This time the Death Panels are real. In case you forgot, in 2009 while the country was debating the Affordable Care Act, Sarah Palin coined the term (or at least her speech writer did) “death panels” to refer to a group of bureaucrats, who she claimed would decide who was worthy of medical care. Of course this was total fantasy, as there was nothing in the legislation regarding judging to see if patients were worthy of receiving health care. In today’s political climate, this whopper of a lie wouldn’t even make the top ten for this week.

But not all good ideas go away. Kentucky has decided to set very specific criteria to do exactly what was a fantasy in 2009, ‘see if patients are worthy of receiving Medicaid.’ Under the state’s plan, inappropriately named HEALTH, all 19-64 year olds except the pregnant or the medically frail (yet to be defined) will have to work, get job training or perform community service for at least 20 hours a week to qualify for coverage.

One major point seems to have been lost in these regulations. Medicaid is a healthcare program not a jobs program. What does one thing have to do with the other? These restrictions will accomplish the real purpose of discouraging or preventing thousands from signing up for coverage.

Republican Gov. Matt Bevin proudly announced that when these requirements start in July 2018, 95,000 to more than half of the 440,000 (able bodied) Medicaid recipients could lose their coverage. Think of all the money the state will save. “It will be transformational,” he said, “something we have not seen in America in a quarter century.”

Yes, that’s truly something to brag about. We haven’t seen the bubonic plague in all that time either, but aren’t looking to bring it back.

But even this lie is wrong! In 2005, Tennessee removed over 150,000 people from Medicaid to save money. This was a similar population of working age adults and guess what, they didn’t do so well. One study found that losing health care access led to those adults delaying or not going at all to visit their doctor and resulted in increased visits to hospital emergency rooms which (as of now) are required to treat all that arrive regardless of ability to pay. Another study showed because of delays to seeking care, there was a significant increase in the diagnosis of late stage breast cancer than in women with health insurance. Of course Kentucky’s data would be worse, since it starts off as the state with the most cancer deaths. Another thing Gov. Bevin can brag about being #1 in.

Recent studies have shown that Medicaid expansions in the past significantly reduced mortality. An Annals of Internal Medicine article concluded that the odds of dying for non-elderly adults are 3-41% higher for the uninsured. For every 176 adults covered by Medicaid you would prevent one death. You can do the math of what would happen if you remove 100,000 or more. Should we discuss what would happen if 13 million people lost their health insurance with the termination of the Affordable Care Act? Looks like Death Panels are back and this time they are real. Where is Sarah Palin when we need her?

Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.
Department of Medicine
February 2018 Grand Rounds

FEB 1  “Caring for Diverse Populations: What you should know about your LGBTQI patients”
Mandi Pratt-Chapman, MA
Adjunct Instructor of Clinical Research and Leadership
Director, GW Cancer Institute and Associate Center Director, Patient-Centered Initiatives and Health Equity for the GW Cancer Center.
GW University

FEB 8  “Angioedema”
Jennifer Kannan, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Allergy, Asthma & Sinus
GW University/MFA

FEB 15 “Perils/Pitfalls in Managing Thyroid/Parathyroid patients”
Arjun Joshi, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
GW University/MFA

FEB 22 “Building a Culture of Safety: Ensuring Safe and Effective Care for Every Patient, Every Time”
Michael G. Knight, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of General Internal Medicine
GW University/MFA

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. (AMA).

Cardiology Grand Rounds
5:00 PM, Ross Hall, Room # 227

Feb 7  Cardio-Rheum Rounds
Eric Matteson

Feb 14  Pulmonary Hypertension
Mardi Gomberg

Feb  M&M
Angela Ryan

Feb 28  ID in MCS & Transplant
Shalika Basnayake Katugaha, MD
Medical Director of Transplant Infectious Diseases
Inova Fairfax Hospital

Resident Lecture Series
February 2018 Noon Conference

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.)
Renal Hypertension Clinic

We are delighted to announce the opening of the Renal Hypertension Clinic at 2150 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington D.C. This initiative is lead by our expert, Shailendra Sharma, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Kidney Diseases and Hypertension. Clinic will be held on Monday afternoons starting on March, 1, 2018. Our experts are trained to identify and treat secondary causes of hypertension with personalized treatments for Renal Artery Stenosis, Adrenal Adenoma and Hyperplasia, Pheochromocytoma, White Coat Hypertension, Masked Hypertension and Chronotherapy. For appointments call: 202-741-3333; press one to schedule an appointment.

Student Feedback

This abridged letter was sent to several faculty regarding their teaching acumen...."We have identified you as one of several faculty who consistently receive high ratings and laudatory comments from our students regarding your teaching in the pre-clinical blocks. I would like to personally thank you for your commitment to educating our students, and your efforts to support effective learning in our curriculum. Faculty who have been identified are commended for their use of many techniques that support learning":

- Jill Catalanotti, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine
- Matthew Chandler, MD Assistant Professor of Medicine
- Michael Irwig, MD Associate Professor of Medicine
- Lauren Mauro, MD Assistant Professor of Medicine
- Gurusher Panjrath, MD Assistant Professor of Medicine
- Victoria Shanmugam, MD Associate Professor of Medicine
- Marc Siegel, MD Associate Professor of Medicine
- Allen Solomon, MD Professor of Medicine

Kristina Jabaut, MPH, MSHS, PA-C, joins us as a certified Physician Assistant at the GW Medical Faculty Associates in the Department of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine.

