

# General Internal Medicine Newsletter



## Message from Division Leadership

As 2022 draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for another great year for our division. Our three sections are thriving and continue to expand by adding exciting new programs like the Diversity Leadership Fellowship, complementing established programs such as our POCUS training, fellowship programs, and leadership in University and College-wide Centers. Our faculty continue to garner teaching and research awards, with many rising to national and international prominence. I am very proud of all of you and am honored to lead this talented division. Wishing you all a happy holiday season with best wishes for a healthy and productive New Year!

**Monika Safford, MD | Chief, GIM**

## Education Updates

The **Cornell-Hunter Health Equity Research Fellowship** under the Weill Cornell Medicine (WCM) Division of General Internal Medicine, in collaboration with CUNY-Hunter College, 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. The fellowship offers four focus areas in primary care, health system redesign, community-partnered research, and global health. To learn more about this fellowship, click [here](#)!

Congratulations to the **Hospital Medicine Clinical Point of Care Ultrasound** fellows, **Fizza Sajid, DO**, and **Hafiz Jeelani, MD**, for matching to a Pulmonary Critical Care fellowship next year!

The **Ambulatory Care Clerkship (ACC)** wants to thank all of our preceptors for their hard work and dedication to the medical students that they host as part of the clerkship. We are grateful to you for the time, energy, feedback, and positive learning environments that you offer to the WCM students. ACC is happy to announce an expansion to a new clinical site at NewYork-

Presbyterian Queens/Forest Hills— a multi-specialty practice that will begin accepting one student clerk for the block beginning at the end of January 2023. The Site Director will be Demetrios Paidoussis, MD, the Site Coordinator will be Mark Staubbe. We are grateful for the hard work and support of the NYP Queens Department of Medicine chair, Joseph Cooke, MD. For clerkship related questions, please contact, [Kathryn Zhu, MPA](#), Interim Clerkship Coordinator.

## Research Updates

**Lisa Kern, MD**, Associate Professor of Medicine, received a grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for her study, *Improving How Older Adults at Risk for Cardiovascular Outcomes Are Selected for Care Coordination*. This is a two-year K18 grant (a mid-career career development award) in the amount of \$392,260.

## Cornell Center for Health Equity (CCHEq)

The **3rd Annual Cornell Center for Health Equity Symposium** occurred on October 20 and 21, 2022. The Health People 2030: Shifting Power to Communities-themed symposium hosted clinicians, researchers, and local leaders to share assessments and approaches for community empowerment around health equity. To read more about the two-day activities and view a photo gallery, click [here](#)!



The CCHEq is pleased to introduce **William Schpero, PhD**, and **Rana Zadeh, March, PhD**, as Co-Associate Directors of the Research, Training, and Mentoring Core.

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**Become a Member** of the Cornell Center for Health Equity today! Find out more about funding opportunities and center activities by [completing a membership application!](#)

## Diversity Center of Excellence (DCoE)

The **Pre-Medical Diversity Initiatives**, led by Dr. Andrea Card with support from Lawrence Onyekwere, hosted three Dialogues in Health for the six linkage colleges in November. The sessions were attended by many WCM faculty and trainees to focus on the mentorship of premedical students through the successes and drawbacks of their paths to medical school. In the upcoming spring, the DCoE will transition to an in-person Annual Premedical Conference and Dialogues in Health sessions onsite.

On December 13, the **Diversity Mentoring Cascade** hosted an in-person team-based mentoring session to reconnect our faculty and students and encourage cross-departmental and training level mentorship and community building. The session was about Reconnecting, and What it Means to be a Mentor/Mentee – led by Drs. Susana Morales, Joy Howell, John Leonard, Marshall Glesby, and Marcus Lambert.

The **Weill Cornell Latino Medical Student Association**, along with MD/PhD students organized an afternoon of educational programming in collaboration with Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation that was broadcasted on News12 The Bronx on November 18.

