Match 2014

The results are in and you can see the incoming class of interns in all categories inside. This is a very eclectic group, as usual, with students from across the country and the world. Some of the diversity in schools and locations is a result of the emphasis placed on Board Scores as a measure of future success (passing the Internal Medicine Boards.) So this class has the highest Step I scores of any group we have matched (although there has been a notable amount of upward mobility of grade scores from test revisions in recent years.)

Our goal of increasing the number of GW Medical students staying with us was achieved and it was professionally rewarding to see that all the GW students applying for an Internship in Medicine matched.

We are done, but have already met with the current 3rd year GW class to orient them to the process so “here we go again.”

Special thanks as usual, to all those who interviewed and to Jacqueline Cole Miles and Tamara Lyons for making this year’s match process run amazingly smooth.

From the Chairman

“Primary care doc shortage leaves 62 million with inadequate access.” How’s that for an attention grabber? That figure was generated from a report from the Association of Something or Other looking for attention and credibility. Is it accurate? Does it matter? We have become numb to these types of headlines as we have been reading them for years and years and….

So given this call to arms, things must be improving in the recruitment of Primary Care physicians; guess again. The 2014 National Resident Match was just completed and less than half of the Internal Medicine positions were filled by U.S. Seniors and less than 23% of U.S. Seniors chose Internal Medicine (25% of the GW class). Compare these numbers to the most competitive specialties; Neurosurgery, Orthopedics, ENT, Plastic Surgery and Radiation Oncology which were filled with over 90% U.S. Seniors. Of course, Dermatology had 100% of their internships go to U.S. graduates. In less competitive specialties, the % of U.S. Seniors was considerably higher than in Internal Medicine: OB/GYN 76%, Anesthesia 72%, E-med 78%, General Surgery 78%, and even Neurology and Psychiatry were higher at 51% and 52% respectively. The only major specialty matching lower with U.S. grads than Internal Medicine was Pathology at 43%. As an aside, Radiology took a dive this year to 59% after years in the 70-80% range (no jobs?).

In 2011, 58% of positions in Internal Medicine were filled with U.S. graduates so things are getting worse, not better. (Of course in 1985, 75% of Internal Medicine positions were taken by U.S. graduates, but that is when giants roamed the wards.) Combined programs such as Internal Medicine with Emed, Anesthesia, Dermatology, Neurology, Psychiatry or Pediatrics did much better with U.S. fill rates in the 60-100% range. In fact, the only combined Internal Medicine program that did not do well was Internal Medicine/Preventive Medicine which attracted only 29% of U.S. Seniors. It would appear that the more primary care focused, the less attractive the program becomes. Although, Primary Care programs, of which there are less than 400 spots available, have remained constant in the 60% range for the last 5 years.

Compared to national norms our program has always done well. So it’s not us, it’s them. Maybe we need more of us and less of them. But then there would be even less overall. Seriously because of the need and numbers required, have we allowed too many mediocre programs to proliferate? Or is it the other tangibles, such as Lifestyle, Salary, Prestige or what I have said before: video games?

What a shame we have failed so miserably in championing Internal Medicine. And worse, have allowed the problem to deteriorate. Only about 20% to 25% of internal medicine residents now choose to specialize in general internal medicine, compared with 54% in 1998. (Hospitalist Effect?)

There are solutions such as tuition payback for doing primary care, shortened residency training in out-patient medicine, mandatory service of one to two years for debt relief to name three. However, it is easier to talk about this problem than to fix it. After all, if you don’t have a Primary Care doctor you can always go to the emergency room. The ER may be the new avenue for primary care. There goes their match rate.

Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.
Department of Medicine
April 2014 Grand Rounds

Dornfeld Endowed Lecture
Apr 3  “Immune Factors in Chronic Rejection in Kidney Transplantation”
Roslyn Mannon, MD
Professor of Medicine
Division of Nephrology
Professor of Surgery
Division of Transplantation
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Director of Research, Comprehensive Transplant Institute

Apr 10  “Vitamin D and Mortality in Dialysis Patients”
Ravi Thadhan, MD, MPH
Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Chief, Division of Nephrology
Massachusetts General Hospital

Apr 17  “HIV Vaccine Development”
Douglas Nixon, MD, PhD
Professor of Basic Science Research
Chair of the Department of Microbiology, Immunology,
and Tropical Medicine
GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Apr 24  “Advances in Treatment of GI Cancers”
Lauren Mauro, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Hematology/Oncology
Department of Medicine
GW Medical Faculty Associates

Roslyn Mannon, MD
Professor of Medicine
Division of Nephrology
Professor of Surgery
Division of Transplantation
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Director of Research, Comprehensive Transplant Institute

The George Washington University Medical Center (GWUMC) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians. GWUMC designates this continuing medical education activity on an hour-for-hour basis in Category I of the Physician’s Recognition Award of the American Medical Association.

Cardiology Grand Rounds
5:00 PM, GWU Hospital, Conference Room 6-116

Apr 2  Michelle Albert, MD
Professor and Chief
Cardiovascular Medicine
Howard University Hospital
TBA

Apr 9  Kathleen Burger, DO
Assistant Professor of Neurology
Department of Neurology
GW Medical Faculty Associates
Management of the Acute Stroke Patient

Apr 16  Mortality & Morbidity Conference

Apr 23  Tricia Desvarieux, MD
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine
Department of Anesthesiology
GW Medical Faculty Associates
Cardiac Anesthesia

Apr 30  Jacqueline Honig, MD
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine
Department of Anesthesiology
GW Medical Faculty Associates
Postoperative Care of Cardiac Surgical Patients

Resident Lecture Series
April 2014 Noon Conference

Apr 1  Journal Club

Apr 2  “Outpatient Insulin Management”- Dr. Joshua Cohen
Medicine Grand Rounds

Apr 4  "Advances in ACS Management"- Dr. Jonathon Reiner

Apr 7  "A Healthy Diet"-
Drs. James Cooper and Neal Bernard

Apr 8  Kidney Stones– Dr. Samir Patel

Apr 9  Nutrition Lecture

Apr 10  Medicine Grand Rounds

Apr 11  "Young Women with Arthritis”-
Dr. Mandana Hashefi

Apr 14  Clinicopathologic Conference–
Drs. Mohamed Houry and Jessica Davis

Apr 15  “Amenorrhea”- Dr. Josh Cohen

Apr 16  “Aortic Valve Disease” – Dr. Brian Choi

Apr 17  Medicine Grand Rounds

Apr 18  Chairman’s Rounds

Apr 21  Clinicopathologic Conference–
Drs. Shant Ayanian and Afsoon Roberts

Apr 22  Anemia Interactive Case– Dr. Khaled El-Shami

Apr 23  Chairman’s Rounds

Apr 24  Medicine Grand Rounds

Apr 25  Chairman’s Rounds

Apr 28  Oncology Review– Dr. Shant Ayanian

Apr 29  "Smoking Cessation”– Dr. Alan Blum

Apr 30  "Diabetic Foot Ulcer”– Dr. Michael Stempel

Medicine Team Contacts

WHITE TEAM
(202) 715-5669

YELLOW TEAM
(202) 715-6041

GREEN TEAM
(202) 715-6062

RED TEAM
(202) 715-6039

BLUE TEAM
(202) 715-6156

SILVER TEAM
(202) 715-6040

PURPLE TEAM
(202) 715-6042

GOLD TEAM
(202) 715-6044

ADMITTING RESIDENT 741-0161 pager
Since the early 1990s, every third year medical student has taken Observed History and Physical Examination, a two-hour assessment which is part of the internal medicine rotation for third year students at SMHS. It was developed to offer third year medical students an individualized critique of their examination and patient history skills.

