

General Internal Medicine Newsletter



Message from Division Leadership

What a wonderful academic year it has been for our Division! End of the year conferences and ceremonies have offered us opportunities to reflect upon and celebrate the good work that we do. In May the national Society for General Internal Medicine (SGIM) conference took place in Washington, DC. Our Division sent over 20 faculty, 15 residents and 5 medical students to present their incredibly diverse academic work through posters (26 of them!) and multiple expert panels. I heard from so many members of our faculty that the conference rejuvenated them and helped them to discover new kinships with collaborators not only around the country but between our two sections! DGIM was also well represented in a variety of end of the year award ceremonies and graduation celebrations; our faculty were feted with clinical, educational and mentorship awards. Accolades continue in our clinical arena as well with Hospital Medicine breaking records in length of stay at the Cornell campus and a successful launch with Ambulatory Medicine of video visits. We thank you for your dedication and excellence and we wish you a healthy and restful summer!

Judy Tung, MD | Section Chief, Adult Internal Medicine

Research Mission Updates

Madeline Sterling, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Co-PI), and **Nicola Dell, PhD**, Assistant Professor at Cornell Tech (Co-PI), were awarded a grant for \$358,636 for two years from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) entitled, "Exploring the Impact of Technology to Address Workflow, Training, and Equity Issues Faced by Home Health Aides Caring for Adults with Heart Failure." The grant is part of an initiative by RWJF, exploring the relationship between technology, infrastructure and health.

Neil Lewis, PhD and **Monika Safford, MD** were awarded a three year grant from Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in the amount of \$150,000

for their study entitled, "Can the Digital Patient Activated Learning System Increase Racial Minority Engagement with Health Information? A Multi-Site Pilot Examination in New York State."

Justin Choi's, MD study on "Prospective Development of a Predictive Model of Serum Procalcitonin Testing in the Diagnosis of Urinary Tract Infections" and **Arnab Ghosh's, MD** study on, "Influence of Value Based Payment Methods on Racial and Socioeconomic Disparities in Hospitalized Patients" received a KL2 grant in the amount of \$111,480 each from the Clinical Trials Science Center.



Joseph Shin, MD was awarded \$100,000 from the President's Visioning Committee at Cornell University for his project on, "Cornell University Medical-Legal Partnership: Enhancing Care and Advocacy for Immigrants and Asylum-Seekers." This is a collaborative project between the Weill Cornell Center for Human Rights, which Dr. Shin leads, and Cornell Law.

Education Mission Updates

Adrian Majid, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, will be joining the Internal Medicine Residency Program as an Associate Program Director, replacing **Amiran Baduashvili, MD**. We thank Dr. Baduashvili for his contribution to the program.

Melissa Rusli, MD, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine, will be the new Associate Clerkship Director of the Primary Care Clerkship as of July 1, replacing **Pamela Eliach, MD**. We thank Dr. Eliach for her dedication to medical student teaching and contribution to the clerkship.

The **Primary Care Clerkship** has expanded service learning for the medical students. There are now two sites where students monitor blood pressures and

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counsel seniors on various health issues: Phipps House at Kips Bay and Stanley Isaacs Senior Center.

We thank all of the wonderful health care providers who have served as preceptors over the past academic year, and look forward to working with you this coming academic year. We are happy to announce that this year's lecturer of the year is **Samuel Ayala, MD**; his enthusiasm and clarity in providing information is exceptional.

Cornell Center for Health Equity

Become a part of a talented community that provides collaborative opportunities and resources dedicated to achieving health equity! Gain eligibility to be a PI on pilot grants sponsored by the Center, participate in public outreach, and more! Join today! For membership information, click [here](#).

Diversity Center of Excellence (DCoE)

The center has partaken in various events in the past few months. With the establishment of the **Diversity Mentoring Cascade** over 131 medical students, residents, fellows, and faculty provided mentees with valuable information and advice that can be crucial in achieving success within a demanding career. In addition, the DCoE and the Department of Medicine are supporting the creation of the LGBTQ Mentoring Cascade. If you are interested in participating or in learning more, contact [Benedict Harvey](#). The DCoE co-hosted the Tri-I Diversity Retreat on June 8, also known as achieving Successful Productive Academic Research Careers (SPARC), with WCM Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and The Rockefeller University.

The Diversity Center of Excellence is pleased to announce a new faculty development program for Weill Cornell faculty. For current or prospective clinician-educators for trainees, particularly of medical students and residents, within the School of Medicine, we are accepting applications for the Faculty Scholars in Health

Equity. The program will launch in October 2019 and applications are due July 31, 2019. To learn more about the program, contact [Erica Phillips, MD](#) and submit your application to [Daisy Torres-Baez](#).

Save the Date! 2019 Make Your Match: Diversity Open House will be held on **September 7**. This annual event brings over 100 medical students who participate in mock residency interviews and meet and greet with experts in various medical fields.

Honors & Awards

Ernie Esquivel, MD, Director of Medicine Clerkship, offered commendation for Exemplary Service in the Medicine Clerkship to the following members for their dedication of more than 16 hours over the past year to teach students. Students praised faculty for the inspiration and support they provided as teachers and mentors. Join us in thanking our faculty for their unwavering commitment and service to medical student teaching: **Drs. Justin Choi, Todd Cutler, Ezra Gabbay, Maya Hogg, Aram Kim, Bryan Leppert, Parimal Patel, Shira Sachs, Michael Torres, and Alexis Vien**.

