efforts in Haiti to address the pandemic. Dr Rouzier published a report in July 2020 in *The New England Journal of Medicine* sharing lessons learned in Haiti for other low-income countries. Drs. Robert Peck, Jennifer Downs, and Justin Kingery were in Tanzania addressing the pandemic at Weill Bugando School of Medicine in Mwanza. Efforts are now transitioning to expand access to vaccines in low-income countries.



# Medical Ethics

**Joseph J. Fins, M.D., FACP**

Chief, Division of Medical Ethics

E. William Davis, Jr., M.D.  
Professor of Medical Ethics

Professor of Medicine  
Professor of Public Health  
Professor of Medicine in Psychiatry  
Weill Cornell Medical College

Director of Medical Ethics  
and Chair, Ethics Committee

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

The Division of Medical Ethics pursues a tripartite mission of medical education, ethics consultation, scholarship and research. In response to the ethical challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the division was especially active providing ethics consultations to patients, families, and clinical staff at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center and NewYork-Presbyterian/Lower Manhattan Hospital, as well as additional counsel to our colleagues at NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital and NewYork-Presbyterian Queens Hospital. To meet this unprecedented challenge, we recruited and credentialed ethics colleagues at the Hospital for Special Surgery to provide additional assistance along with our core faculty and consultants. We also continued to work closely with NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital partners in Patient Services Administration, Hospital Medicine, and the Division of Geriatric Medicine. It is our earnest hope that the division offered wise counsel and comfort to patients, families, and staff regarding the novel ethical challenges posed by the pandemic.

The division's case consult volume makes it one of the most active ethics consultation services in the U.S. The Ethics Committee of NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center is chaired by Dr. Joseph J. Fins, Division Chief, who provides oversight to the consultative process and guidance to the hospital on policies and procedures related to medical ethics and patient rights. Barrie Huberman, Ph.D., a clinical psychologist, serves as Director of Clinical Ethics and provides consultative services, along with Dr. Fins, Joan Walker, R.N., and Dr. Ezra Gabbay, who also serves as Chair of the Lower Manhattan Hospital's Ethics Committee. The consult service is also enriched by the presence of our Clinical Ethics Fellows: Dr. Nicole Meredyth, Department of Surgery; Dr. Nekee Pandya, a Hospitalist in the WDOM; and Dr. Laura Kolbe, a Hospitalist, who joined us as a Clinical Ethics Fellow in 2020. We welcomed a new faculty member, Debjani Mukherjee,

Ph.D., a clinical psychologist and clinical ethicist with deep expertise in disability ethics, who joined us in February 2020 just prior to the start of the pandemic in New York. Dr. Mukherjee's contributions have been outstanding and essential to our collective efforts.

The pandemic presented an opportunity for the division to share what we learned. To date we have published over 20 articles about the ethical issues we confronted. We are especially proud of having published a four-essay collection describing ethics consultation during New York City's surge in the spring. This anthology, which included a paper describing our ethics consultation work at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, was accompanied by a companion piece by our colleagues at the Columbia campus. The collection, which appeared in the *Journal of Clinical Ethics*, was the first scholarly article on ethics consultation during the pandemic in the United States and are of historic importance.

Even as we responded to the pandemic, the division continued its active educational role teaching medical students, house staff, and attending staff, including ethics education throughout the pre-clinical years such as professionalism, the history of medical ethics, methods of ethics consultation, and ethical issues across the life span. The division continued to play a key role in advancing the educational mission of Weill Cornell Medical College. Dr. Inmaculada de Melo-Martin led the ethics curriculum on professionalism. Dr. Huberman led *Advanced Clinical Ethics*, and Dr. Mukherjee assumed leadership of *Health, Illness and Disease*. Additionally, ethics content has recently been added to the transition for the residency course given to medical students. The division also considers ethical and regulatory issues in clinical research, so that students appreciate their responsibilities as clinicians and investigators.

A key collaboration in the division is with the New York-Houston Ethics Consortium, which sponsors a medical ethics fellowship supported by the WDOM, Dean's Office (WCMC), and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, as well as The Houston Methodist Hospital and Baylor Medical College in Houston. A unique offering in American bioethics, this collaboration spans two great medical centers and distinct regions of our country, providing a singular experience for trainees. In February 2020, just before the pandemic came to New York, we welcomed our Houston colleagues to Manhattan for our annual retreat.

Our faculty has been productive academically this past year. Dr. Inmaculada de Melo-Martin, Professor of Medical Ethics, has continued her fruitful collaboration with the Center for Reproductive Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine (led by Dr. Zev Rosenwaks). Dr. de Melo-Martin continues

# Medical Ethics

to pursue questions regarding genetic identity and assisted reproduction themes addressed in her highly regarded volume, *Rethinking Reprogenetics: Enhancing Ethical Analyses of Reproductive Technologies* (Oxford University Press). She has also continued to work with Dr. C. Ronald MacKenzie, the C. Ronald MacKenzie Chair in Ethics and Medicine, at the Hospital for Special Surgery. She is currently President-Elect of the Society for Philosophy and Technology.

On the international front, the division has continued a synergistic collaboration with colleagues and students in Doha, via Dr. Pablo Rodriguez del Pozo, Associate Professor of Medical Ethics in Medicine, who leads the ethics curriculum at that campus. Dr. del Pozo explores cross-cultural issues and medical education. He has completed a project funded by the Qatar National Research Foundation exploring the rights of persons with disabilities, which is aimed to inform the Qatari legal system. This multinational project involves the Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Qatar University, the Institute of Human Rights at Carlos III University in Madrid, and the Division of Medical Ethics, WDOM, with Dr. Fins collaborating. The project will culminate with an important monograph that will have practical and theoretical impact on disability studies.

Dr. Fins continues his collaboration with Dr. Nicholas D. Schiff, Jerold B. Katz Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience, as they co-direct the Consortium for the Advanced Study of Brain Injury (C.A.S.B.I.) at Weill Cornell Medicine and Rockefeller University. CASBI's goal is to elucidate mechanisms of recovery, develop novel therapeutics, and advance public policy to meet the needs of these patients and families. Dr. Schiff is Principal Investigator on an NIH Brain Initiative grant on the use of Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) in severe brain injury. Dr. Fins is a co-investigator on the project.

Dr. Fins has expanded the reach of CASBI at Yale Law School, where he was appointed as a Visiting Professor of Law in addition to his position as the Solomon Center Distinguished Scholar in Medicine, Bioethics and the Law. Following upon his book, *Rights Come to Mind: Brain Injury, Ethics and the Struggle for Consciousness* (Cambridge University Press), Dr. Fins has pioneered ethical and legal scholarship advancing the civil and disability rights of patients with severe brain injury. Dr. Fins has an RO-1 from the

NIH, "Cognitive Restoration: Neuroethics and Disability Rights," to further pursue these issues in the context of the DBS trial in moderate to severe brain injury. His work at the interface of neuroethics and the law has resulted in collaborative scholarship with Yale Law School students and faculty and numerous law review and policy papers (e.g., *The Harvard Journal of Law and Technology*, *The Yale Journal of Health Policy, Law, and Ethics*, *Florida State University Law Review*, *Stanford Technology Law Review*, *Tulane Law Review* and *North Carolina Law Review*). Zachary Shapiro, M.A., J.D. continues as a post-doctoral associate in these efforts. In 2020, CASBI expanded its focus to children with brain injury.

With the support of the Weill Cornell Clinical Translational Center, Drs. Fins, Mukherjee and colleagues are leading a study examining "Assistive Technology in Pediatric Brain Injury following In-patient Rehabilitation: Access, Barriers and Burdens on Patients and Families" in conjunction with the Blythedale Children's Hospital.

In 2020, Dr. Fins, Division Chief, was elected to serve as President-Elect of the International Neuroethics Society, the world's largest specialty society in neuroethics. He will be leading a professional association of scientists, scholars, students, and practicing legal and health professionals who advance discussion on the complex ethical issues arising from research in brain and mind. In addition, Dr. Fins was honored as the 38th David Barap Visiting Professor at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He also delivered the 2020 Commencement Address at the Houston Methodist Hospital and served as a member of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine Standing Committee to Advise the Department of State on Unexplained Health Effects on U.S. Government Employees and their Families at Overseas Embassies.





