



What's New In Medicine

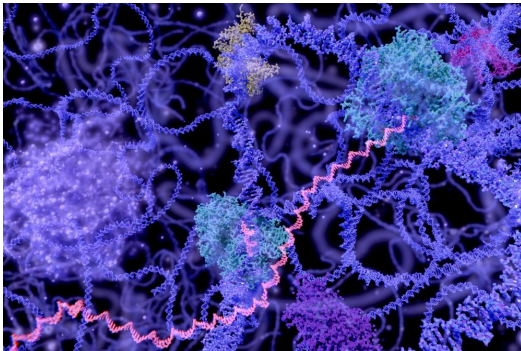
July/August 2024

News & insights from across the Weill Department of Medicine - share your latest staff and research updates with [Larissa Breedlove](#).



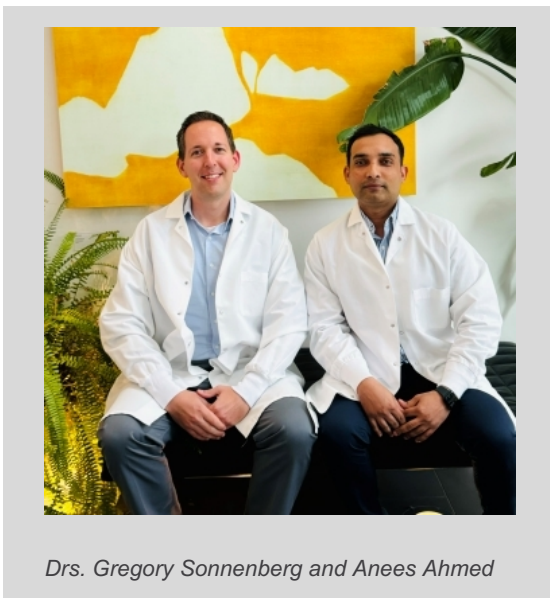
Notables

New NIH Grant Will Support Key Lymphoma Research



A new \$12.4 million investigator-initiated Program Project grant co-led by [Dr. Leandro Cerchietti](#) will support a collaborative, multi-faceted focus on fundamental lymphoma research. The grant, from the National Cancer Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), will fund an extensive program of basic and translational research on the biology of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), the most common form of lymphoma. [Read More](#)

Study Identifies ILC3s as Critical Link Between Potent IL-23 Driven Inflammatory Response



Drs. Gregory Sonnenberg and Anees Ahmed

Lead author [Dr. Gregory Sonnenberg](#) and postdoctoral researcher [Dr. Anees Ahmed](#) have discovered a previously unknown link between two key pathways that regulate the immune system in mammals—a finding that impacts our understanding of chronic inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD).

The study, [published](#) in *Nature*, found that IL-23 acts on group 3 innate lymphoid cells (ILC3s), a family of immune cells that are a first line of defense in mucosal tissues such as the intestines and lungs. [Read More](#)

Dr. Margaret (Molly) McNairy Named NAM Emerging Leader

professionals who have demonstrated leadership and professional achievement in biomedical science, population health,



Dr. Margaret "Molly" McNairy

Dr. Margaret (Molly) McNairy has been selected as an Emerging Leader in Health and Medicine (ELHM) Scholar by the National Academy of Medicine.

Launched in 2016, the ELHM program annually selects early and mid-career

health care and related fields.

Scholars serve a three-year term and benefit from mentorship, collaboration and innovation opportunities with their class, as well as with NAM members and leaders across various fields.

"I'm thrilled. I never thought I'd be in the running to be considered for this honor," said Dr. McNairy, who is also a member of the Center for Global Health. "This is an incredible opportunity to network with leaders in my career stage across the nation." [Read More](#)

Study Finds Potential Link Between DNA Markers and Aging Process



Drs. Michael Corley and Lishomwa Ndhlovu

Drs. **Lishomwa Ndhlovu** and **Dr. Michael Corley** in the Division of Infectious Diseases, along with the epigenetics company TruDiagnostic, have uncovered DNA markers associated with retroelements, remnants of ancient viral genetic material, in our genes that act as highly accurate epigenetic clocks predicting chronological age. The results support the idea that certain retroelements in the human genome may be involved in aging.