The group of retired faculty members who serve as preceptors for this invaluable program is led by Robert Wilkinson, M.D., MACP, Professor Emeritus of Clinical Medicine. It includes Stanley Talpers, M.D., Associate Professor Emeritus of Clinical Medicine and Health Care Sciences, who is the program’s founder, David Goodman, M.D., Albert Grollman, M.D., Richard Kaufman, M.D., Gordon Mella, M.D., Harold Sadin, M.D., Audrey Corson, M.D., Peter Gross, M.D., Richard Nicklas, M.D., current clinical professor of medicine, and Dr. David Simon who recently retired has agreed to help.

It is evident from the glowing evaluations from the medical students at the end of each rotation that this is an invaluable part of their education.

One student said this of their preceptor, “Wonderful experience. One of the best parts of the clerkship. It was very helpful to help organize general approach and basic H&P skills….The physician gave highly useful feedback in a very applicable and thought manner. It’s great to learn helpful tricks and techniques from someone with so many years of experience.”

Another wrote, “I learned much more than expected and thought the physician truly took his time to teach effective bed side techniques in diagnosing a patient.”

Juan Reyes, M.D. ’04, M.P.H. ’00, Assistant Professor of Medicine at SMHS, has served as clerkship director in internal medicine since 2012. He is moved by the generosity of the retired faculty members who volunteer their time to spend at least two hours with each medical student to observe the physical examination and history-taking of a patient during the two-month rotation.

Dr. Wasserman, to show his appreciation for the time all the physicians spent with these students, hosted a dinner for all on March 10th.
Rheumatology Academic Conference Schedule
April 2014

ACC Building 6B-411B (8:00 am - 9:00 am)
Questions? Call (202) 741-2488

Apr 3  Simply Concepts for Studying Diseases
       Dr. Stanley R. Pillemer

Apr 3  Didactic Sessions
       1:00 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, 6th floor

Apr 10 Journal Club
       Dr. Heidi Hanna

Apr 10 Didactic Sessions
       1:00 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, 6th floor

Apr 17 Intra-City Rheumatology Grand Rounds
       NOTE LOCATION: Washington Hospital Center
       NOTE TIME: 7:30 AM

Apr 17 Didactic Sessions
       1:00 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, 6th floor

Apr 24 Radiology Conference
       Dr. Kathleen Brindle, Associate Professor of Radiology
       Chief, Musculoskeletal Radiology

Apr 24 Didactic Sessions
       1:00 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, 6th floor

Kudos & Congratulations

Congratulations... To Former GW IM Resident, Dr. Uchechi Wosu, on her new book, "Straight Talk From the Doctor" which was recently published and released. Way to go!

More Congratulations... to Dr. Fred Gordin, who received the CDC Award of Honor at the TBTC Tuberculosis Trials Consortium Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on March 19th. He received the award for his 25 years of significant contribution to tuberculosis research.

More More Congratulations... to Dr. Anne Lesburg, Division of Hospital Medicine, on her second child, Sophie Emma Franklin, born on March 20th at 9lbs, 1 oz, and 21 inches long.

Kudos... to Drs. Juan Reyes and Linda Lesky, Division of Hospital Medicine, for their abstract, "Hand-Off Skills Training During the Medicine Clerkship" that was accepted for oral presentation this April at Northeastern Group on Educational Affairs (NEGEA).

More Kudos ... to Dr. Michael Czarnecki, Division of General Internal Medicine, and Dr. Maram Alkhathib, PGY2, who received praise from one of their patients, "Drs. Alkhathib and Czarnecki were patient and thorough with me during my appointment... I was very pleased with the treatment I received, keep up the good work."

More More Kudos... to Dr. Matthew Chandler and fellow Dr. Timothy Dougherty, Division of Gastroenterology, who received a note of thanks from a an out of state patient who was admitted through GW’s ED. “The care was so exceptional that follow up appointments have already been scheduled with Drs. Chandler and Dougherty, rather than with physicians in their home town.”

See you next month! The Editor