# Nephrology and Hypertension



## **Manikkam Suthanthiran, M.D.**

Chief, Division of Nephrology and Hypertension

Chief, Department of Transplantation Medicine and Extracorporeal Therapy

Stanton Griffis Distinguished Professor of Medicine

Professor of Medicine  
Professor of Biochemistry  
Professor of Medicine in Surgery  
Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

The Division of Nephrology and Hypertension is committed to a tripartite mission of patient care, research, and education. A combination of resources has ensured the division's success, including NIH funding over three decades, a clinical immunogenetics laboratory, a self-supported hypertension clinical practice, and support from Weill Cornell Medicine, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, and philanthropy. The division's clinical excellence is the product of making patient care the highest priority, while effectively translating bench discoveries to the bedside and applying evidence from clinical trials into compassionate clinical practice.

We provide compassionate, comprehensive, state-of-the-art care to each patient afflicted with kidney disease and/or high blood pressure. We have self-organizing teams for each critical area of nephrology: transplantation medicine, dialysis, apheresis, hypertension, clinical nephrology (e.g., diabetes and metabolic renal disease), cancer nephrology, critical care nephrology, acute kidney injury and cardio-renal syndromes, nephropathology and obstetrics nephrology. Services include renal consultations, inpatient renal medicine, dialysis therapy, and kidney and pancreas transplantation and kidney care for liver-kidney recipients and kidney dysfunction in stem cell transplant recipients.

Our self-organizing teams of kidney specialty rose to the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, and our fellows and faculty ensured that every COVID-19 patient received state-of-the-art kidney care. The team contributed new knowledge in areas ranging from acute kidney injury and innovative dialysis therapy, to safe kidney transplantation.

Our nephrologists work collaboratively with nephrologists with primary employment at The Rogosin Institute, nephrologists with primary employment at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and with the Weill Cornell Medicine kidney transplant surgeons in the Division of Transplantation Surgery to manage our transplant recipients with highly

personalized therapies to protect the transplanted organ while helping to reduce the toxic side effects of anti-rejection drugs. Our transplant physician-scientists have made pioneering discoveries on mechanisms of action of anti-rejection drugs and have invented noninvasive molecular tests to personalize immunosuppressive drug therapy of transplant patients.

The kidney disease program has been consistently rated in the top 10 by *US News & World Report* (Ranked 2nd in the country and 1<sup>st</sup> in New York in 2020). It is one of the highest-ranked programs among the medical subspecialties at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. The kidney transplantation program at Weill Cornell Medicine is a significant contributor to NYP's transplantation program (ranked #1 in the U.S. for the last 10 years), and its translational research has been transforming care for transplant recipients. More than 200 kidney transplants are performed annually at our center with excellent patient and graft survival rates. The most recent adult (18+) one-year patient and graft survival rates, following living donor kidney transplantation, were 98.84% and 97.85%, respectively. The one-year patient and graft survival rates following deceased donor kidney transplantation were 95.57% and 93.14%, respectively. These exemplary outcomes are all the more impressive in light of the center transplanting high-risk patients. (Data Source: *Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients, Health Resources and Service Administration*).

The first kidney transplant in the New York tri-state region was performed at our center in October 1963; more than 6,000 kidney transplants have been performed since the center's inception. Several innovations in transplantation have been introduced by our transplant physicians, including: blood type (ABO) incompatible kidney transplants; kidney transplantation across a positive cross-match; minimizing the amount of drugs patients need for successful transplantation; treatment protocols to reduce serious post-transplant complications (e.g., infection and malignancy); and noninvasive molecular assays for assessing transplant status and reducing the need for an invasive biopsy procedure.

The division's Hypertension Center is one-of-a-kind in the U.S. and has discovered and implemented clinical therapies that are personalized for the individual patient. The hypertension faculty pursue innovative research (e.g., studies of pregnancy-induced hypertension, mind-body link in hypertension, personalized drug therapy for hypertension control). Internationally acclaimed, the Hypertension Consultative practice continues to thrive under the direction of Dr. Phyllis August, Ralph A. Baer Professor of Medical Research, and with complementary expertise provided by

# Nephrology and Hypertension

Dr. Mark S. Pecker, Professor of Clinical Medicine, Dr. Samuel J. Mann, Professor of Clinical Medicine, Dr. Line Malha, Assistant Professor of Medicine, and Rosemerie Marion, ANP, Nurse Practitioner.

The division continues to drive breakthrough research. Division Chief, Dr. Manikkam Suthanthiran, directs a highly productive, NIH-funded world-renowned research Laboratory of Immunogenetics and Transplantation. The division has pioneered the development of gene expression profiling for the noninvasive diagnosis and prognostication of acute rejection in renal allografts, and has contributed to several landmark studies in organ transplantation on elucidation of the genetic signature of rejection and tolerance. Dr. Suthanthiran's translational research has been NIH-funded continuously for 30-plus years, and he is a recipient of the prestigious NIH MERRIT award.

Dr. Phyllis August serves as the Site PI on a cooperative grant from the NHLBI/NIH/DHHS to evaluate the benefits and harms of pharmacologic treatment of mild chronic

hypertension in pregnancy. Dr. Mary Choi is the recipient of multiple awards from NIH to study novel mechanisms of organ fibrosis and autophagy. Dr. Thangamani Muthukumar, with support from an NIH Career Development Award, and in a productive collaboration with Dr. Franco Mueller, has deciphered innate immune mechanisms responsible for kidney allograft rejection. Dr. Darshana M. Dadhanian is a PI on an NIDDK cooperative grant to study the impact of the APOL1 gene on long-term outcomes in renal transplant recipients of a kidney from an African-American donor and the impact on kidney function in African-Americans donating a kidney, and an R01 to establish the utility of urinary cell-free DNA to detect a wide range of pathogens as well as gain insights into antibiotic resistance and host-pathogen interactions. Dr. John Lee is a recipient of an NIAID grant to invent and apply shotgun sequencing of urinary cell-free DNA to define the microbial, bacterial growth dynamics, tissue injury in the transplanted kidney, and the host's response to urinary tract infection (UTI). In another NIAID-funded grant, he is investigating many lines related to the gut microbiome. Dr. Suthanthiran recently executed a research collaboration agreement with

CareDx, a leader in transplantation molecular diagnosis, to further develop biomolecular markers of kidney allograft status.

Dr. Mary Choi, Professor of Medicine and a world-renowned physician-scientist, is conducting research addressing the mechanisms of kidney injury and failure. Dr. Choi's fundamental studies should not only yield key insights into mechanisms underpinning kidney injury but will also help to identify novel therapeutic targets for the prevention of progression of kidney injury manifested by fibrosis. The multifunctional cytokine transforming growth factor beta (TGF- $\beta$ ) is considered a major player in kidney disease and health, and Dr. Choi's seminal

studies have led to the cloning and characterization of the cell surface receptors for TGF- $\beta$ 1; delineation of key intracellular mediators of TGF- $\beta$  signals; and resolution of glomerular endothelial cell proliferation and differentiation. Her original contributions have resulted in an improved understanding of the molecular mechanism of tissue injury, inflammation, and fibrosis as they pertain to the pathogenesis of chronic kidney disease. Her laboratory has successfully resolved mechanisms by which

TGF- $\beta$ 1 elicits key cytoprotectants, such as heme oxygenase-1, and carbon monoxide and protection from oxidative stress and kidney injury via activation of autophagy. Dr. Choi and colleagues recently identified a new therapeutic target by their discovery that a receptor-interacting protein kinase-3 independently promotes kidney fibrosis. Dr. Choi's research has been supported continuously by highly competitive NIH awards, and she is a PI, co-PI, and co-Investigator on multiple NIH grants.

Dr. Darshana M. Dadhanian has been appointed as Medical Director of the Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Program at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. As Medical Director, she ensures the operation and compliance of the transplant program in accordance with the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) Bylaws in collaboration with the Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation Division within the Department of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medicine. As part of an intercampus team of researchers that recently received a \$3.65 million grant from the NIH, Dr. Dadhanian and Dr. John R. Lee, along with colleagues, are working on developing a method for diagnosing urinary tract infection using cell-free DNA. A cohort of 300 kidney transplant patients is involved using technology the investigators had previously developed.



Dr. Phyllis August (center) and team were commended on being "Site of the Month" in The Pulse CHAP newsletter.