Due to growing student interest and the ongoing pandemic, a fifth cohort of the **COVID-19 Community Education Empowerment and Internship Program** led by Dr. Susana Morales and the Steering Committee will begin in January 2023. To share your journey in medicine with trainees or learn more about the DCoE, email [dcoe@med.cornell.edu](mailto:dcoe@med.cornell.edu).

## Quality Improvement Academy (QIA)

As QIA closes out the year, we are excited to announce we are now accepting applications for the Class of 2024. If you are interested in applying, [click here!](#) Application deadline is **January 13, 2023**. To learn more about QIA and our initiatives, please visit us on [our website](#).

## Honors & Awards

**Esther Wei**, Nurse Practitioner, won the lifetime achievement award during National Nurse Practitioner recognition week. This is an excellent time to reflect on the significant contributions that our nurses bring to the Division of General Internal Medicine. Each of you plays a vital role in the compassionate and superior patient care we strive to provide our patients daily.



## Publications

**Parag Goyal, MD** [Molecular Mechanisms of Vascular Health: Insights From Vascular Aging and Calcification](#)

**Lisa Kern, MD** [Ambulatory Care Fragmentation, Emergency Department Visits, and Race: a Nationwide Cohort Study in the U.S](#)

**Lisa Kern, MD** [COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in a Predominantly Minority Population and Trust in Primary Care Physicians as a Potential Solution](#)

**Matthew McCarthy, MD** [Effect of Ivermectin vs Placebo on Time to Sustained Recovery in Outpatients With Mild to Moderate COVID-19](#)

**Matthew McCarthy, MD** [Original Antigen Sin and COVID-19: Implications for Seasonal Vaccination](#)

**Matthew McCarthy, MD** [Optimizing the Use of Paxlovid in Clinical Practice](#)

**Matthew McCarthy, MD** [Treatment of Severe COVID-19: An Evolving Paradigm](#)

**Laura Pinheiro, PhD** [Residential Urban Food Environment Profiles and Diet Outcomes Among Adults in Brooklyn, New York: A Cross-Sectional Study](#)

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

**Martin Shapiro, MD** [Impact of Hurricanes and Associated Extreme Weather Events on Cardiovascular Health: A Scoping Review](#)

**Madeline Sterling, MD** [Development and Piloting of a Community-Partnered Heart Failure Training Course for Home Health Care Workers](#)

**Madeline Sterling, MD** [Self-Reported Gaps in Care Coordination and Preventable Adverse Outcomes Among Older Adults Receiving Home Health Care](#)

## Appointments & Promotions

**Ezra Gabbay, MD**, was promoted to Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, effective October 1, 2022, on the pathway recognizing clinical excellence. Dr. Gabbay has provided 7 years of distinguished service as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine in the section of Hospital Medicine; built a reputation as an exceptional teacher; achieved recognition nationally as a respected expert in Hospital Medicine and Medical Ethics; and has produced outstanding published scholarship that has influenced clinical practice nationally. His teaching excellence is well documented with multiple teaching awards: these include special commendation for his outstanding work with third-year medical students in the Medicine Clerkship and the 2022 Weill-Cornell Excellence in Medical Education Award. With his colleagues in the Division of Medical Ethics, he shares in leading the education of students, residents, fellows, and faculty in clinical ethics. We look forward to his future achievements in GIM!



**Matthew McCarthy, MD**, Associate Professor of Medicine, has joined the Weill Cornell Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) Translational Research Advisory Committee (TRAC). The adult TRAC carefully reviews all studies submitted to the CTSC and

provides input if needed. The TRAC members represent all CTSC partnering institutions and have substantial experience in peer-reviewed, clinical and translational research from a variety of disciplines.

**Jennifer Lee, MD**, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, is elected President of the Korean American Medical Association (KAMA) for 2023. KAMA provides guidance and networking opportunities to Korean American medical students, medical trainees and physicians. Dr. Lee is the first hospitalist to have the role and to follow in Dr. Mary Choi's footsteps.



