

Clinical Mission Updates

The **Integrative Health and Wellbeing** program established clinical collaborations with: Oncology Infusion (Starr 3) to provide mind body therapies during infusion and Breast Center to provide massage therapy. Weill Cornell Medicine was listed as a new member of Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health in 2017!

Research Mission Updates

Erica Philips, M.D., will be collaborating with **Ian Kronish, M.D.**, (Columbia University) on a funded project by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality entitled, "Increasing the Uptake of the USPSTF Hypertension Screening Guidelines in Primary Care." This collaboration is under a three-year subcontract of \$127,750.



Monika Safford, M.D., will be collaborating with **April Carson, Ph.D.** (University of Alabama at Birmingham) on a recently awarded project by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention entitled, "Prioritizing County-Level Social Determinants that Contribute to the Greater Burden of Diabetes and Hypertension in the US." This collaboration is under a five-year subcontract of \$102,229.

Madeline Sterling's, M.D., project on "The Role of Home Care Workers" was funded by *Engaged Cornell*. To read more on this funded project, click [here](#).

Education Mission Updates

The **Transition to Clerkship Curriculum** had a note-writing and oral presentation workshop on December 14th. For more information please contact [Dr. Joseph Shin](#).

The newly re-designed **Patient-Centered Care and Health Equity Area of Concentration** will give medical students access to mentors and projects that will highlight the cross-disciplinary strategies needed to address complex psychosocial, political, historical, educational, and technological factors that contribute to health disparities. While working on specific projects, students will be exposed to a broad community of researchers, clinicians, educators, tech innovators, policy experts, lawyers, and community advocates to enhance their career development and education. The Area of Concentration (AOC) Program had their 3rd annual fair on November 20th. Our AOC was tabled and 13 students signed-up for our AOC. For more information about this area of concentration, please contact [Arta Habili](#).

The **Integrative Health and Wellbeing** program is collaborating with office of Student Life to provide wellness sessions to medical students in helping to reduce stress and anxiety.

Under the direction of **Drs. Lee Shearer** and **Helene Strauss**, the Primary Care residents presented their work at the Regional SGIM meeting in Newark, Delaware. Four interns and one junior resident—Lauren Kelly, Shanna Tucker, Alexandra King, Brittney Frankel, and Masha Jones,

showcased a scientific abstract, three clinical vignette posters, and one oral case presentation during the meeting. Their work received impressive recognition. Shanna Tucker was awarded Best Clinical Vignette for her poster on post-traumatic stress disorder in the setting of recurrent ICD shocks. Lauren Kelly was awarded Best Oral presentation for her case on successfully re-framing end-of-life discussions with patients by maintaining full-code status in home hospice. Congratulations on a great meeting!

Affinity Group Updates

Medical Education Affinity Group: Dr. Helene Strauss was named the leader for this affinity group. Dr. Strauss, joined the Division of General Internal Medicine in July 2016 and is the Associate Director of Primary Care Track of the Internal Medicine program. Dr. Strauss will work with Dr. Lia Logio, Vice Chair of Education, as her mentor. We would like to thank Dr. Ernie Esquivel for his tenure and accomplishments as the outgoing leader of this affinity group.

Quality Improvement Affinity Group: Dr. Jennifer Inhae Lee and Dr. Amanda Carmel, merged into the Department of Medicine Quality University / Quality Improvement and Patient Safety program. Several of the department wide projects under these programs are led by General Internal Medicine faculty.

Cornell Center for Health Equity (CCHEq)

The **Cornell Center for Health Equity**, a bi-campus collaboration between Monika Safford, M.D. and Avery August, Ph.D., will be announced internally by Dean Choi during our #ProudtobeGIM event on Friday, January 19th. The team is currently working on developing a website for the center.

The team is also working on a tri-campus (Weill Cornell Medicine, Cornell University, Cornell Tech), two-day symposium on March 15-16, 2018 that will include poster sessions, abstracts, a keynote speaker, concurrent workshops and networking opportunities. An official invite will go out in January 2018.

Patient Activated Learning System (PALS)

The PALS website recently launched release 3.0, which includes a new look and improved usability. For more information, please visit www.palsforhealth.com. We welcome your feedback!

Primary Care Innovation (PCI)

The **Primary Care Innovations** symposium in September had over 120 attendees and 20 featured poster presentations. Abstracts, oral presentations, and a photo gallery are available on the website, visit careinnovation.weill.cornell.edu.



The three 2017 **seed grant projects** (Navarro-Milan, McCarthy and Shen) are underway and progressing well.

Laura Pinheiro, Ph.D., was recently featured on the Primary Care Innovations website. To read her interview with Dr. Fred Pelzman, click [here](#). To learn more about upcoming events and news please visit our website or contact [Dr. Fred Pelzman](#).

As a marketing initiative, we shared our accomplishments and goals for clinical care, education and research with many of our patients this holiday season.

Honors & Awards

Joseph Shin, M.D., was honored by the Legal Aid Society as one of the recipients of the Society's 2017 Pro Bono Publico Awards for outstanding service to the Legal Aid Society and its clients.

The **Physician of the Year Award** is the Nursing Department's annual celebration of collegiality, collaboration, and the physicians' contributions to nursing practice across various campuses. The Award recognizes physicians, fellows, house staff, and medical students who show competence and caring in the clinical setting and work together with the nurses to attain the highest standards of quality patient care. **Congratulations! Adrian Majid, M.D. and Byron Paul Demopoulos, M.D.** for being selected for Physicians of the Year at NYP/Weill Cornell.