2020 was a banner year for honors, speakerships, and publications. In recognition of Dr. Mary Choi's significant contributions to the medical community, including her research accomplishments, publications in scientific journals, and other significant activities, achievements, and honors, she was invited to serve as a Member of the Pathobiology Kidney Disease Study Section, Center for Scientific Review, NIH, for a four-year term. Dr. Lee and colleagues published a paper in *Gut Microbes* that revealed a key finding on gut commensal microbiota and decreased risk for UTI. The study, supported by a K23 grant (NIAID), reflected a further analysis from a previous paper in *Nature Communications* and involved 168 kidney transplant recipients who provided 510 fecal specimens for evaluation. Dr. August and team were commended on being "Site of the Month" in The Pulse CHAP newsletter. The CHAP project is a large multicenter pragmatic randomized trial that is comparing two different strategies for managing hypertension during pregnancy in women who had elevated blood pressure prior to pregnancy. Dr. Dadhania was at the helm of an observational collaborative study that

yielded much-needed data on graft and patient outcomes in kidney transplant recipients and the management of their immunosuppression in the setting of COVID-19.

Nephrology faculty teach the *Health, Illness, and Disease (HID) Course* for Weill Cornell medical students at both the New York and Qatar campuses. The highly challenging HID course in Nephrology, under the inspired leadership of Dr. Muthukumar, has become one of the top-rated HID courses at Weill Cornell Medicine. The division is committed to scholarship; a daily educational conference ensures faculty and fellows practice evidence-based medicine, as well as receive CME credits. There has been a 100% pass rate for the ABIM Nephrology subspecialty, and the scholarship of our trainees and faculty is demonstrated by their presentations of original research at every national and international meeting related to nephrology and transplantation. Our full-time faculty lecture nationally and internationally and published 42 peer-reviewed articles in 2020.

## Nephrology Fellowship Program

Phyllis August, M.D., M.P.H.  
Program Director

Thangamani Muthukumar, M.D., M.S.  
Associate Program Director

Our highly competitive two-year nephrology fellowship program is designed to provide comprehensive training in all aspects of kidney disease including acute and chronic kidney failure; end stage kidney disease; hemodialysis including home hemodialysis; peritoneal dialysis; apheresis; kidney and kidney and pancreas transplantation; hypertension; glomerulopathy; onconeurology, obstetric nephrology, kidney stones, polycystic kidney disease, and metabolic disorders including acid base and fluid and electrolyte disorders. A third and fourth year are available for additional research training. Despite almost 50% of nephrology fellowship slots not being filled across U.S. nephrology fellowship programs, our program has been highly successful in fulfilling 100% of the fellowship slots through the Nephrology Fellowship Matching Program. Dr. Muthukumar, in addition to his current role as Associate Director (Research), has been promoted to the vital role of Associate Program Director in recognition of his pivotal contributions to the education and training of Nephrology Fellows.

# Public Health Programs



## **Ann B. Beeder, M.D.**

Chief, Division of Public Health Programs

Jeanette and Jeffrey Lasdon Associate Professor of Clinical Public Health and Psychiatry

Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine

Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at the Weill Medical College

Associate Attending Physician NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

The Division of Public Health Programs delivers integrated multidisciplinary patient care for patients with trauma and addiction through a variety of outpatient programs. The programs provide medical, psychiatric, and substance abuse treatment to patients with substance use problems, including alcohol, marijuana, nicotine, cocaine, heroin, and prescription medication. On-site and virtual medical, psychiatric, trauma treatment, and social services promote and accelerate patients' progress toward recovery. Consultation services are available for expert evaluation, diagnosis, treatment, and referral for patients with substance use disorders being treated at the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. Outpatient treatment locations include The Midtown Center for Treatment and Research, The Headstrong Project, and the Vincent P. Dole Institute for Treatment and Research.

*The Midtown Center for Treatment and Research* is located at 56 West 45 Street, Floor 9, NYC, NY 10031. It is an outpatient drug treatment program providing multidisciplinary alcohol and drug treatment with integrated psychiatric and social services both onsite and through telehealth. Services include outpatient suboxone detoxification and maintenance for opiate dependency (prescription pain medication and heroin), trauma treatment (EMDR and CBT), psychiatric care, DUI program, anger management, and other services. Patients are carefully evaluated involving an individualized treatment plan, including groups, individual treatment, urine and other toxicology, as well as psychiatric evaluation and care when needed. Patients needing primary and specialty medical care have access to CIMA at Weill Cornell

Medicine and comprehensive subspecialty care (e.g., HCV, HIV, cardiology, pulmonary, nutritional, and other services).

*The Headstrong Project* is located at 641 Lexington Avenue, Floor 25, NYC, NY 10022. It is a PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) and trauma treatment program for combat veterans. It has attracted national recognition for its highly effective evidence-based treatment, which is free and confidential for returning Iraq and Afghanistan combat veterans living in the NYC and Tri-State Area. The treatment is individually tailored and designed for each veteran in support of The Headstrong Project's motto: "Healing the Hidden Wounds of War." In partnership with Weill Cornell Medicine, the Headstrong Project is an award-winning program that continues to grow new locations in multiple cities across the country. There are locations in California, Colorado, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Georgia, Washington D.C., Arizona, and Washington.

*The Vincent P. Dole Institute for Treatment and Research* is located at 503 East 70<sup>th</sup> Street, NYC, NY 10021. It is part of the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital's Ambulatory Care Network. Both the Midtown Center and the Vincent P. Dole Institute serve as sites for the study of the prevention and treatment of dependency diseases, as well as outreach, evaluation, and treatment of patients with hepatitis C. Research studies are underway on the integrated care model, epidemiology and treatment of hepatitis C infection in drug users, and understanding immunity in opioid users.

*The Employee Assistance Program Consortium (EAPC)* is located at 641 Lexington Avenue, Floor 25, NYC, NY 10022. It serves the

approximately 12,000 employees of Weill Cornell Medical College, Rogosin Institute, and Hospital for Special Surgery. The program provides free and confidential evaluation, crisis intervention, and referrals for a wide range of problems affecting employees. Services are available on-site as well as virtually through telehealth.

In addition to providing a host of valuable services for a wide variety of patients, the division's faculty is distinguished for education and research on topics related to substance use and trauma. These topics include the use of telehealth in providing trauma treatment,

the integrated care model, epidemiology and treatment of hepatitis C infection in drug users, understanding immunity in opioid users, and more. A study is underway with Division Chief, Dr. Beeder, serving as a co-Principal Investigator, and Dr. Ronald Crystal, Chairman, Genetic Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine, on a Phase I clinical trial that is exploring a vaccine model in patients with cocaine dependency disorder. Dr. Mirella Salvatore, an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the division, is also working on the project and has been publishing related research papers in the peer-reviewed journals.



Dr. Beeder (far right back row) with the public health programs team.



# Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine



**Fernando J. Martinez, M.D.**

Chief, Division of Pulmonary  
and Critical Care Medicine

Bruce Webster Professor  
of Internal Medicine

Professor of Clinical Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical  
College

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian  
Hospital

The Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine employs advanced expertise in the diagnosis and treatment of all types of respiratory disorders, including those related to sleep. Physicians of Weill Cornell Pulmonary Associates provide diagnostic and therapeutic services in a state-of-the-art medical facility. The division provides 24-hour, in-hospital coverage of the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) at Weill Cornell Medicine and at NYP/Lower Manhattan Hospital. The Bronchoscopy Suite offers state-of-the-art patient care, including Endobronchial Ultrasound (EBUS), Navigational Bronchoscopy, and chest tube and pleurx catheter placement. MICU clinical care offers daytime and expanded overnight services.

The Pulmonary Inpatient Consult Service provides rapid, expert clinical care seven days a week, including the provision of an Outreach Service for patients who are critically ill outside of the ICU. It upgrades continuity of care for patients who are transitioning from inpatient to outpatient management and has led to successful interdisciplinary collaborations with specialists throughout the institution. The division, jointly with the Columbia campus, has been designated by the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation (PFF) as a Center of Excellence and is active in an ALA-ACRC series of joint projects.

The Pulmonary Procedure Service, directed by Dr. Ben-Gary Harvey, provides innovative diagnostic and therapeutic services for the diagnosis and management of lung cancer, pulmonary fibrosis, and lung infection. Dr. Harvey, who has received advanced training in the bronchoscopic management of advanced emphysema, also directs an Endoscopic Valve Lung Volume Reduction. The procedure utilizes the insertion of small valves through a bronchoscope; once the valves reach the most diseased areas of the lung, Dr. Harvey occludes (or closes) the non-functional portions of the lung. This creates room for the healthier parts of the lung to improve breathing function and quality of life.

