



# Weill Cornell Medicine

## Joan and Sanford I. Weill Department of Medicine

### What's New In Medicine

Newsletter • January 2020



What's New in Medicine, the bimonthly newsletter of the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Department of Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine, provides the latest updates on the department's research breakthroughs, new faculty recruits, and honors and awards. To submit information for consideration for future newsletters, please contact Suzanne Ross directly at [suross@med.cornell.edu](mailto:suross@med.cornell.edu).

## Message from the Chair



As we embark on a new year and a new decade, I send everyone best wishes for a productive and vibrant 2020!

The Weill Department of Medicine (WDOM) is the largest department at Weill Cornell Medicine, which provides us with an expansive purview in each of our missions. One of the challenges of the department's large size, is the fact that arranging opportunities for the faculty to convene together can be difficult. To keep the avenues of communication open, the department offers three to four annual faculty meetings per year, as well as our ongoing Medicine Grand Rounds. The latter venue, Medical Grand Rounds, is probably the most critical venue we have in which faculty and trainees can interact and remain up-to-

date on medical breakthroughs and departmental activities.

The Medicine Grand Rounds weekly series covers a broad range of topics. The grand rounds committee, chaired by Dr. Lindsay Leif, does a superb job of identifying outstanding speakers. This month we are fortunate to have two named lectures: Wednesday, January 15, the Scherl-Roberts Lecture will feature Dr. Stefan Schreiber (Tryptophan Metabolism as a Therapeutic Target for Chronic Inflammatory Diseases), and Wednesday, January 22, the Ralph Nachman Lecture will feature Dr. Joyce Bischoff (Endothelial Anomalies in Vascular Tumors and Vascular Malformations). Lastly, on Wednesday, January 29, Dr. Tait Shanafelt, Associate Dean, Chief Wellness Office, Stanford School of Medicine, will speak on physician well-being (The High Cost of Burnout on Healthcare Professionals: Organizational Approaches to Improve Well-being) – a topic of key significance to the WDOM. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at these superb talks. *Medicine Grand Rounds are held every Wednesday in Uris Auditorium at 8 AM.*

In addition to getting the department together to meet in person, our electronic communications include this newsletter and the WDOM website, both of which are critically important. To enhance our virtual world of communication, the WDOM is now officially on Twitter with its own hashtag – [#WCMDptofMed](https://twitter.com/WCMDptofMed). If you are a WDOM faculty member who uses social media, I encourage you to please share any news items that pertain to the WDOM by adding this hashtag. Via this hashtag, please include us on important tweets from your Divisions, and, in addition, keep an eye out for news and announcements from our own WDOM feed.

Again, as we keep all lines of communication open, I wish you the best for 2020!

*Tony*

Anthony Hollenberg, M.D.

Sanford I. Weill Chair

## News



### **Dr. Lo and Colleagues Publish Critical Findings on Type 2 Diabetes in Nature Medicine**

Dr. Lo and colleagues hope that by using adipsin or DUSP26 therapies, patients with type 2 diabetes will be spared from developing beta cell failure and thus spared from insulin injections.

[Read more](#)



### **Dr. Lee and Colleagues Publish Breakthrough Paper on UTI in Nature Communications**

In a collaborative study, Dr. John R. Lee and colleagues revealed a first-of-its-kind discovery showing that the abundance of uropathogens in the gut is associated with future development of UTI. [Read more](#)



### **Dr. Martinez Leads PRECISIONS Study on Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)**

Funded by a \$22 million grant from the National Institutes of Health and Three Lakes Partners, the PRECISIONS study aims to transform diagnosis and treatment for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. [Read more](#)



### **Highlight on HCV: Dr. Brown Lead Author on Breakthrough Paper in Journal of Hepatology**

Results of a recent study that used a new drug combination (glecaprevir/pibrentasivir) for chronic HCV and compensated cirrhosis of the liver, showed high virological cure rates. [Read more](#)



## WDOM Star Performers Celebrated at 7<sup>th</sup> Annual RRR Reception

The 7th Annual RRR (Results, Rewards, Recognition) Reception was held at the Griffis Faculty Club on November 7, 2019. [Read more](#)