The **study**, published Aug. 2 in *Aging Cell*, concluded that these retroelement clocks embedded in the human genome capture unique signals of aging not previously recognized by other clocks that measure chronological age. [Read More](#)

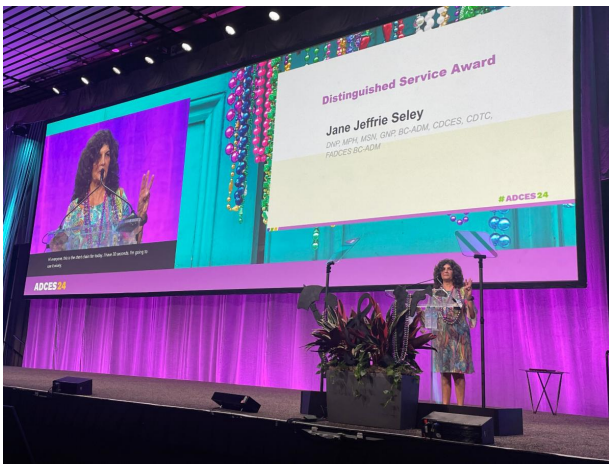
New Research Indicates Lasting Performance for Wireless Pacemaker



Dr. James Ip

A research team including **Dr. James Ip**, professor of clinical medicine in the Division of Cardiology, has found that a dual-chamber wireless pacemaker provides reliable performance over three months, bolstering evidence for this new pacemaker option according to results from a multi-center, international clinical trial **recently published** in *Circulation*.

The results showed that the two tiny pieces of this wireless pacemaker system reliably communicate, achieving the goal of synchronizing contraction of the upper and lower heart chambers 98% of the time. [Read More](#)



Dr. Jane J. Seley, left, in the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, recently received the Allene Von Son Distinguished Service Award during the Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists (ADCES) annual meeting in New Orleans. [Read More](#)

Dr. Randy Longman led the **Jill Roberts Center for IBD's** JRC Visiting Scholar and GI T32 Research Symposium this past spring. The event featured visiting professor **Dr. Laurent Peyrin-Biroulet**, an internationally lauded researcher in IBD at the Nancy

University Hospital in Vandoeuvre-les-Nancy, France. The event also featured presentations by **Dr. Chun-Jun Guo**, **Dr. Gregory Sonnenberg**, a fellow, **Dr. Lasha Gogokhia**, and postdoctoral associate **Dr. Jazib Uddin**. Topics included gut health and IBD, fecal microbiota transplantation, and neuro-immune interactions.

Dr. Darshana Dadhania has been elected as a Councilor-at-Large [into the American Society of Transplantation \(AST\) Board of Directors for 2024-2025](#).

Upcoming Events

- Spread the word! Prospective residents are encouraged to attend our upcoming [Internal Medicine Residency Virtual Open House](#) on **Thurs. Sept. 5!**
- The division of Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine is holding its first [Advanced Respiratory Disease and Lung Transplant Summit](#) in Belfer on **Thurs. Sept. 26**.
- Save the date for the 9th annual **Weill Department of Medicine Research Retreat** on **Fri. Nov. 1!** Abstracts should be emailed to Kristen Brady at krb2016@med.cornell.edu with the subject line "2024 DOM Research Retreat_ Investigator's LastName" by **Mon. Sept. 9**.
- For a full list of upcoming WDOM events, visit the Weill Cornell Medicine [events page](#).

2024 Star Performers and Cheers for Peers

Congratulations to our [latest Star Performers](#), including our **amazing Super Stars** **Imani Gonzalez, Zaida Hernandez, Erin Krebs, Inez McCaskill, Marcos Lopes Nogueira, and Grant Williams!**

Cheers for Peers is a peer recognition program to help doctors recognize their colleagues for going the extra mile.

Send a big "thank you" to your colleague, fellow or resident for brightening your day by completing our [short survey](#).

Welcome, New Faculty!

Dr. Calley Levine, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology, is a GI hospitalist on the consult service and the Direct Access Colonoscopy Lead. After receiving her MD at New York Medical College, Dr. Levine completed her residency at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City and fellowship at Montefiore Health System.

