There is a movement making its way through the country to establish “product lines” in certain specialties. The most common example of this would be “Cancer Centers” that are springing up everywhere. However, this process is not limited to Cancer as there are Cardiovascular Centers, Neuro and Neurovascular Centers, Breast Care Centers, Spine Centers, Gastric or Inflammatory Bowel Disease Centers, Retinal, Zika, etc. You name the specialty or disease and most likely there will be a Center near you or opening soon in the nearest mall.

The rationale for this proliferation is that like-patients or like-conditions are better handled in a group setting where the care is highly focused on one issue. So if a patient makes an appointment at the Thyroid Center they probably don’t have rectal bleeding.

It is easier to market one thing and make it seem special. It certainly has to be attractive to patients to think that a Center is a group of like-minded experts with cutting-edge therapy. Even though most Centers are more virtual than real. In most cases, it is a loosely affiliated group of physicians often with one administrator to give it some cohesion. It is easier to become adept at billing when you are concentrating on a few sets of codes, especially if you control imaging or other diagnostic modalities.

Most patients are more complicated than having only one problem. But most Centers limit themselves to just one issue. This might be acceptable if it was limited to only the outpatient environment but now Centers are invading the hospital setting with beds geographically located and signs restricting patients to whatever Center they are admitted to. It is concerning to limit a patient’s care to a super-specialized group of physicians.

So how will we educate the next generation of physicians if patients are only seen in specialized clinics? This is not a system in which one can adequately or broadly educate students or residents. How do we teach? How many rotations would students and residents have to rotate thru to become competent in basic medicine?

Realistically, Centers are not going away. Why have cardiology, cardiac surgery and vascular surgery in separate departments instead of one center? I believe the Department structure is on the way out. This alone will make teaching more difficult. So is it time to totally reorganize medical education? Should we stop trying to teach the basics and start specialization from day one? You want to be a Spine surgeon then go straight to work and learn in the Spine Center. Why rotate on OB/GYN or any other specialty? Sort of beckoning back to the old apprenticeship days. Just make sure you know where to send the patient in case their diabetes gets out of control, assuming you learned what that means.

There is probably too much to learn now anyway. When I trained there was only one type of Renal Tubular Acidosis and I never understood that one. Today there are three types (correction, while I was writing this a 4th one was discovered). I wouldn’t stand a chance.

Centers are here to stay; medicine is becoming more specialized and less personalized; and educators are going to have to come to grips with this trend or continue adding more time on to training if we want to teach everything (and then it will be outdated.)

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

JUNE 1  Whipplinger Lecture  
Resident Grand Rounds  
"Space Medicine"  
Veeshal Modi, PGY3  
"Medicine and Medicine "  
Lei Lynn, PGY3  
GW Internal Medicine Residents

JUNE 8  "Cardiac Risk of Non-Cardiac Surgery-A Piece of my Mind “  
Dr. Kim Eagle  
Albion Walter Hewlett Professor of Medicine  
Professor of Health Management and Policy  
Director, Frankel Cardiovascular Center  
University of Michigan  
“Acute Aortic Syndromes-State of the Art”

JUNE 15  "Cardiology Mission to Honduras”  
Dr. Cynthia Tracy  
Professor of Medicine  
Associate Director of Cardiology  
Division of Cardiology  
Department of Medicine  
GW MFA

JUNE 22  "Biological Underpinnings of Political Affiliation”  
Daniel Lieberman, MD  
Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences  
Clinical Director  
Department of Psychiatry  
GW Medical Faculty Associates

JUNE 29  "Genomics in the Clinic, What is the Next Generation Sequencing?”  
Dr. Thierry Vilboux  
Senior Translational Research Scientist  
Inova Translational Medicine Institute

Cardiology Grand Rounds  
5:00 PM, Ross Hall, Room # 104

JUNE 7  Dr. Kim Eagle  
Albion Walter Hewlett Professor of Medicine  
Professor of Health Management and Policy  
Director, Frankel Cardiovascular Center  
University of Michigan  
“Acute Aortic Syndromes-State of the Art”

JUNE 14  Mortality & Morbidity Conference

JUNE 21  Summer Break

JUNE 28  Summer Break

Resident Lecture Series  
June 2017 Noon Conference

JUNE 1  Medicine Grand Rounds
JUNE 2  Social Conference
JUNE 5  PT/OT/SLP– Carla Vertudes
JUNE 6  MDS– Dr. Khaled El-Shami
JUNE 7  GME
JUNE 8  Medicine Grand Rounds
JUNE 9  TBD
JUNE 12  CKD– Dr. Susie Lew
JUNE 13  TBD
JUNE 14  TBD
JUNE 15  Medicine Grand Rounds
JUNE 16  Lipids/Metabolic Syndrome– Dr. Saby Sen
JUNE 19  INTERN ORIENTATION
JUNE 20  INTERN ORIENTATION
JUNE 21  INTERN ORIENTATION
JUNE 22  Medicine Grand Rounds
JUNE 23  INTERN ORIENTATION
JUNE 26  NO CONFERENCE
JUNE 27  NO CONFERENCE
JUNE 28  NO CONFERENCE
JUNE 29  Medicine Grand Rounds
JUNE 30  NO CONFERENCE

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).