Arthur Evans, MD received the first Dean's Award for Excellence in Mentorship at commencement on May 30.



Anthony Ogedegbe, MD received the Leonard P. Tow Humanism Award at commencement.

Drs. Amiran Baduashvili, Ernie Esquivel, Laura Greisman, Bryan Leppert, Anthony Ogedegbe, Alice Tang and Tanping Wong received the House Staff Teaching Award at commencement.

Publications

Lisa Kern, MD [Health Care Fragmentation in Medicaid Managed Care vs. Fee-For-Service](#)

Lisa Kern, MD [Do Hospitalizations Disrupt Loyalty to Ambulatory Care Providers?](#)

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Matthew McCarthy, MD [Frequency of Ethical Issues on Hospitalist Teaching Service at an Urban, Tertiary Care Center](#)

Janey Peterson, EdD [Interventions to Support Behavioral Self-Management of Chronic Diseases](#)

Monika Safford, MD had several publications during this period, click [here](#).

Martin Shapiro, MD Commentary piece, [The Last Breath—Enriching End-of-Life Moments](#)

Matt McCarthy, MD and **Ezra Gabbay, MD** published their study examining the ethical issues on the hospitalist teaching service. This work was funded by a Primary Care Innovations Seed Grant.

The **Transitions of Care** Affinity Group manuscript was accepted by the Journal of Ambulatory Care Management.

Announcements

Matt McCarthy, MD completed another semester teaching his undergraduate seminar in medical ethics at the Macaulay Honors College at City University of New York (CUNY). The course featured guest lectures from a number of GIM faculty members, including **Drs. Ezra Gabbay, Renuka Gupta, and Joseph Shin**.



Trenton Collier, MD was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Physicians at the national ACP meeting this past April.

Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting took place May 8-11 in Washington, DC. The conference was attended by many GIM faculty, residents and medical students.



The **Integrative Health & Medicine Fellowship** is a two-year fellowship led by **Alka Gupta, MD** and **Chiti Parikh, MD**. The fellowship is designed to offer comprehensive education and hands-on experience in the field of Integrative Medicine. Prospective fellows are individuals looking to augment their clinical practice, or those looking to transition into practice of Integrative Medicine. To apply, email integrativehealth@nyp.org.

GIM Grand Rounds takes place every first Thursday of the month. **Sarita Mahtani, MD**, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine presented on May 2 about “Climate Change: A Health Emergency” and **Daniel Barchi**, Chief Information Officer at NYP presented on June 6 about “Artificial Intelligence, Telemedicine, and Modern Health.”

Joseph Shin, MD attended the Physicians for Human Rights panel on June 10 in Washington, DC. During the panel, he presented findings on the medical and mental health impacts of trauma exposure in children seeking asylum and policy brief on how U.S. immigration enforcement is impacting patients in health facilities across the US.

The Weill Cornell Office of External Affairs conducted a mail appeal highlighting “Doctor’s Day” in honoring our physicians: **Drs. Acinapura, Charney, Collier, Eiss, Eliach, Goyal, Savillo, Strauss, Tung, and Weinstein**.

Dr. Matthew McCarthy’s book *Superbugs: The Race to Stop an Epidemic* is now available for purchase at Barnes & Nobel and Amazon!

Congratulations

Joanna Bryan Ringel, MPH has been promoted to Senior Research Data Analyst effective July 1. She is also a recipient of the Weill Department of Medicine’s STAR Performer Medal. We greatly appreciate Joanna for her continued contributions to DGIM.

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Farewell and good luck! Pamela Eliach, MD, Alexander Nazem, MD, Gina Jabbour, MD, Amiran Baduashvili, MD, Maullika Dua, Tahera Begum, Alexi Archambault, Jacqueline Marino and Kimberly Kiplagat.



Academic

Masha Slavin, MD, Ambulatory Chief Resident
Daniel Choi, MD, Chief Resident
Zachary Sherman, MD, Chief Resident
Melissa Rusli, MD, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine
Deborah Fung, MD, Instructor in Clinical Medicine, AIM at 156 William Street
Michael Wagner, MD, HM Clinical Scholar, Assistant Professor of Medicine
Laura Kolbe, MD, HM Clinical Scholar, Instructor in Medicine
William Levine, MD, HM Clinical Scholar, Instructor in Medicine
Devin Worster, MD, HM Clinical Scholar, Instructor in Medicine
Daniel Nam, MD, HM Clinical Scholars, Visiting Fellow
Alberto Rojas, MD, POCUS Fellow, Instructor in Medicine
Rajiv Bhagat, MD, POCUS Fellow, Assistant Professor in Medicine

Staff

Caleigh Smith, BS, Research Assistant for Dr. McNairy
Jacklyn Cho, BS, Research Assistant for Drs. Sterling and Pinheiro
Wesley Jacobsson, BS, Research Assistant for Dr. Kern
Nathaly Rodriguez, BA, Administrative Specialist-CCHEq
Kumrije Lazimi, GIM Office Assistant