Dr. Michael Mintz, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology, and a member of the [Jill Roberts Center for IBD](#), specializes in the care of patients with IBD, including ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. He received his MD

from Stony Brook University, completed residencies at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, and subsequently did a gastroenterology fellowship with subspecialty training in IBD at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Open House: Thank You



Dear WDOM Community:

I want to thank everyone who was able to drop by our recent open house series!

It was a wonderful, informal opportunity for faculty, staff, residents, and trainees to connect with me. I enjoyed getting to know more of you and look forward to sharing new opportunities for engagement ahead.

Warmly,

**Myles Wolf, MD, MMSc, Chair
Weill Department of Medicine**

Call for Photos: Website Upgrade



In coordination with the institution's upgrade to the Drupal 10 platform and a new academic year, the timing is optimal to update our **Weill Department of Medicine website**. We appreciate the outpouring of support we've received for this initiative!

Please continue to upload photos from campus events, conferences, and social outings **using this link**. **Please label file names by division**. The call for photos is ongoing, so remember to share from upcoming events, too!

Please contact **Larissa Breedlove** with any questions.

Sponsored Research Awards

Dr. Michael Podolsky, Division of Pulmonology & Critical Care Medicine, has received funding from the National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute for a project titled "Intracellular Collagen Sensing in Pulmonary Fibrosis" in the amount of **\$3.2 million**.

Dr. Robert Schwartz, Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology, has received funding from the National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases for a project titled "Mechanisms of epithelial-mesenchymal crosstalk in intrahepatic biliary formation" in the amount of **\$2.6 million**.

Drs. Jennifer Downs, Jyoti Mathad and **Margaret (Molly) McNairy**, Center for Global Health, have received funding from the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases for a project titled "Developing Research Leaders in Global Infectious Diseases in Women" in the amount of **\$2.0 million**.

Dr. Bobak Parang, Division of Hematology & Medical Oncology, has received funding from the National Cancer Institute for a project titled "The Role of Propionate Metabolism in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer" in the amount of **\$980,100**.

Research Highlights

Laine L, Spechler S, Yadlapati R, **Schnoll-Sussman F**, Smith N, Leifke E, Harris T, Hunt B, Fass R, **Katz P**. **VONOPRAZAN IS EFFICACIOUS FOR TREATMENT OF**

HEARTBURN IN NON-EROSIVE REFLUX DISEASE: A RANDOMIZED TRIAL. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol.* 2024 May

Canakis A, Wall-Wieler E, Liu Y, Zheng F, **Sharaiha RZ.** **New-Onset Type 2 Diabetes after Bariatric Surgery: A matched cohort study.** *Am J Prev Med.* 2024 Jun 4

Ahmed A, Joseph AM, Zhou J, Horn V, Uddin J, Lyu M, Goc J ; JRI Live Cell Bank; Sockolow RE, Wing JB, Vivier E, Sakaguchi S, Sonnenberg GF. **CTLA-4-expressing ILC3s restrain interleukin-23-mediated inflammation.** *Nature.* 2024 Jun 12

Kavaliauskas P, Acevedo W, **Garcia A, Naing E,** Grybaite B, Sapijanskaite-Banevic B, Grigaleviciute R, **Petraitiene R,** Mickevicius V, **Petraitis V.** **Exploring the potential of bis(thiazol-5-yl)phenylmethane derivatives as novel candidates against genetically defined multidrug-resistant Staphylococcus aureus.** *PLoS One* 2024.

Moar P, Linn K, **Premeaux TA, Bowler S,** Sardarni UK, Gopalan BP, Shwe EE, San T, Han H, Clements D, Hlaing CS, Kyu EH, Thair C, Mar YY, Nway N, Mannarino J, Bolzenius J, Mar S, Aye AMM, Tandon R, Paul R, **Ndhlovu LC.** **Plasma Galectin-9 relates to cognitive performance and inflammation among adolescents with vertically acquired HIV.** *AIDS* 2024 Apr 12.

Torres HM, Marino J, **Simon MS, Singh HK, Westblade LF, Calfee DP.** **High touch surface bioburden associated with the use of disinfectants with and without continuously active disinfection in ambulatory care settings.** *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol.* 2024 Jun.



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