Ernie Esquivel, M.D., was invited to speak to residents and faculty at Nanfang Hospital, Southern Medical University in Guangzhou, China on the topic: "Recognizing Cognitive Bias to Reduce Misdiagnosis and Mistreatment."

Ernie Esquivel, M.D., was an invited speaker on November 15th at the National University of Singapore. He delivered a talk on "Mindful Questioning: Tools for More Effective Clinical Teaching" to medical education faculty.

Matthew William McCarthy, M.D., was an invited speaker at the *American Society for Bioethics and Humanities* annual conference in Kansas City, Missouri, on October 20th where he delivered a presentation titled, "Bringing Intersex into the Mainstream."

Publications

Ramin Asgary, M.D., [Attitudes and Perceptions Towards Access and Use of the Formal Healthcare Sector in Northern Malawi](#)

Ramin Asgary, M.D., [The Elephant in the room: toward a more ethical approach with accountability toward intended beneficiaries in humanitarian aid](#)

Justin Choi, M.D., [Novel Applications for Serum Procalcitonin Testing in Clinical Practice](#)

Ezra Gabbay, M.D., [Spirituality and Religion Within the Culture of Medicine: From Evidence to Practice](#)

Dhruv Khullar, M.D., [Primary Care Spending Rate — A Lever for Encouraging Investment in Primary Care](#)

Matthew W. McCarthy, M.D., [Special Considerations for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Invasive Pulmonary Aspergillosis](#)

Matthew William McCarthy, M.D., [Fungal infections of the central nervous system in children. Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society](#)

Matthew William McCarthy, M.D., [In Vitro Combination Therapy with Isavuconazole Against Candida Spp](#)

Matthew William McCarthy, M.D., [Containment Strategies to Address the Expanding Threat of Multidrug-Resistant Candida Auris](#)

Laura Pinheiro, Ph.D., [Child and adolescent self-report symptom measurement in pediatric oncology research: a systematic literature review](#)

Mangala Rajan, M.B.A., [Hurricane Sandy \(New Jersey\): mortality rates in the following month and quarter](#)

Monika Safford, M.D., [Patterns of sedentary behavior and mortality in U.S. middle-aged and older adults: A national cohort study](#)

Monika Safford, M.D., had several publications during this period. For a complete list of these publications, please click [here](#).

Announcements

Anthony Hollenberg, M.D., appointed Chairman of the Weill Department of Medicine and Physician-in-Chief at New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, effective February 1, 2018. Dr. Hollenberg is currently Chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. We welcome Dr. Hollenberg to our department.

Weill Department of Medicine held its 2nd Research Retreat on November 14th. Faculty of General Internal Medicine were represented well at the poster session and the following faculty were invited speakers: Iris Navarro-Millan, M.D. and Martin Shapiro, M.D.

Our division is proud to announce that it has been selected by the Society of General Internal Medicine to participate in the #ProudtoBeGIM national campaign. The campaign is aimed at encouraging medical students and residents to pursue careers in general internal medicine. Mark your calendars for an exciting time with food, giveaways, and MORE! For more information about this event, please contact [Arta Habili](#).



Dr. Susana Morales co-wrote an opinion piece in the Daily News on October 4th on "[How to get Puerto Ricans Desperately Needed Medical Care.](#)"

Drs. Susana Morales and Arnab Ghosh were two of the few physicians from New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell and Columbia who volunteered in life savings efforts in Puerto Rico, in the wake of hurricane Maria. This was an NYP partnership with the Greater New York Hospital Association and the Healthcare Association of New York State, and in support of the Empire State.

The Section of **Hospital Medicine** continues to coordinate meditation sessions offered by New York Presbyterian Integrative Health and Wellbeing Program. All GIM faculty and staff are encouraged to attend. Sessions take place Tuesdays from 12:00-12:30pm and 12:30-1:00pm in Starr 560 conference room.



Margaret McNairy, M.D., was featured on the Weill Cornell Medicine magazine as a key collaborator in the Weill Cornell affiliated clinic in Haiti for treating and preventing HIV/AIDS.



CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEXT NEWSLETTER! Email Arta Habili, Education Administrative Manager at arh2014@med.cornell.edu with an update!

Congratulations

Ramin Asgary, M.D., was promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine on the Pathway Recognizing Academic Achievement and Scholarship.

Farewell and good luck to **Dr. Rowland Chavez!**

Tahera Begum, B.S., has been selected as a STAR Performer in the Weill Department of Medicine. This is in recognition for her exceptional service, thoughtfulness towards others, and projection of an excellent role model. Tahera joined GIM in January 2017 as an Administrative Specialist and we are proud to have her on our team!

Madeline Sterling, M.D., got married to Jason Hupart and was featured on the New York Times, to read more about their wedding, click [here](#).



Academic

Dina Gad, M.D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine and Assistant Attending Physician, Adult Medicine at Lower Manhattan

Non-Academic

Daniela Nilo, B.A., Patient Navigator, Department of Health

Feng Zhen, Transition Coordinator at Lower Manhattan

Kathryn Zhu, B.A., Primary Care Clerkship Coordinator

Happy Holidays

FROM THE TEAM OF
GENERAL INTERNAL
MEDICINE!