Led by Dr. Lindsey Lief, Director of the Medical Intensive Care Unit, the division has established a new clinic for post-

ICU recovery (CPR) (housed within Weill Cornell Medicine Pulmonary Associates located at 425 East 61 Street).

Experts in intensive care will see patients in follow-up after an ICU admission, either from NYP/Weill Cornell or other institutions. ICU survivors are at risk for post-intensive care syndrome (PICS) which can have effects on mental and physical health, cognitive function, and the ability to care for oneself and go back to work. This practice provides ICU survivors with everything they need to allow the fullest recovery.

For NewYork-Presbyterian/Lower Manhattan campus, Dr. David Weir, Assistant Professor of Medicine, serves as Director of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Weir's expertise includes treatment and symptom management for advanced lung disease and compassionate care for the critically ill. Dr. Seth Manoach, Assistant Professor of Medicine, serves as Director of the MICU. An expert in the pathophysiology of critical illness, including cardiopulmonary interface and advanced airway management, Dr. Manoach is known for his unwavering dedication to improving patient care in the MICU and to alleviating human suffering.

The Pulmonary Function Laboratory, led by Dr. Abraham Sanders, remains a vital component of the division's continuum of care via expert and timely diagnostic services. Led by Medical Director, Dr. Ana Krieger, and other experts, the Weill Cornell Center for Sleep Medicine (run jointly by the Weill Department of Medicine's Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine and the Department of Neurology) provides evaluation and treatment for the full range of pulmonary and non-pulmonary sleep problems, employing multidisciplinary specialists and carrying out cutting-edge federally-funded research projects.

The division's research portfolio ranges from interstitial and obstructive lung diseases, pneumonia, and lung cancer, to sleep medicine and genetic medicine. Its physician-scientists are participating in clinical and basic mechanistic investigations, both independently and with collaborators.

As a key participant in numerous NHLBI-sponsored COPD studies, Dr. Martinez, Division Chief, defined the role of lung volume reduction surgery, chronic macrolide therapy, statin therapy, and long-term oxygen therapy in COPD. He has also been involved in defining the immunological basis of acute exacerbations, the role of innovative small airways imaging methods, and the role of COPD endotypes. He serves as the Principal Investigator on a nearly \$11 million R01 grant (The Capture Study) from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. The Capture Study seeks to identify COPD patients who are under-recognized and undertreated in 100 primary care centers across five PBRNs in the U.S. Similarly, with NHLBI support, Dr. Martinez has defined optimal approaches to diagnosing idiopathic interstitial pneumonias, imaging and biochemical approaches to prognostication, and he has investigated the role of various therapeutic approaches for Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF). He has

# Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

also studied the interaction between dysbiosis in the lung microbial community and disease progression, which led to an ongoing NHLBI-funded study of an innovative therapeutic approach targeting IPF progression.

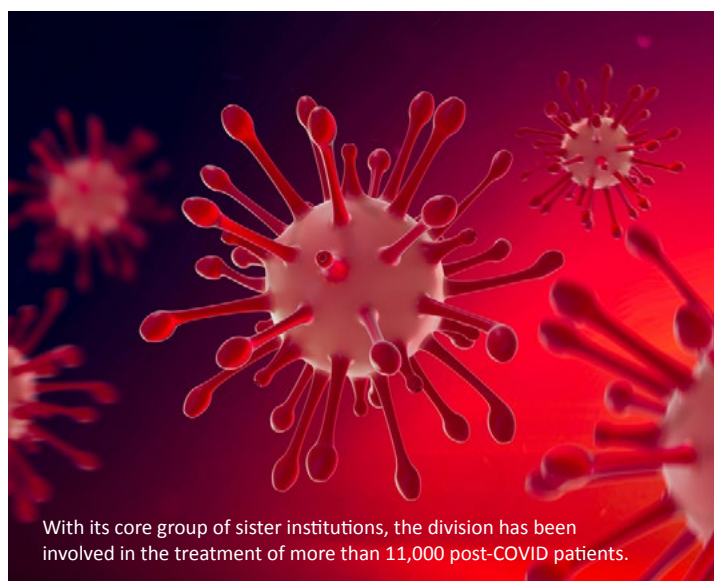
Dr. Martinez remains an overall Principal Investigator of PRECISIONS, a study that aims to transform the diagnosis and treatment of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) by moving into a new era of precision medicine. The study is supported by a \$22 million grant from the National Institutes of Health and Three Lakes Partners, a philanthropic organization. Dr. Martinez's oversight includes

of Phase I and Phase II trials targeting the use of inhaled CO in human disease. Dr. Renat Shaykhiev is focused on airway epithelial stem cells, epithelial-mesenchymal interactions, epithelial-immune interactions and innate immunity in the lung, and pathogenesis of airway remodeling in human lung disease. Dr. Heather Stout-Delgado is focused on the implications of an aging immune system and its impact on infections and respiratory inflammatory disorders. Dr. Soo Jung Cho has made key observations characterizing the role of impaired glucose metabolism and progressive lung fibroproliferation.



the understanding that PRECISIONS benefits from its partnership involving a broad range of investigators who are all working toward providing patients who have interstitial lung disease (ILD) with access to the right medication for the right patient. Dr. Martinez has also been awarded an \$11 million five-year grant from the NHLBI, "Understanding the Origins of Early COPD." The goal is to arrest COPD progression by understanding its earliest stages. A new cohort of younger at-risk individuals will be recruited to link chest imaging and pathologic abnormality with longitudinal disease progression; findings will be used to target the development of disease-modifying therapies.

Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi, Dean, Weill Cornell Medicine College, continues to lead an extremely active laboratory that, in part, leads the global investigative carbon monoxide (CO) community in understanding this complex biological pathway. His laboratory has successfully translated these findings as they lead the design and successful completion



With its core group of sister institutions, the division has been involved in the treatment of more than 11,000 post-COVID patients.



Dr. Robert Kaner is focused on basic and clinical research programs in Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD). He is the principal investigator of numerous industry- and federally funded therapeutic trials exploring innovative therapeutic approaches to patients with ILD. Dr. Ben-Gary Harvey continues his study on a new therapy for COPD. Dr. Michael Niederman continues clinical investigation protocols related to pneumonia in the ICU and in the community. There is a growing interest in palliative care among critically ill patients, and Dr. Lindsay Lief has partnered with Dr. Holly Prigerson on the study of patient and provider attitudes at the end-of-life in the ICU. Dr. Bradley Hayward is developing a collaboration with Geriatrics and other divisions on the clinical aspects of palliative care. Translational clinical research in the ICU is being led by Dr. Edward Schenck, who is expanding a clinical database that links detailed clinical data with biological patient samples to study inflammation and lung injury in critically ill patients with sepsis.

The division's educational mission involves a multifaceted program for the training of students and residents, as well as a Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship. Simulation programs for providing Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support and the insertion of Central Venous Catheters continue. The division's Briscoe King Lung Club hosts fellows from training programs throughout the area so that they may present their scientific work. There is a monthly multidisciplinary conference on diagnosis and management of ILD.

The division has an NHLBI T32 training grant under the leadership of Drs. Martinez, Kaner, and Augustine M.K. Choi. Entitled "Multidisciplinary Approach to Training in Respiratory Research," the program includes faculty across the tri-institutional consortium who are training respiratory-focused physician-scientists. The division's many trainees

have received career development awards as well as private foundation funding. The main objective of the training program is to provide an intensive research experience that fosters the skills needed to pursue a successful career in investigative pulmonary sciences. Dr. Alex Racanelli, the first appointed trainee to the program, has been joined by Drs. Lisa Torres, John Harrington, David Price, Bill Zhang, Christopher Parkhurst, and Jamuna Krishnan.

2020 was a banner year on all fronts. Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi, Dean, Weill Cornell Medicine, was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in recognition of his accomplishments in research and patient care in the field of pulmonology, and as a leader who is dedicated to mentorship and advancing diversity in academic medicine. Dr. Dana Zappetti was appointed as Vice Chair for Clinical Operations, WDOM. Dr. Kerri Aronson, Dr. Joseph Mailman, and Dr. Hasina Outtz Reed were accepted into the Leadership in Academic Medicine Program at Weill Cornell Medicine. New faculty recruits included Drs. Clark Owyang, Anna Podolanczuk, Kaitlin Seitz. Graduating fellows who were recruited to the faculty included Drs. Brittany Gary, Jamuna Krishnan, David Price, Alex Racanelli, and William Zhang.