Kristina received her Bachelor’s Degree in Human Development from The University of Chicago in 2007. After serving for two years as a community health volunteer for the United States Peace Corps in Togo, West Africa, she further pursued her interest in healthcare at the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences where she earned both her Master of Public Health degree in Maternal and Child Health and a Master of Science in Health Sciences degree in 2014, leading to her certification as a Physician Assistant by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Physician Assistants and is licensed in Washington DC, Maryland, and Virginia.

Prior to joining the GW Medical Faculty Associates, Kristina served on active duty for three years in the United States Navy as a family practice Physician Assistant at primary care clinics in Washington Navy Yard and Quantico, VA.

Kristina is a strong believer in evidence-based medicine and patient-centered care as a foundation for positive, sustainable change towards wellness. She holds ongoing special interests in women’s health and international health.

Matthew Mancini, MHS, PA-C joins us as a Certified Physician Assistant at the GW Medical Faculty Associates, in the Department of Medicine, Division of Internal Medicine.

Matthew received an MHS Degree in Physician Assistant Studies from Quinnipiac University in 2016. He practiced as a PA in Primary Care and Internal Medicine in Connecticut before moving to Washington DC. Matthew is Board certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) and licensed in the District of Columbia.

Prior to working as a PA, Matthew obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Quinnipiac University and practiced as a Registered Nurse in Medical/Surgical, Transplant and Orthopedic settings.

Outside of work, Matthew has a passion for leadership and advocacy. He served on the Board of Directors for the Student Academy of the American Academy of PAs from 2015-2017, where he represented PAs and PA students on the national level. He continues to serve the AAPA in volunteer roles and is a member of the DC Academy of PAs.

His special interests in medicine include Primary Care and Preventive Medicine.
**Rheumatology Academic Conference Schedule**

February 2018

2300 M Street, N.W., Suite 3-332
8AM—11:30 AM
Questions: Call (202) 741-2488

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>8:00 - 9:00AM</td>
<td>Journal Club Dr. McBride &amp; Dr. Phillpotts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>9:00 - 9:30 AM</td>
<td>Fellows sign-out and patient safety monitoring and education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>9:30-11:30 AM</td>
<td>Knowledge Bowl and rheumatology boards training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>8:00-9:00AM</td>
<td>Radiology Conference Dr. Brindle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>9:00 - 9:30 AM</td>
<td>Fellows sign-out and patient safety monitoring and education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>9:30 -11:30 AM</td>
<td>Knowledge Bowl and rheumatology boards training / preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 14</td>
<td>5:00 - 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Renal Biopsy Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>7:30 - 9:00 AM</td>
<td>Intra-city Grand Rounds Location: Children’s Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>10 -11 AM</td>
<td>Fellows sign-out and patient safety monitoring and education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>8:00 - 9:00 AM</td>
<td>Low back pain: the primary care Prospective: Dr. Vimala Jayanthi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>9:00 - 9:30 AM</td>
<td>Fellows sign-out and patient safety monitoring and education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>9:30 -11:30 AM</td>
<td>Knowledge Bowl and rheumatology boards training / preparation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Kudos, Congratulations and Condolences**

**Kudos**...to Dr. Holly Dushkin, Hematology/Oncology, who showed the greatest level of compassion to a family over the Christmas weekend in their critical time of need..."She has a wonderful bedside manner and gave a family the comfort needed during end of life care for a loved one”.

**Congratulations**...to Dr. Chavon Onumah, General Internal Medicine, who was selected by the Unified Leadership Training in Diversity (UNLTD) as the 2018 Award recipient.

**Kudos**...to Dr. Mikhail Kogan, Geriatrics and Palliative Care, on his edited publication "Integrative Geriatric Medicine": https://global.oup.com/academic/product/integrative-geriatric-medicine-9780190466268?cc=us&lang=en

**Kudos?**...to Dr. Alan Wasserman, Chairman, Dept. of Medicine; the following is a note from Dr. Leo Chalupa, Vice President for Research, GWU, we aren’t sure whether it’s a kudos or not..."You are truly a kind person, in spite of all your efforts to convince people otherwise”.

**Congratulations**...to Dr. Amirala Pasha, General Internal Medicine, who was accepted to the SGIM Leadership in Health Policy program (LEAHP) for the 2018-2019 year.

**Kudos**...to Endocrinology Fellow, Dr. Enas Al Zaghal, who received a Helmsley Charitable Trust Award for her abstract on CGM from the Endocrine Society.

**Congratulations**...to Dr. Richard Simons, General Internal Medicine, who was elected to a second two year term as Regent of the American College of Physicians.

**Condolences**...Dean Phillip Birnbaum passed away on September 3, 2017.

See you next month! The Editor

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