## News Flashes

- The Weill Department of Medicine (WDOM) is delighted to announce that it has an official Twitter hashtag created by Weill Cornell Medicine ([@WeillCornell](#)). If you are a WDOM faculty member who uses social media, we hope you will share any news items that pertain to WDOM by adding the hashtag [#WCMDeptofMed](#). Thank you!
- Patient Donation Creates the June T. Jaffee Fund! As part of the Fund for the Future, the newly created June T. Jaffee Fund will support junior faculty in the WDOM who are embarking on careers as physicians and researchers. Faculty receiving support from the Fund for Medicine are determined under the direction of **Dr. Anthony Hollenberg**, Weill Chair of the WDOM. An article was published in the Philanthropist (WCM) in which June Tanner Jaffee speaks of her longtime physician, **Dr. Orli Etingin**, in whose name she made the generous contribution. Dr. Etingin is Vice Chair for Faculty (WDOM), the Lisa and Sanford B. Ehrenkranz Professor in Women's Health, and the Medical Director of the Iris Cantor Women's Health Center. [Read more \[PDF\]](#)
- The WDOM congratulates **Dr. Iris Navarro-Millan**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, on receiving funding from the Rheumatology Research Foundation for her study, The Moving Well Intervention: A Peer Coaches Program for Patients with Osteoarthritis Planning Total Knee Arthroplasty. The award in the amount of \$400,000 begins in July 2020 and runs through June 2022.
- **Dr. Darshana Dadhania**, Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Nephrology and Hepatology, organized an AST (American Society of Transplantation)-sponsored Consensus Conference on Improving Cardiovascular Disease Care in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients, which was held on November 6, 2019 at the Grand Hyatt Washington, D.C. The meeting involved more than 80 workgroups and the event highlighted 30 individuals providing expertise spanning cardiology, nephrology, pulmonary, and hepatology; their input addressed the post-transplant care of cardiovascular disease in solid organ transplant recipients. Dr. Dadhania is a past Chair of the AST's Kidney Pancreas Community of Practice.
- Congratulations to both **Dr. David Calfee** and **Dr. Thomas Walsh**, Division of Infectious Diseases, on being recognized as "Highly Cited" researchers (in 2019) by the Web of Science Group. Each year, the Web of Science Group identifies the world's most influential researchers. In 2019, fewer than 6,300, or 0.1%, of the world's researchers, across 21 research fields, have earned this exclusive distinction.
- **Dr. Matthew McCarthy**, Division of General Internal Medicine, has been appointed as Unit Medical Director on 14 South, where he will be responsible for patient care, the learning environment, and the implementation of novel technologies.
- Congratulations to the following WDOM physicians who recently received promotions: **Dr. Randy Longman**, Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology; **Dr. Leandro Carlos Cerchiatti**, Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Hematology and Medical Oncology; **Dr. Ana C. Krieger**, Professor of Clinical Medicine, Sleep Medicine, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine; and **Dr. Allison Yang** who has been appointed as the Linda Horowitz Cancer Research Foundation Clinical Scholar in Gastroenterology, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

# Research Paper Highlights

## Cardiology

Venkatesh P, Evans AT, Maw AM, Pashun RA, Patel A, Kim L, Feldman D, Minutello R, Wong SC, Stribling JC, LaPar D, Holzer R, Ginns J, Bacha E, Singh HS. Predictors of Late Mortality in D-Transposition of the Great Arteries After Atrial Switch Repair: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *J Am Heart Assoc.* 2019 Nov 5;8(21):e012932. doi: 10.1161/JAHA.119.012932. Epub 2019 Oct 23. PubMed PMID: 31642369; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6898856.

Cheng EP, Liu CF, Yeo I, Markowitz SM, Thomas G, Ip JE, Kim LK, Lerman BB, Cheung JW. Risk of Mortality Following Catheter Ablation of Atrial Fibrillation. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2019 Nov 5;74(18):2254-2264. doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2019.08.1036. PubMed PMID: 31672181.

## Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism

Levasseur EM, Yamada K, Piñeros AR, Wu W, Syed F, Orr KS, Anderson-Baucum E, Mastracci TL, Maier B, Mosley AL, Liu Y, Bernal-Mizrachi E, Alonso LC, Scott D, Garcia-Ocaña A, Tersey SA, Mirmira RG. Hypusine biosynthesis in  $\beta$  cells links polyamine metabolism to facultative cellular proliferation to maintain glucose homeostasis. *Sci Signal.* 2019 Dec 3;12(610). pii: eaax0715. doi: 10.1126/scisignal.aax0715. PubMed PMID: 31796630.