## GIM Grand Rounds

**Matthew McCarthy, MD**, presented on October 6, 2022, on *Treatment Options for COVID-19: An Update from Randomized Clinical Trials*, and **Lisa Diamond, MD**, a Hospitalist from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, presented on December 1, 2022, on *Language Barriers in Medicine: Considerations for Practice*.

## Spread the Word

The **Anita Mesi General Internal Medicine Internship Program** application opens on January 3, 2023, and closes on January 13, 2023. Please share this [link](#) with students who might find an interest in this opportunity.

**Judy Tung, MD**, and **Renuka Gupta, MD**, were featured on *IMPACT* for two women leaders whose professional paths have connected – discussing the power of mentorship for themselves and other women in academic medicine. To read the full article, click [here!](#)



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**Margaret McNairy, MD**, Associate Professor of Medicine, gave Global Health Grand Rounds about *Cardiovascular Diseases in Low-Income Countries: A Case Study of Haiti* on December 12, 2022.

**Madeline Sterling, MD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, was featured on PIX11, where she explains how to support caregivers and home health aides at high risk for depression and anxiety. Watch [here!](#)

**Matthew Mcarthy, MD**, presented the results of the National Institutes of Health ACTIV-6 study at the international Infectious Disease conference during IDWeek in Washington, D.C. There were several hundred in the audience, including Trip Gulick, chief of the Division of Infectious Disease.

**Kathleen Walsh, MD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, gave Global Health Grand Rounds for the Office of International Medical Student Education on *Eliminating MDR-TB: Elusive but not Impossible* on November 16, 2022.

**Jennifer Lee, MD**, presented at the first formal Quality Improvement Workshop Trainees' Day at the Internal Medicine Society of Australia and New Zealand (IMSANZ) Conference in Manly, New South Wales. The workshop marked an important collaboration between the Quality Improvement Academy at WCM and IMSANZ.

**Joseph Shin, MD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, shares the results of a training initiative he has been working on with several other co-faculty as part of a national group of asylum medicine experts and practitioners. The Asylum Medicine Training Initiative released a new online, peer-reviewed course reviewing essential knowledge, skills, and best practices for conducting forensic medical evaluations for asylum seekers and victims of torture and abuse. Learn more about the training [here!](#)

WCM is thrilled to introduce its first issue of **IMPACT, the new WCM magazine**. Published twice a year, the magazine highlights the work of the incredible WCM doctors, scientists, students and alumni, who are engaged in world-class clinical care, cutting-edge research and training the next generation of physician-scientists. Each of the stories featured in the magazine highlights your collaborative spirit, commitment, and dedication. Experience the full issue [here!](#)

## Welcome to the Team!

**Jesabely Solano**, Research Coordinator for Dr. Erica Phillips

**Deborah Ofosu**, Research Assistant for GIM Hospitalists and Elizabeth Baquero

**Elizabeth Kuo**, Research Assistant for Dr. Madeline Sterling

**Jennie (Xiao) Liang**, Research Assistant-Part Time/Temp for Dr. Jerel Ezell

**Joandalys Tejada**, Assistant Research Coordinator-Part Time/Temp for Dr. Jerel Ezell

## Congratulations!

**Yuliana Dominguez Paez**, **Noelia Hernandez**, **Johanne Morisseau**, and **Sherry Vega** were selected as STAR performers in the Weill Department of Medicine. Keep up the excellent work!

## Farewell!

**Sawida Worley**, QIA Administrative Specialist, is pursuing her career in design. We wish her good luck and are grateful for all her hard work for the past three years!

**Ryan Batik**, Ambulatory Care Clerkship Coordinator  
**Stephane Labossiere**, Research Coordinator for Dr. Martin Shapiro

**Mahad Musse**, Research Assistant for Dr. Parag Goyal