Medicine Team Contacts

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>(202) 715-5669</td>
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<td>GREEN TEAM</td>
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<td>GOLD TEAM</td>
<td>(202) 715-6044</td>
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ADMITTING RESIDENT 741-0161 pager
Please Join Us In Welcoming Our Newest Additions to the Department of Medicine

Erica Schockett, MD joins the Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Care this month. Dr. Schockett received her Medical Degree from Brown Medical School in 2005. She completed her Residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in 2008. In June of 2016, Dr. Schockett completed a Fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Medicine at Saint Louis University. She is board certified in Internal Medicine and is board eligible in Hospice and Palliative Medicine. She is licensed in the State of Maryland, District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Dr. Schockett comes to us from Capital Caring in Arlington, Virginia as a Hospice and Palliative Medicine physician. While there, she provided clinical care to outpatient and home-based palliative care patients and served as the Medical Director to an interdisciplinary homecare team. Dr. Schockett was also a participant of an intensified collaboration with Capital Caring for GWU Fellowship and Resident training.

Dr. Schockett has been involved in research studies and is published in the area of Gerontology. She is proficient with Electronic Medical Records and has valuable experience in caring for vulnerable populations, including those who are underinsured and/or displaced.

Dr. Schockett will be replacing Dr. Danielle Doberman who re-invigorated the in-patient palliative care program. Dr. Doberman will be relocating her practice at John Hopkins University which is close to where she resides.

Kieron Dunleavy, MD joins us as Professor of Medicine, Director of the Lymphoma Program and Co-Director of the Microbial Oncology Program in the Division of Hematology & Oncology and the GWU Cancer Center.

Dr. Dunleavy is a medical oncologist who completed fellowships in Dublin, Ireland and subsequently at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), Bethesda. Following his fellowship at the NCI, he remained on staff as an attending physician and over the past few years, has been the Clinical Director of the Lymphoid Malignancies Branch at the NCI. Dr. Dunleavy is an expert in lymphoid malignancies and his work has focused on the biology and treatment of lymphoid diseases. His interests include aggressive and indolent lymphomas and viral/microbial associated lymphoid diseases such as those associated with EBV and HIV. He serves on the scientific advisory board of the Lymphoma Research Foundation and on the editorial board of several journals including Blood, Haematologica and Leukemia and Lymphoma. Dr. Dunleavy has published over 100 manuscripts and textbook chapters and frequently presents his work nationally and internationally.

FACULTY APPOINTMENT

Dr. Mitchell Smith, ACD of Clinical Investigations at GW Cancer Center, will become the new Division Director of Hematology/Oncology effective July 1st.
Rheumatology Academic Conference Schedule
June 2017
2300 M Street, N.W., Suite 3-332
8AM—11:30 AM
Questions: Call (202) 741-2488

JUNE 1:
Intra-city Grand Rounds
Location: WHC
NOTE: LOCATION TIME 7:30AM

JUNE 1:
M&M and Clinical rounds

JUNE 8:
Radiology Conference
Dr. K. Brindle
Location: Radiology conference
Room, GW Hospital

JUNE 8:
M&M and clinical rounds

JUNE 8:
Knowledge Bowl and Rheumatology
boards training /preparation
Dr. Taylor/ Dr. Curiel

JUNE 16:
M&M and Clinical rounds

JUNE 23:
Summer Recess

JUNE 30:
Summer Recess

Kudos and Congratulations

Kudos...to Drs. Nehal Mehta and Ramesh Mazhari, Cardiology, on a recent letter of praise from a patient, “Your passion for your work is unparalleled... I am very fortunate to have professionals like you both helping me.”

Kudos...to Dr. Christina Prather on a letter of praise from a patient, “what a wonderful way she has with her patients.”

Kudos...to Dr. Marijane Hynes, General Internal Medicine, Dr. Susie Lew, Renal, and Natalie Nicolas RD, on their article, “Emerging Concepts: The Dietary Treatment of Chronic Kidney Disease” in the Journal of Kidney Care.

Kudos...to the Gold Team for receiving a letter of praise from a cath lab patient, “the gold team should be called the gold standard... everyone treated me with the highest level of respect and care.”

Kudos...to Dr. Nicole Ehrhardt, Endocrinology, on her NBC 4 Washington TV segment regarding sugar!

Congratulations...to Jennifer Bires, MSW, Hematology and Oncology, for being selected as the recipient of the 2017 AOSW Oncology Social Worker of the Year Award. Way to go!

Congratulations...to Dr. Victoria Shanmugam and her family on the newest addition to her family, Henry Alexander Shanmugam, arrived on Friday April 28 weighing in at 6lbs, 7 oz., and 19 inches.

See you next month! The Editor

Condolences
To the family of Dr. Elizabeth Cobbs, Geriatrics, on the passing of her father.

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