Some 47,000 COVID-19 patients have received care at NYPH/WCM. Together, with its core group of sister institutions, the division has been involved in the treatment of more than 11,000 post-COVID patients; from milder disease in outpatients, to hospitalized and in the ICU. The division's pulmonary post-COVID clinic alone is following almost 800 patients. The post-COVID team routinely draws on expertise in rehabilitation, cardiology, nutrition, psychiatry, radiology, and integrative medicine. For certain patients, we also rely on support from nephrology and gastroenterology consultants.

## Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship

Meredith Turetz, M.D.  
Program Director

Robert Kaner, M.D.  
Associate Program Director

Brad Hayward, M.D.  
Associate Program Director

A three-year comprehensive program with 15 fellows. Curriculum includes rotations on the consultative pulmonary service, doing advanced pulmonary procedures, and participating in rotations in the medical, neurologic, and surgical intensive care units, and to care for inpatients and outpatients under supervision of the division's clinical faculty. All fellows conduct at least 18 months of research, spanning a broad range of expertise (e.g., bench laboratory research, health service and/or patient centered investigation). Key investigative areas include cellular biology and molecular immunology, lung and vascular injury, human pathophysiology, and epidemiology and bioinformatics. Faculty mentoring across the tri-institutional setting provides an ideal training environment.

# Regenerative Medicine



**Shahin Rafii, M.D.**  
Chief, Division of Regenerative  
Arthur B. Belfer Professor  
in Genetic Medicine  
Director, Ansary Stem Cell  
Institute  
Professor of Medicine  
Professor of Genetics  
Professor of Reproductive  
Medicine

The Division of Regenerative Medicine is dedicated to furthering discoveries and knowledge on organ regeneration and repair, and to translating their potential into life-saving therapeutics. Led by renowned physician-scientist Dr. Shahin Rafii, who has been at the forefront of vascular biology and stem cell research for nearly two decades, the division is an interactive community of researchers and clinicians who work at Weill Cornell Medicine in stem cell research and regenerative medicine. Research in this division is not only of great value in terms of patient care, it is serving to educate the next generation of scientists and clinicians, as well as the general public, about the realities and potential benefit of stem cell research. A role model in creating synergistic partnerships with other institutions and foundations, the division also advocates for public policy that promotes stem cell based research and therapies.

Known for its state-of-the-art approach to investigation, the division's laboratory has been carrying out cutting-edge studies on stem cells and organ regeneration since 2003. Dr. Rafii, who also serves as the Director of the Ansary Stem Cell Institute at Weill Cornell Medicine, provides a core laboratory that is utilized by junior faculty members, principle investigators, postdoctoral fellows, graduate resident students, and support staff. The laboratory also trains visiting scientists from around the world. Additionally, the division deploys staff to the Starr Foundation Tri-Institutional Stem Cell Derivation Laboratory at Weill Cornell Medicine to offer on-site human embryonic stem cells and a GLP facility that serves researchers working with pluripotent stem cells.

The Ansary Stem Cell Institute is home to landmark advances in regenerative medicine. Dr. Rafii, its Director, is nationally and internationally recognized for having pioneered the transformative paradigm demonstrating that tissue-specific adult endothelial cells (ECs) are

unique instructive vascular niche cells that produce paracrine "angiocrine factors" to directly induce organ regeneration. This concept has revealed the remarkable heterogeneity of the adult vasculature that is underscored by production of tissue-specific angiocrine factors necessary for orchestrating organ regeneration. Dr. Rafii's laboratory has ushered in a new era in state-of-the-art models for the study of tissue-specific induction of angiocrine factors in ECs. His laboratory's many advances include the identification of physiologically relevant tissue-specific stimulatory and anti-fibrotic angiocrine factors. The team utilizes *in vivo* genetic models to determine the role of angiocrine factors in organ regeneration and has played a major role in illuminating the intrinsic and microenvironmental determinants of vascular heterogeneity.

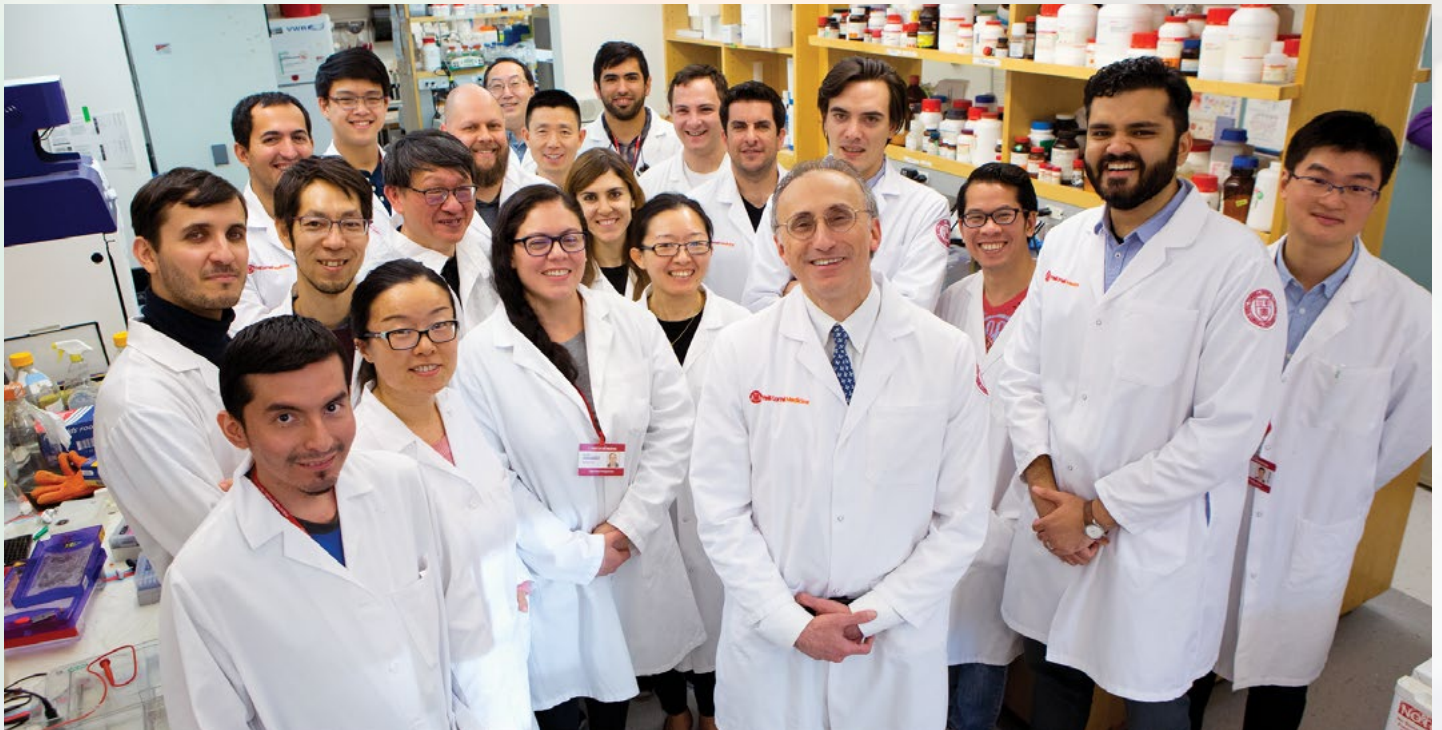
The division also focuses on stem cell biology and their niches using mouse and human genetic models, tissue culture approaches, and molecular biology to model the complex interactions between stem cells and their micro-environment. Multiomics, molecular and cell biological techniques are combined to achieve a systems-level understanding of these complex processes.

Currently, Dr. Rafii is focused on identifying the molecular and cellular pathways involved in organ regeneration and tumor growth. He has established the concept that vascular endothelial cells are not just inert plumbing to deliver oxygen and nutrients, but also by production of tissue-specific growth factors, defined as angiocrine factors, support organ regeneration and tumor proliferation. He has shown that bone marrow endothelial cells by elaboration of angiocrine factors, such as Notch ligands, support stem cell self-renewal and differentiation into lymphoid and myeloid progenitors. He has recently shown that liver and lung endothelial cells are endowed with unique phenotypic and functional attributes, and by production of unique instructive growth factors, contribute to the hepatic and alveolar regeneration. Dr. Rafii has also induced differentiation of the murine and human pluripotent embryonic stem cells into functional and engraftable vascular and hematopoietic derivatives. He developed screening approaches to exploit endothelial cells, as a vascular niche platform, to identify, as yet, unrecognized novel angiocrine factors that instruct organ morphogenesis and also orchestrate stem cell self-renewal and differentiation.