Tchang BG, Abel B, Zecca C, Saunders KH, Shukla AP. An up-to-date evaluation of lorcaserin hydrochloride for the treatment of obesity. *Expert Opin Pharmacother.* 2019 Nov 6:1-8. doi: 10.1080/14656566.2019.1685496. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31693425.

## Gastroenterology & Hepatology

Guo CJ, Allen BM, Hiam KJ, Dodd D, Van Treuren W, Higginbottom S, Nagashima K, Fischer CR, Sonnenburg JL, Spitzer MH, Fischbach MA. Depletion of microbiome-derived molecules in the host using *Clostridium* genetics. *Science.* 2019 Dec 13;366(6471). pii: eaav1282. doi: 10.1126/science.aav1282. PubMed PMID: 31831639. **[Jill Roberts Institute]**

## General Internal Medicine

McNairy ML, Tymejczyk O, Rivera V, Seo G, Dorélien A, Peck M, Petion J, Walsh K, Bolgrien A, Nash D, Pape J, Fitzgerald DW. High Burden of Non-communicable Diseases among a Young Slum Population in Haiti. *J Urban Health.* 2019 Dec;96(6):797-812. doi: 10.1007/s11524-019-00368-y. PubMed PMID: 31218502; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6904710. **[Center for Global Health]**

McCarthy MW, Keyloun KR, Gillard P, Choi JJ, Pickell N, Copp R, Walsh TJ. Dalbavancin Reduces Hospital Stay and Improves Productivity for Patients with Acute Bacterial Skin and Skin Structure Infections: The ENHANCE Trial. *Infect Dis Ther.* 2019 Nov 11. doi: 10.1007/s40121-019-00275-4. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31713130.

Pinheiro LC, Kaur H, Nilo D, Safford MM, DeRosa AP, Kern LM. Determining the Impact of a Cancer Diagnosis on Diabetes Management: A Systematic Literature Review. *Am J Clin Oncol.* 2019 Nov;42(11):870-883. doi: 10.1097/COC.0000000000000612. PubMed PMID: 31592804.

## Geriatrics & Palliative Medicine

Lachs MS, Choi AMK. Eliminating Medical School Debt: A Dean and Geriatrician's View From Opposite Ends of the Training Pipeline. *Ann Intern Med.* 2019 Dec 31. doi: 10.7326/M19-2897. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31887742.

## Hematology & Medical Oncology

Armstrong AJ, Al-Adhami M, Lin P, Parli T, Sugg J, Steinberg J, Tombal B, Sternberg CN, de Bono J, Scher HI, Beer TM. Association Between New Unconfirmed Bone Lesions and Outcomes in Men With Metastatic Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer Treated With Enzalutamide: Secondary Analysis of the PREVAIL and AFFIRM Randomized Clinical Trials. *JAMA Oncol*. 2019 Dec 12. doi: 10.1001/jamaoncol.2019.4636. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31830211.

Madhukar NS, Khade PK, Huang L, Gayvert K, Galletti G, Stogniew M, Allen JE, Giannakakou P, Elemento O. A Bayesian machine learning approach for drug target identification using diverse data types. *Nat Commun*. 2019 Nov 19;10(1):5221. doi: 10.1038/s41467-019-12928-6. PubMed PMID: 31745082; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6863850.

Petrylak DP, de Wit R, Chi KN, Drakaki A, Sternberg CN, Nishiyama H, Castellano D, Hussain SA, Fléchon A, Bamias A, Yu EY, van der Heijden MS, Matsubara N, Alekseev B, Necchi A, Géczi L, Ou YC, Coskun HS, Su WP, Bedke J, Gakis G, Percent JJ, Lee JL, Tucci M, Semenov A, Laestadius F, Peer A, Tortora G, Safina S, Garcia Del Muro X, Rodriguez-Vida A, Cicin I, Harputluoglu H, Tagawa ST, Vaishampayan U, Aragon-Ching JB, Hamid O, Liepa AM, Wijayawardana S, Russo F, Walgren RA, Zimmermann AH, Hozak RR, Bell-McGuinn KM, Powles T; RANGE study investigators. Ramucirumab plus docetaxel versus placebo plus docetaxel in patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma after platinum-based therapy (RANGE): overall survival and updated results of a randomised, double-blind, phase 3 trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2020 Jan;21(1):105-120. doi: 10.1016/S1470-2045(19)30668-0. Epub 2019 Nov 18. PubMed PMID: 31753727; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6946880.

