I was concerned in 2008 and chastised Senator John McCain for not fully releasing his medical records while running for the Presidency of the United States. My argument was that given his ridiculous choice of a floozy for Vice President, it was vital that we know his health status to make an informed decision. McCain gave reporters three hours to review his records. His history as far as we knew of hypertension, hyperlipidemia and malignant melanoma, I estimated gave him a 10-15% chance of not making it thru his first term in office.

So the fact that he has survived much longer, in a sense, proved me correct statistically, although I would admit it was not the point I was trying to make. Today he is faced with a more serious diagnosis with a very poor prognosis. Treatment for Glioblastoma has not advanced significantly in that survival is still recorded in months rather than years. Duke got a big news splash two years ago with the use of the Polio virus to stimulate an immune response to kill the tumor, and while they did see at least one remarkable patient result, there were many other failures which got less publicity. Still immunotherapy which has made great strides in other tumors remains the best hope for improvement in treatment.

In that same 2008 newsletter, I discussed why McCain’s choice of VP was so against his mantra of “putting America first” as he chose an incompetent, inexperienced, un-vetted candidate who was by far the most incompetent of all the previous VP candidates (and that included Spiro Agnew). He lost the election for multiple reasons, mainly the economy, so his health never became an important issue although it is impossible to gauge the impact of his VP choice.

Move ahead eight years and the similarities are frightening. This time around we got a four paragraph letter from a personal physician stating, “If elected, Mr. Trump, I can state unequivocally, will be the healthiest individual ever elected to the presidency.” Trump has said that he has great genes with both parents living long lives. He doesn’t mention his father developed Alzheimer’s in his 80’s, but in Trump’s case, dementia may not be noticeable.

What is also similar is the fear of Trump’s VP taking office. In 2002, Mike Pence told the Hill Newspaper that he never eats alone with a woman, other than his wife and also that he won’t attend events featuring alcohol without her by his side. Just think about this pair; one, doesn’t trust himself to be alone with a woman and the other can’t stop grabbing them. What exactly is he afraid of? Probably not as scary as President Palin but we are working on degrees of terror. Unlike Trump, he has an ideology, one that is radically anti-gay, anti-women, and far to the religious right. Nineteen percent of VP’s have assumed the Presidency. What a Sophie’s choice, Trump or his VP that calls his wife Mother. History hasn’t repeated itself, it has gotten worse. Oh the horror!

Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.
**Department of Medicine**  
**August 2017 Grand Rounds**

**AUG 3** "Fertility, Pregnancy and Prolactinoma”  
**Walter Jean, MD**  
Professor of Neurosurgery  
Department of Neurosurgery  
GW Medical Faculty Associates

**AUG 10** "Neurogenic and Overactive Bladder”  
**Daniel Stein, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Reconstructive Urology  
Department of Urology  
GW Medical Faculty Associates

**AUG 17** "Update on Lipids and PCSK9 Inhibitors"  
**William Borden, MD**  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Director, Healthcare Delivery Transformation  
Division of Cardiology  
Department of Medicine  
GW Medical Faculty Associates

**AUG 24** "Integrating Clinical Research Into Epidemic Response - The Ebola Experience”  
**Charles Wells, MD**  
Head of Development  
Infectious Diseases Therapeutic Area  
Sanofi Pharmaceuticals

**AUG 31** "Clinical Perspectives from Sideline to Office”  
**Frederick Parker, MD**  
Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine  
GW Medical Faculty Associates

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 1 of the Physician’s Recognition Award of the American Medical Association.

**Medicine Team Contacts**

*Need to find a Resident on an inpatient team?*

Please use Tiger text to reach the appropriate physician. Go to gwu.medhub.com/paging; password: GWUPublicCall; Select Internal Medicine.

Alternatively

WebExchange is still the best way to find the on-call physician.

If you have trouble with your MedHub account, please contact Mary Mitchum at mdmitchum@mfa.gwu.edu.

**CARDIOLOGY GRAND ROUNDS WILL RETURN IN SEPTEMBER**

**Resident Lecture Series**  
**August 2017 Noon Conference**

**AUG 1** Journal Club  
**AUG 2** "Inpatient Insulin Management”  
-Dr. Joshua Cohen

**AUG 3** Medicine Grand Round  
**AUG 4** Social lunch-Intern Retreat  
**AUG 7** "Intro to EKG"- Dr. Marco Mercader  
**AUG 8** Patient Safety Conference  
-Teja Mandava and Greg Piech  
**AUG 9** "Wound Care"- Eileen Jenkins

**AUG 10** Medicine Grand Rounds  
**AUG 11** “CKD”-Dr. Ashte Collins  
**AUG 14** “Pre-op Evaluation, Part 1”-Dr. Mihir Patel  
**AUG 15** “Making Wise Antibiotic Choices”  
-Dr. Angelike Liappis

**AUG 16** “Glomerular Disease”- Dr. Scott Cohen  
**AUG 17** Medicine Grand Rounds  
**AUG 18** “ACS”-Dr. Jonathan Reiner  
**AUG 21** “STI’s”-Dr. David Popiel  
**AUG 22** “RCC”-Dr. Court Ko Paul  
**AUG 23** “Pre-op Evaluation, Part 2”-Dr. Mihir Patel  
**AUG 24** Medicine Grand Rounds  
**AUG 25** Chairman's Rounds  
-Brandon Anderson and Hani Alhamoud

**AUG 28** TBD  
**AUG 29** TBD  
**AUG 30** “Physician Communication”-Ralph Navarrete  
**AUG 31** Medicine Grand Rounds
GW Medicine Notes

Please Join Us In Welcoming Our Newest Additions to the Department of Medicine

COL. Kevin C. O'Connor joins the Department of Medicine as Director of Executive Health. Dr. O'Connor completed his Medical Degree at the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1992 and Residency training at The Mountainside Hospital in Montclair, New Jersey, where he was named Chief Resident in 1995. He remains a Diplomate of the American Board of Family Medicine, by which he has been board certified since 1995. He was appointed as a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians in 2009 and inducted into the Order of Military Medical Merit in 2013. In 2016, Dr. O'Connor received the Army Surgeon General’s “A” Proficiency Award, the highest level of achievement in the Army Medical Department.