The laboratory of Dr. Joe Qiao Zhou has made seminal contributions to regenerative biology. His laboratory pioneered a new approach of regenerating pancreatic insulin-secreting beta cells in mature pancreas by directly reprogramming pancreatic acinar cells with defined genetic factors. This study is the first proof-of-concept that cells in adult organs can be reprogrammed *in vivo*, which led to numerous subsequent studies of adult tissue plasticity.

Dr. Raphael Lis aims to advance the study of the brain blood barrier (BBB) by developing *in vitro* models attempting to mimic the physiological complexity of the BBB *in vivo*. It has been demonstrated that BBB traits are not intrinsic to brain specific endothelial cells (ECs), but rather the result of a dynamic interplay with their microenvironment, including multiple cell types such as astrocytes and pericytes. The Lis laboratory aims to resolve this issue by developing various



His laboratory discovered that gastric antral cells are also highly amenable for conversion into insulin-secreting cells. The Zhou lab continues to make significant progress in advancing mechanistic studies, as well as in developing technologies to produce insulin<sup>+</sup> cells from human gastric stem cells as a potential cell therapy for type 1 diabetes. Also in process is the study of stem cells in large intestine mucosal regeneration. The Zhou lab has identified critical factors, without which, colon mucosa is transformed into small intestine mucosa with implications in diseases such as short-bowel disease, inflammatory bowel diseases, and colorectal cancer. The Zhou lab uses state-of-the-art tools and approaches, including human embryonic stem cells, human organoids, CRISPR screening, single-cell sequencing, functional genomics, and many more for mechanistic understanding and therapeutic development.

*in vitro* BBB models using neural cell co-cultures consisting of ECs, pericytes, and astrocytes. These models also include pluripotent stem cell differentiation methods, as well as brain organoids and organ-on-a-chip approaches to generate an *in vitro* model of the BBB for clinical research and drug development.

Dr. David Redmond is a computational biologist specializing in high-throughput sequencing platforms, including bulk and single-cell transcriptomics, epigenetics, and spatial technologies. With the recent development of these single-cell and spatial sequencing technologies that have allowed for a deeper understanding of the cell as a functional unit, Dr. Redmond has been developing methods for deconvoluting important functional data including one of the first algorithms for recapitulating full TCR identity in single cell data.



# Rheumatology



**S. Louis Bridges, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.**

Chief, Division of Rheumatology  
Weill Department of Medicine

Joseph P. Routh Professor of Rheumatic  
Diseases in Medicine

Physician-in-Chief  
Chair, Department of Medicine  
Hospital for Special Surgery

Franchellie M. Cadwell Chair (incumbent)

Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Based at Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS), the Division of Rheumatology is a national and international leader in clinical care of patients with autoimmune, inflammatory and musculoskeletal conditions; research that has contributed to identification of novel therapeutic targets and new understanding of disease mechanisms; and innovative approaches to medical education and education research. In addition to more than 40,000 in-person or telehealth outpatient rheumatology visits per year, the division has responsibility for all of the pre- and post-surgical medical care of more than 30,000 patients per year who undergo orthopaedic surgery procedures at HSS. The large volume of patients treated at HSS has enabled HSS clinicians and researchers to develop patient registries with detailed clinical information that provides an important resource for clinical and translational research studies. Longitudinal data collection, patient reported outcomes and availability of biologic samples are features of some of the registries that provide valuable research resources shared with collaborators nationally and internationally.

Achieving optimal outcomes for patients is the goal of our 25 active rheumatologists, who treat disorders ranging from osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis (RA) to the most complex patients with lupus, vasculitis, systemic sclerosis or diagnostic dilemmas. The HSS Department of Medicine (DOM) Clinical Operations Work Group, co-chaired by Drs. Linda Russell and Jessica Gordon, is implementing the transformation of the division's clinical practice operations with the goal of establishing efficient and value-focused care across all practices. Dr. Steven Magid serves as Chief Medical Information Officer for HSS, overseeing implementation of our medical information technology system in the hospital and office practices. Optimal preparation and postoperative management of patients undergoing orthopedic surgery at HSS is under the leadership of Dr. Russell, Director of Perioperative Medicine. Dr. Karen Onel leads the Pediatric Rheumatology Service, with many clinical and academic

programs shared with the adult Rheumatology Division. The Division of Endocrinology, which focuses on bone health, is led by Dr. Richard Bockman. Dr. Andy Miller is the Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases, which is charged with collaborating with orthopaedic surgeons to care for patients with musculoskeletal infections in the hospital setting,

Rheumatology clinics at HSS represent an essential training component of our rheumatology fellowship programs. The adult rheumatology training program is directed by Drs. Jessica Berman and Juliet Aizer, and the pediatric rheumatology training program is directed by Dr. Alexa Adams. Fifteen adult and pediatric rheumatology fellows provide continuity of care for the patients seen in the clinics, with involvement of all rheumatology faculty members as supervisors and teachers. A weekly clinic for evaluation of new patients, and specialty clinics focused on inflammatory arthritis, lupus and antiphospholipid syndrome, vasculitis and systemic sclerosis, provide rheumatology fellows and rotating internal medicine residents with a rich experience in evaluation and management of a full spectrum of rheumatic diseases. A rich learning environment is also provided in the multidisciplinary clinic conferences, following Monday Inflammatory Arthritis Clinic and Friday Lupus Clinic, which involve discussion of patient management guided by recent literature and enriched by attendance of representatives from other Weill Cornell specialties. Training of fellows in musculoskeletal ultrasound is provided through a specialized curriculum as well as hands-on experience. Each rheumatology trainee completes a basic, clinical, or education research project under the supervision of one or more faculty members and with oversight by a mentoring committee. Trainees pursuing a research career are encouraged to apply for peer-reviewed research grant support, and those headed for careers in academic medicine often gain additional training through several available master's programs. This strong academic environment attracts the future leaders in academic rheumatology to its fellowship program. Drs. Anne Bass and Sarah Taber lead the HSS DOM Education Work Group, which coordinates educational activities focused on referring physicians, rheumatologists, and patients.

The division has a long history of leading basic and translational research studies that have elucidated important mechanisms of autoimmune and inflammatory disease and have identified important therapeutic targets. It is also recognized for its productive collaborations among bench scientists and clinicians.



Clinical rheumatologists, clinical and laboratory investigators, nurses, social workers, and students advance disease-focused research, patient education, and professional education through the division's centers of excellence as well as its Barbara Volcker Center for Women and Rheumatic Diseases. Dr. Lionel B. Ivashkiv, Chief Scientific Officer, is supported by NIH research grants addressing epigenetic mechanisms relevant to regulation of inflammation and bone resorption in rheumatoid arthritis. His lab is making seminal observations on the epigenetic control of cytokine gene expression and osteoclast maturation, and his studies of chromatin modifications are leading to new understanding of how the immune system becomes primed to react efficiently to future microbial or inflammatory stimuli. Dr. Jane Salmon, who serves as the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs at Weill Cornell Medicine, has identified biomarkers that predict adverse pregnancy outcomes in patients with lupus or antiphospholipid syndrome (APS). She is leading an interventional trial of a tumor necrosis factor inhibitor to prevent adverse pregnancy outcomes in patients with antiphospholipid syndrome. Dr. Mary Crow's lab, in collaboration with Dr. Kyriakos A. Kirou, has demonstrated that type I interferon is a central mediator of immune dysregulation and autoimmunity in SLE and has provided insight into the role of additional molecular pathways involved in lupus nephritis. Young investigators include Dr. Bella Mehta, who is studying health disparities in patients with osteoarthritis, Dr. Kim Showalter, whose focus is translational research in scleroderma, Dr. Medha Barbhuiya, who is studying the incidence and severity of COVID-19 infection in systemic rheumatic disease patients and Antiphospholipid Syndrome Classification and Epidemiology, Dr. Sarah Lieber, who studies frailty in rheumatic disease patients, and Dr. David Fernandez, who studies myopathies and investigates inclusion body myositis.