## Infectious Diseases

Johnston CD, Hoover DR, Shi Q, Sharma A, Hanna DB, Anastos K, Tien PC, Fischl M, Gustafson D, Spence A, Karim R, French A, Schneider M, Adimora AA, Moran C, Konkole-Parker D, Glesby MJ. White Blood Cell Counts, Lymphocyte Subsets, and Incident Diabetes Mellitus in Women Living With and Without HIV. *AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses*. 2019 Dec 17. doi: 10.1089/AID.2019.0174. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31709815.

Petraitis V, Petraitiene R, Valdez JM, Pyrgos V, Lizak MJ, Klaunberg BA, Kalasauskas D, Basevicius A, Bacher JD, Benjamin DK Jr, Hope WW, Walsh TJ. Amphotericin B Penetrates into the Central Nervous System Through Focal Disruption of the Blood Brain Barrier in Experimental Hematogenous Candida Meningoencephalitis. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother*. 2019 Oct 7. pii: AAC.01626-19. doi: 10.1128/AAC.01626-19. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31591128; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6879260.

Westblade LF, Satlin MJ, Albakry S, Botticelli B, Robertson A, Alston T, Magruder M, Zhang LT, Edusei E, Chan K, Lubetzky M, Dadhania DM, Pamer EG, Suthanthiran M, Lee JR. Gastrointestinal pathogen colonization and the microbiome in asymptomatic kidney transplant recipients. *Transpl Infect Dis*. 2019 Dec;21(6):e13167. doi: 10.1111/tid.13167. Epub 2019 Oct 24. PubMed PMID: 31502737; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6917898.

Mishra P, Colombe S, Paul N, Mlingi J, Tosiri I, Aristide C, Gao J, Kashangaki P, Nagai H, Kalluvya SE, de Dood CJ, Corstjens PL, Mngara J, van Dam GJ, Downs JA. Insufficiency of annual praziquantel treatment to control *Schistosoma mansoni* infections in adult women: A longitudinal cohort study in rural Tanzania. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis*. 2019 Nov 21;13(11):e0007844. doi: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0007844. eCollection 2019 Nov. PubMed PMID: 31751333; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6894890. **[Center for Global Health]**

## Medical Ethics

Fins JJ. Saul Bellow's Coma: What Neuroscience Can Learn From the Humanities. *J Head Trauma Rehabil*. 2019 Nov 8. doi: 10.1097/HTR.0000000000000543. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31834061.

Ehrlich O, Wingate L, Heller C, de Melo-Martin I. When patient advocacy organizations meet industry: a novel approach to dealing with financial conflicts of interest. *BMC Med Ethics*. 2019 Dec 17;20(1):96. doi: 10.1186/s12910-019-0435-1. PubMed PMID: 31847854; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6918599.

Fins JJ. Mosaic Decisionmaking and Severe Brain Injury: Adding Another Piece to the Argument. *Camb Q Healthc Ethics*. 2019 Oct;28(4):737-743. doi: 10.1017/S0963180119000677. PubMed PMID: 31423964.

## **Nephrology & Hypertension**

Magruder M, Sholi AN, Gong C, Zhang L, Edusei E, Huang J, Albakry S, Satlin MJ, Westblade LF, Crawford C, Dadhania DM, Lubetzky M, Taur Y, Littman E, Ling L, Burnham P, De Vlaminck I, Pamer E, Suthanthiran M, Lee JR. Gut uropathogen abundance is a risk factor for development of bacteriuria and urinary tract infection. *Nat Commun.* 2019 Dec 4;10(1):5521. doi: 10.1038/s41467-019-13467-w. PubMed PMID: 31797927; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6893017.

Barry DM, McMillan EA, Kunar B, Lis R, Zhang T, Lu T, Daniel E, Yokoyama M, Gomez-Salinerio JM, Sureshbabu A, Cleaver O, Di Lorenzo A, Choi ME, Xiang J, Redmond D, Rabbany SY, Muthukumar T, Rafii S. Molecular determinants of nephron vascular specialization in the kidney. *Nat Commun.* 2019 Dec 13;10(1):5705. doi: 10.1038/s41467-019-12872-5. PubMed PMID: 31836710; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6910926.