As an Army family physician, teacher, flight surgeon, and hyperbaric medical officer for the last twenty two years, Dr. O’Connor has served in clinical, academic, leadership, and operational assignments at Fort Bragg and Fort Carson, to include tours of duty with the 82nd Airborne Division, 75th Ranger Regiment, and United States Army Special Operations Command. COL O’Connor was deployed on numerous combat rotations in support of classified missions in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Bosnia. Dr. O’Connor is a charter member of the Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care, and most of his publications and public speaking engagements have addressed “point-of-wounding” care on the battlefield. He was chosen to be the Inaugural “Leader-in-Residence” Distinguished University Alumnus by St. Bonaventure University in 2014, was named “Michael J. Scotti, MD, 2015 Family Physician of the Year” by the Uniformed Services Academy of Family Physicians (USAFP), and was chosen as the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine’s “Distinguished Alumnus of the Year” in 2016.

He served as a White House Physician starting 2006, over several Administrations, providing contingency planning and medical coverage for the President and Vice President “anytime, anywhere”.

In February 2009, Dr. O’Connor was appointed “Physician to the Vice President”. In this capacity, he provided primary care for Vice President Biden and the Second Family, and was responsible for the medical planning and emergency actions in support of the Vice President at home, domestically and abroad.

Continued...

Satyanisth T. Agrawal, DO joins us as Assistant Professor of Medicine, in the Division of Gastroenterology and Liver Diseases.

Dr. Agrawal earned his Medical Degree at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Erie, Pennsylvania in 2008. After a one year Internship at Case Western Reserve University, he went on to complete a three year Residency at the University of Southern California in Internal Medicine. After the completion of his Residency, Dr. Agrawal accepted a Gastroenterology Fellowship at West Penn Allegheny Health Systems, Pennsylvania, which he completed in 2014; and subsequently accepted a 2nd Fellowship in Advanced Endoscopy at the Wisconsin GI Associates – Aurora St. Luke’s Medical Center, Milwaukee, WI, which he completed in 2015. He is board certified in Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology; and is licensed in the State of Maryland, California and the District of Columbia.

During his career, he has participated in a number of research activities; is published and is experienced in oral presentations nationally.

He is a member of the American College of Gastroenterology, American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and American Osteopathic Association.

GWU Department of Pharmacy - Annual Conference

The GWU Department of Pharmacy held a conference on infectious diseases at GW hospital on June 24. One hundred and sixty pharmacists of the Washington Metro Area attended.

Two GW faculty received the highest ratings; Dr. Afsoon Roberts for her talk on sexually transmitted diseases which was tied with Dr. Marc Siegel’s talk on hepatitis C. The second presentation of Dr. Siegel’s on Hives received the second highest rating.

Well Done!

Chairman’s Rounds

GWU Hospital Auditorium, 12:00
All Faculty Invited to Attend

AUG 25 Dr. Brandon Anderson
Dr. Hani Alhamoud
Kudos…to Dr. Nawaf Abaalkhail, PGY 3, on a compliment from a clinical faculty member, “He has gone out of his way to keep me posted on my patient’s condition…. I’m really impressed with Dr. Abaalkhail’s patient care and communication.”

Kudos…to Dr. Shant Ayanian, Hospital Medicine, on receiving a letter of praise from a patient at the hospital, “He provided me with outstanding patient care….he demonstrates compassion and empathy... he went above and beyond to get me back on track. Thank you”

Kudos…to Dr. Lalit Narayan, General Internal Medicine, on being selected to receive the SMHS Office of Diversity and Inclusion Minority Faculty Retention Initiative Grant to attend the 2017 AAMC Minority Faculty Leadership Development.

Kudos…to Dr. Sheldon Steiner, PGY 3, who received a letter of praise from a patient, “He showed compassion and his bedside manner was above average.”

Congratulations… to Dr. Christina Prather, Geriatrics, on the newest addition to her family. She welcomed Lincoln Hayes born on June 30th weighing 7 lbs, and 5oz.

Congratulations…to Dr. Shailendra Sharma, Renal, as he is now a board certified Hypertension specialist.

Kudos…to Alta, Amy, Terri, Marygrace and Robert, on the great job they did on the Division of Endocrinology move.....Dr. Cohen and the Division of Endocrinology.

Kudos…to Dr. Gurusher Panjrath, Cardiology, for being selected by the Heart Failure and Cardiomyopathies to be an abstract captain!

Kudos…to Drs. Andrew Choi, Brian Choi, and Jannet Lewis, Cardiology, and Angela Ryan, PGY3, on their review article on “Breast arterial calcification association with coronary artery calcium scoring and implications for cardiovascular risk assessment in women,” in Clinical Cardiology.

Kudos…to Dr. Michael Irwig, Endocrinology, who presented a plenary talk on, “Treatment of Transgender Patients” in Spanish, at the 14th Congress of the Colombian Association of Endocrinology in Barranquilla, Colombia in May.

Kudos…to GW MFA; we received The CareFirst PCMH Outcome Incentive Award 2017 which earned us an increase in reimbursements for our performance in the PCMH program.

The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates
Department of Medicine, Suite 8-416
2150 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20037