Members of the division are leading collaborative clinical research studies focused on risk factors and outcomes of total joint replacement surgery. Together with members of the orthopedic surgery, pathology and research faculty, Drs. Susan Goodman, Vivian Bykerk, Laura Donlin and others are documenting the biologic characteristics of joint tissue that are associated with rheumatoid arthritis disease flare after total joint replacement. Their work, in collaboration with the NIH-funded Accelerating Medicines Partnership, has established *in vitro* mechanisms to identify therapeutic agents effective in reducing synovitis. Dr. Goodman is also investigating the socioeconomic factors that impact surgical management of osteoarthritis and is directing a Center of Excellence that is organizing outcome research in rheumatic disease patients undergoing orthopedic surgical procedures. Dr. Bass and Dr. Donlin are leading translational studies of the rheumatologic complications of checkpoint inhibitor therapy for cancer in collaboration with oncologists at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

## Rheumatology Fellowship

Anne R. Bass, M.D.  
Program Director

Jessica R. Berman, M.D.  
Program Co-Director

The Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS) rheumatology fellowship three-year program combines a broad-based, in-depth clinical and research experience in order to deliver the highest quality academic training to rheumatology professionals.

# Iris Cantor Women's Health Center (ICWHC)



**Orli R. Etingin, M.D.**  
Medical Director, ICWHC  
Vice Chair for Faculty  
Lisa and Sanford B. Ehrenkranz  
Professor in Women's Health  
Professor of Clinical Medicine  
Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and  
Gynecology  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
Attending Physician  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

The Iris Cantor Women's Health Center (ICWHC) at 425 East 61<sup>st</sup> Street in Manhattan offers the most comprehensive array of healthcare services, designed specifically for women, in a single location in New York City. With more than 40,000 square feet of clinical space occupying four floors under one roof, women can access the finest prevention, screening, and treatment services in one convenient location. All of the Center's physicians are full-time faculty members of Weill Cornell Medicine and attending physicians at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. A team of internists, gynecologists, radiologists, among many others, facilitate superb coordination.

The Iris Cantor Men's Health Center, for which Dr. Etingin had provided expertise and assistance during the development phase, has grown to encompass both men's health and executive health testing. The contiguity of the Women's Health Center, Men's Health Center, and the new Executive Physical Center, has enabled streamlined care for every type of patient. Located at 425 East 61<sup>st</sup> Street, the men's health practice enhances the primary care network of Weill Cornell Medicine delivering patient care that covers internal medicine, cardiology, endocrinology, hematology, and urology. It also houses the Department of Urology's Institute for Bladder and Prostate Health. Clinical research collaborations between men's and women's Health continue.

The 2020 Women's Health Symposium was presented virtually in October 2020. The symposium addressed brain health and mood with a focus on the use of technology to optimize female brain health. The invited speakers were Drs. Francis Lee and Lisa Mosconi. Dr. Mosconi, an Associate Professor of both Neuroscience in Neurology and Neuroscience in Radiology, has written extensively about the female brain and the use of PET scans. She is the Director of the Weill Cornell Women's Brain Initiative. Dr. Lee is the Chair of Psychiatry and the Mortimer D. Sackler, MD Professor of Molecular Biology in Psychiatry at WCM.



Dr. Orli Etingin at the ICWHC.





## Residents & Fellows





# Residents & Fellows



Dr. Kirana Gudi

Dr. Kirana Gudi serves as Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program and also as the Vice Chair for Education in the Weill Department of Medicine. The Internal Medicine Residency Program is distinguished by a unique combination of activities and opportunities. One of the program's core principles is that house staff learn best through authentic responsibility. House staff serve as the primary provider across all aspects of patient care. Intellectual curiosity is fostered throughout the curriculum, whether exploring basic science, translational medicine, clinical expertise, or the healthcare delivery system.

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## Chief Residents of 2020



Ariel Schaap



Mark Sonnick



Alexandra King



Ozan Unlu



Kristina Fernandez



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### Senior Residents (PGY3)

Yomna Abdelghany, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar  
Ankita Agarwal, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School  
Preston Atteberry, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
Alexander Bain, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania  
Lauren Balkan, SUNY Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine  
Dan Benenson, Weill Cornell Medicine  
Matthew Brandorff, Stony Brook University School of Medicine  
Allen Chen, Harvard Medical School  
Brian Chernak, SUNY Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine  
Philip Choi, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons  
Chou, Weill Cornell Medicine  
Emily Coskun, University of Kansas School of Medicine  
Rachel Engelberg, University at Buffalo  
Asia Gobourne, Weill Cornell Medicine  
Jordan Goldstein, Emory University School of Medicine  
Benjamin Gordon, Weill Cornell Medicine  
Marvah Hill Pierre-Louis, Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth  
Angela Hu, Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University  
Ramsey Kalil, Stony Brook University School of Medicine  
Kyle Koster, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry  
Kristine Lacuna, SUNY, University at Buffalo, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
Justin Lebenthal, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers University  
Neil Lim, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine  
Anna Mertelsmann, University of Hamburg School of Medicine  
Xiaoli Mi, Harvard Medical School  
Pedram Navid-Azarbaijani, Weill Cornell Medicine  
Cecilia Nicol, Weill Cornell Medicine  
Stephanie Pagliuca, Duke University School of Medicine  
Akash Patel, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School  
Kharisa Rachmasari, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar  
Rayhan Saiani, Weill Cornell Medicine  
Claire Sathe, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School  
Hector Sepulveda Alemany, University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine  
Anupriya Singhal, Weill Cornell Medicine

Leland Soiefer, NYU Grossman School of Medicine  
Robert Stanley, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University  
Catherine Stoeckle, Harvard Medical School  
Shyam Sundaresh, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine  
Gaurav Varma, Drexel University College of Medicine  
Antonio Velez, University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine  
Kenneth Vera, Yale School of Medicine  
Nabeel Wahid, University of California, Irvine, School of Medicine  
Xiaohui Wang, University of Kentucky College of Medicine  
Xiaodi Wu, Washington University School of Medicine-St. Louis

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### Junior Residents (PGY2)

Aiya Aboubakr, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
Andrew Adelsheimer, NYU Grossman School of Medicine  
Prashasti Agrawal, Stanford University School of Medicine  
Michael Alvarez, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School  
Clarissa Andre, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University  
Emmanuel Attah, University of Texas Medical Branch School of Medicine  
Mara Bensson, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University  
Tanya Bhardwaj, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine  
Benjamin Biederman, New York Medical College  
Carly Borinsky, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers University  
Lindsay Clarke, George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences  
Erica Corredera, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine  
Kelly Crane, University of Colorado School of Medicine  
Thomas Di Vitantonio, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School  
Jesse Frye, Stony Brook University School of Medicine  
Lee Gottesdiener, Weill Cornell Medicine  
Adam Greenfest, George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences  
Nigel Gwini, Georgetown University School of Medicine  
William Jackson, Weill Cornell Medicine  
Chanel Jonas, SUNY Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine  
Eric Jurgens, Weill Cornell Medicine

Manjinder Kandola, Harvard Medical School

Melanie Koren, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University

Arielle Kushman, Harvard Medical School

Nikita Malakhov, SUNY Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine

Sonal Mallya, Tulane University School of Medicine

Kerry Meltzer, George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Sapir Nachum, Weill Cornell Medicine

Chukwuma Onyebeke, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

Benedict Osorio, Jr., Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers University

Maryam Own, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar

Christine Park, Boston University School of Medicine

Madelyn Renzetti, Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

Wesley Rogers, Weill Cornell Medicine

Elizabeth Sanchez, Universidad Nacional de Colombia Facultad de Medicina

Sandeep Sikerwar, SUNY Upstate Medical University College of Medicine

Emily Smith, SUNY Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine

Fabian Vargas, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University

Xin Wang, University of California, Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine

Patrick Weill, University of Texas School of Medicine at San Antonio

Rochelle Wong, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

Alyssa Zaidi, Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

## Intern Residents (PGY1)

Ugochukwu Akpara, CUNY School of Medicine

Brinda Alagesan, Stony Brook University School of Medicine

Ariel Bar-Mashiah, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Kevin Chan, Weill Cornell Medicine

Alexander Choi, University of Michigan Medical School

Megan Creasman, University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine

Mikiyas Teshome Desta, University of Kentucky College of Medicine

Bianca Di Cocco, Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

Ashley Dixon, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

Nechama Dreyfus, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University

Olivia Fankuchen, Tulane University School of Medicine

Emily Frey, The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine

Theodore Getz, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

Nicolas Gomez Banoy, Universidad Nacional de Colombia Facultad de Medicina

Justin Grenet, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

Jeanie Gribben, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Namrata Gumaste, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers University

Zachary Hostetler, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

Devora Isseroff, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Ruth Kagan, Harvard Medical School