Golongan H, Samuels SK, Camacho P, Dadhania DM, Pedraza-Taborda FE, Randolph G, Parangi S, Bimston DN, Harrell RM. MANAGEMENT OF HYPERPARATHYROIDISM IN KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION CANDIDATES: A NEED FOR CONSENSUS. *Endocr Pract.* 2019 Nov 4. doi: 10.4158/EP-2019-0392. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31682519.

## **Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine**

O'Beirne SL, Kikkers SA, Oromendia C, Salit J, Rostmai MR, Ballman KV, Kaner RJ, Crystal RG, Cloonan SM. Alveolar Macrophage Immunometabolism and Lung Function Impairment in Smoking and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med.* 2019 Nov 21. doi: 10.1164/rccm.201908-1683LE. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31751151.

Jung Cho S, Stout-Delgado HW. Aging and Lung Disease. *Annu Rev Physiol.* 2019 Nov 15. doi: 10.1146/annurev-physiol-021119-034610. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31730381.

Paulin LM, Gassett AJ, Alexis NE, Kirwa K, Kanner RE, Peters S, Krishnan JA, Paine R 3rd, Dransfield M, Woodruff PG, Cooper CB, Barr RG, Comellas AP, Pirozzi CS, Han M, Hoffman EA, Martinez FJ, Woo H, Peng RD, Fawzy A, Putcha N, Breyse PN, Kaufman JD, Hansel NN; for SPIROMICS investigators. Association of Long-term Ambient Ozone Exposure With Respiratory Morbidity in Smokers. *JAMA Intern Med.* 2019 Dec 9. doi: 10.1001/jamainternmed.2019.5498. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31816012; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6902160.

## **Regenerative Medicine**

Barry DM, McMillan EA, Kunar B, Lis R, Zhang T, Lu T, Daniel E, Yokoyama M, Gomez-Salinerio JM, Sureshbabu A, Cleaver O, Di Lorenzo A, Choi ME, Xiang J, Redmond D, Rabbany SY, Muthukumar T, Rafii S. Molecular determinants of nephron vascular specialization in the kidney. *Nat Commun.* 2019 Dec 13;10(1):5705. doi: 10.1038/s41467-019-12872-5. PubMed PMID: 31836710; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6910926.

Barcia Durán JG, Lis R, Rafii S. Haematopoietic stem cell reprogramming and the hope for a universal blood product. *FEBS Lett.* 2019 Dec;593(23):3253-3265. doi: 10.1002/1873-3468.13681. Epub 2019 Dec 2. Review. PubMed PMID: 31725897.

Rodrigues G, Hoshino A, Kenific CM, Matei IR, Steiner L, Freitas D, Kim HS, Oxley PR, Scandariato I, Casanova-Salas I, Dai J, Badwe CR, Gril B, Tešić Mark M, Dill BD, Molina H, Zhang H, Benito-Martin A, Bojmar L, Ararso Y, Offer K, LaPlant Q, Buehring W, Wang H, Jiang X, Lu TM, Liu Y, Sabari JK, Shin SJ, Narula N, Ginter PS, Rajasekhar VK, Healey JH, Meylan E, Costa-Silva B, Wang SE, Rafii S, Altorki NK, Rudin CM, Jones DR, Steeg PS, Peinado H, Ghajar CM, Bromberg J, de Sousa M, Pisapia D, Lyden D. Tumour exosomal CEMIP protein promotes cancer cell colonization in brain metastasis. *Nat Cell Biol.* 2019 Nov;21(11):1403-1412. doi: 10.1038/s41556-019-0404-4. Epub 2019 Nov 4. PubMed PMID: 31685984.

## Rheumatology

Barrat FJ, Crow MK, Ivashkiv LB. Interferon target-gene expression and epigenomic signatures in health and disease. *Nat Immunol.* 2019 Dec;20(12):1574-1583. doi: 10.1038/s41590-019-0466-2. Epub 2019 Nov 19. Review. PubMed PMID: 31745335.

Crow MK. Mitochondrial DNA promotes autoimmunity. *Science.* 2019 Dec 20;366(6472):1445-1446. doi: 10.1126/science.aaz9308. PubMed PMID: 31857466.

Salmon JE, Niewold TB. A Successful Trial for Lupus - How Good Is Good Enough? *N Engl J Med.* 2019 Dec 18. doi: 10.1056/NEJMe1915490. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31851796.

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