Ashwin Kelkar, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

Madelyn Klugman, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University

Rebecca Krakora, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers University

Dennis Lee, Weill Cornell Medicine

Michelle Lee, Baylor College of Medicine

Kimberly Loo, Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

Lawrence Lucas, University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville

Malika Madhava, Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University

Melina Manolas, Tulane University School of Medicine

Lauren Mitchell, Harvard Medical School

Paul Paik, Weill Cornell Medicine

Jin Park, University of California, Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine

Tamasha Persaud, SUNY Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine

Kara Ryan, Tufts University School of Medicine

Choumika Simonis, Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine

Hank Swerdloff, Tulane University School of Medicine

Jacqueline Tao, Stanford University School of Medicine

David Thomas, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

Brittany Toffey, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

Charlton Tsai, Duke University School of Medicine

Manik Uppal, Weill Cornell Medicine

Krista Vadaketh, Drexel University College of Medicine

Sharan Yadav, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar

David Zhang, Weill Cornell Medicine

Raymond Zou, CUNY School of Medicine



# Professional Pursuits

## Subspecialty Fellowship Appointments

### Cardiology

Pedram Navid, *University of Southern California*  
Hector Sepulveda Alemany, *University of Puerto Rico*  
Ozan Unlu, *Massachusetts General Hospital-Brigham and Women's Hospital*  
Brian Yum, *Baylor College of Medicine-Texas Heart Institute*

### Endocrinology

Kharisa Rachmasari, *Mayo Clinic*

### Gastroenterology

Preston Atteberry, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Enad Dawod, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*

### Geriatric/Palliative

Emily Coskun, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Kristina Fernandez, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Stephanie Pagliuca, *Boston University*

### Hematology and Medical Oncology

Brian Chernak, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University*  
Jonathan Goldstein, *Stanford University*  
Caitlin Gribbin, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Matthew Kudelka, *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*  
Kristine Lacuna, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University*  
Justin Lebenthal, *University of Texas-MD Anderson Cancer Center*  
Xiaoli Mi, *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*  
Claire Sathe, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University*  
Ariel Schaap, *New York University*  
Michael Sun, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Gaurav Varma, *New York University*  
Julian Waksal, *Mount Sinai Hospital*  
Julia Wu, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*

### Infectious Disease

Anna Mertelsmann, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Catherine Stoeckle, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*

### Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

Matthew Brandorff, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*

Chou, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Marvah Hill Pierre-Louis, *Massachusetts General Hospital-Beth Israel Deaconess*  
Mark Sonnick, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University*  
Antonio Velez, *New York University*  
Maya Viavant, *Stanford University*

### Other Professional Pursuits

Rachel Engelberg, *Population Health Science Fellow, New York University, Bellevue Hospital*  
Asia Gobourne, *General Internal Medicine Research on Health Equity Track and Diversity Leadership Faculty Scholar, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Neil Lim, *Weill Cornell Medicine Primary Care*  
Akash Patel, *Instructor in Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine-Tribeca*  
Leland Soiefer, *Clinical Leadership Fellow, NYC Health & Hospitals*

### Chief Residencies

Yumna Abdelghany, *Chief Medical Resident, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Lauren Balkan, *Chief Medical Resident, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Benjamin Gordon, *Chief Medical Resident, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Ramsey Kalil, *Quality Chief Medical Resident, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Cecilia Nicol, *Ambulatory Chief Medical Resident, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*  
Nabeel Wahid, *Chief Medical Resident, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*

### Hospitalists

Ankita Agarwal, *New York University, Bellevue Hospital*  
Alexander Bain, *Pennsylvania Medical Center*  
Dan Benenson, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University*  
Angela Hu, *University Pennsylvania Medical Center*  
Rayhan Saiani, *NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University*

### Academic Appointments

Kyle Koster, *Clinical Leadership Fellow, NYC Health & Hospitals*  
Akash Patel, *Instructor in Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine-Tribeca*  
Shyam Sundaresh, *Instructor in Medicine, Mount Sinai Hospital*  
Kenneth Vera, *Clinical Assistant Professor in Medicine, New York University*  
Xiaohui Wang, *Instructor in Medicine, NewYork-Presbyterian/Lower Manhattan Hospital*

# Contacts

## Chair Office

### **Sanford I. Weill Chairman Joan and Sanford I. Weill Department of Medicine**

Anthony Hollenberg, M.D.  
Tel: (212) 746-4720

### **Executive Vice Chairman of Medicine**

John P. Leonard, M.D.  
Tel: (212) 746-6420

## Residency Office

### **Vice Chair for Education Director, Internal Medicine Residency Program**

Kirana Gudi, M.D.  
Tel: (212) 746-4749

### **Residency Program Manager**

Margie Daly, M.P.A.  
Tel: (212) 746-4749

## Administration

### **Associate Director, Faculty & Staff Support**

Nancy Bennett  
Tel: (212) 746-4358

### **Associate Director, Budget & Accounting**

Peter Kam, M.B.A.  
Tel: (212) 746-9398

### **Associate Director, Clinical Operations**

Sophia Gibbs, M.B.A.  
Tel: (212) 746-6753

### **Associate Director, Revenue and Compliance**

Sean Butler, M.B.A., C.P.C.  
Tel: (212) 746-4943

### **Associate Director, Research Administration**

Kristen Brady Losquadro  
Tel: (212) 746-9168

### **Associate Director, Communications**

Suzanne Ross  
Tel: (212) 746-4781

## Divisional Offices

### **Cardiology**

Bruce B. Lerman, M.D., Chief  
Ann Matier, M.B.A., Administrator  
Tel: (212) 746-2176

### **Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluative Sciences Research**

Mary E. Charlson, M.D., Chief  
Stephen Hunt, Administrator  
Tel: (646) 962-5060

### **Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism**

Laura Alonso, M.D., Chief  
Andrew Crawford, Administrator  
Tel: (212) 746-4113

### **Gastroenterology & Hepatology**

David E. Cohen, M.D., Ph.D., Chief  
(Robert S. Brown, Jr. M.D., M.P.H., Chief  
as of August 1, 2021)  
Debbie Dimanche, M.B.A., Administrator  
Tel: (646) 962-4778

### **General Internal Medicine**

Monika Safford, M.D., Chief  
Tel: (646) 962-5900  
Blake T. Rambo, J.D., M.B.A.,  
Administrator

### **Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine**

Ronald D. Adelman, M.D., Co-Chief  
Mark S. Lachs, M.D., M.P.H., Co-Chief  
Cory Henkel, M.H.A., Administrator  
Tel: (212) 746-1733

### **Hematology and Medical Oncology**

Manuel Hidalgo, M.D., Chief  
Paula Goldstein, M.P.A., Administrator  
Tel: (212) 746-4550

### **Infectious Diseases**

Roy M. Gulick, M.D., M.P.H., Chief  
Avi Bueno, Administrator  
Tel: (212) 746-4914

### **Iris Cantor Women's Health Center**

Orli R. Etingin, M.D., Director  
Jane Yuen, M.H.A., Administrator  
Tel: (212) 821-0558

### **Medical Ethics**

Joseph J. Fins, M.D., Chief  
Andrew Crawford, Administrator  
Tel: (212) 746-4113

### **Nephrology and Hypertension**

Manikkam Suthanthiran, M.D., Chief  
ThuTrang Du, Administrator  
Tel: (212) 746-4430

### **Public Health Programs**

Ann B. Beeder, M.D., Chief  
Gerard Ilaria, M.S.W., Administrator  
Tel: (212) 746-5917

### **Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine**

Fernando J. Martinez, M.D., Chief  
Kathy Rosenberg, M.B.A., Administrator  
Tel: (646) 962-2730

### **Regenerative Medicine**

Shahin Rafii, M.D., Chief  
Andrew Crawford, Administrator  
Tel: (212) 746-4113

### **Rheumatology**

S. Louis Bridges, Jr., M.D., Ph.D., Chief  
Jessica Kovac, Senior Administrative Director  
Tel: (646) 714-6273

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## Credits

**Managing Editor-Writer/Project Manager:**  
Suzanne Ross

**Design:**  
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Ron Hester, Pat Kuharic, Suzanne Ross,  
Nancy Scherl, Roger Tully







NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center  
Joan and Sanford I. Weill Department of Medicine  
525 East 68th Street, Box 130, New York, New York 10065

<https://medicine.weill.cornell.edu/>



## Weill Department of Medicine

