



GW Medicine Notes

A Monthly Publication of the GW Department of Medicine

Volume 18, Issue 5

May 2014

GWUH Launches Kidney - Pancreas Transplant Program

The George Washington University Hospital has announced the launch of its new kidney and pancreas transplant program. GW Hospital anticipates that kidney and pancreas transplant surgeries will begin later this summer.

All aspects of the kidney and pancreas donation and transplant process will be performed at both GW Hospital and GWU Medical Faculty Associates, from initial evaluations to surgical procedures and the necessary after-care. The Hospital will perform transplants from both live and deceased donors.

"GW Hospital embarks on a journey to provide high-quality renal (kidney) disease services to all residents in the District of Columbia and the metropolitan region," said **Dominic Raj, MD**, Director of the Division of Renal Disease and Hypertension. "The objective is to ensure ready access to the level of care most appropriate to the patient's needs within a system of total patient care." We anticipate hiring a medical director of transplant, who will work with the surgical director in providing optimal comprehensive peri-transplant care.

To learn more about The George Washington University Hospital Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Program or to schedule an appointment, call 202-715-4225.

From the Chairman

We have been running a series called "Frontiers in Medicine" for a few years now. It is a quarterly seminar geared to the lay community on various medical topics. The name comes from Medical Grand Round presentations organized by Dr. Allan Goldstein, Professor Emeritus, over fifteen years ago, where lectures of leading researchers were, for one of the first times, streamed live on the internet. The current Frontier series has had sessions on Aging Gracefully, Dementia, Preventive Medicine, Common Medical Problems, to name a few. When it came time to choose a topic for the next seminar, Trauma seemed to be a natural given the resurgence and success of our Trauma program at GW.

But what should we discuss? There is certainly no shortage of trauma topics from which to choose, such as gunshots, stabbings, falls, car accidents. Interestingly, when I contacted Drs. Sarani and Seneff they each, independently, had the same case in mind that they would like to represent what they do. Of all trauma we see day to day, one case stood out to both of them above all others. It initially surprised me, but I then thought of a trauma case that I encountered as an intern that I never have forgotten.

Today it is difficult to write about their case because of HIPPA but suffice it to say their case concerns an individual admitted in extremis who miraculously left the hospital a few weeks later with no abnormality. It stood out from hundreds of other cases.

Turning to the case that I have always remembered, I will take the risk that after 40 something years whatever I describe will not be revealing, and if it is, arrest me. *It was an uneventful evening covering the ICU in the hospital on a hot and humid night. Not a breeze in sight, and even though air conditioning had been discovered, people were seeking all sorts of measures to stay cool. My soon-to-be patient took to the neighborhood pool which was kept open late because of the weather. Something happened! Tragedy struck! And he was pulled from the pool after some undetermined amount of time underwater. (Do I have a future in writing trash mystery novels?)*

Brought to the emergency room it didn't look good given his bluish pale. After intubation, x-rays showed his lungs where whited out and the attending gave the family the grim prognosis. As I remember, in what I am sure is a more dramatic fashion than occurred, I spent the next hour or so in the library (place with journals and books) looking for everything I could on fresh water drowning. I found something about lots of colloid and positive pressure. The attending, by this time home asleep, had given me carte blanche to treat the patient anyway I wanted since there was no hope.

Of course the story ends with the patient leaving the hospital and the attending's prestige raised in the community. (And me becoming an even smugger Intern if possible.)

I have often wondered, a la Private Ryan, what happened to this individual who I never saw or heard from again. Did he go on to lead a good life? Did he become a serial killer? Was history altered? Sort of akin to what a sperm donor must think back on from time to time (or egg donor, not to be sexist). Interesting, after all these years how one life can make such an impression. I am sure everyone has their own special patient and story. Actually, I had one other. *It was a dark and stormy night in the CCU.....*

Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.

SAVE THE DATE

END-OF-THE-YEAR PARTY

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2014

RITZ CARLTON HOTEL

Department of Medicine May 2014 Grand Rounds

May 1 "Informatics in Medicine"

Gregg Furie, MD

Division of General Internal Medicine
Department of Medicine
GW Medical Faculty Associates

May 8 **CPC: CNS Lesions in HIV Patients**

Gary Simon, MD

Khaled el-Shami, MD

Jonathon Sherman, MD

Departments of Medicine and Neurosurgery
GW Medical Faculty Associates

May 15 **AOA LECTURE: "Advances in Bone Marrow Transplantation"**

David Porter, MD

Jodi Fisher Horowitz Professor in Leukemia Care Excellence
Director, Blood and Marrow Transplantation
Department of Medicine
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA

May 22 "New Approaches in Minimally Invasive Neurosurgery"

Thomas Mattingly III, MD

Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery
Department of Neurosurgery
GW Medical Faculty Associates

May 29 "Recent Advances in Allergic Rhinitis"

Dipa Sheth, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Allergy, Asthma, and Sinus Center
Department 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

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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

Cardiology Grand Rounds

5:00 PM, Ross Hall, Room # 104

- May 7 **Mortality & Morbidity Conference**
- May 14 **Palak Shah, MD**
Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine
Heart Failure & Transplant Center
Inova Fairfax Hospital
Heart Failure Update
- May 21 **Rebecca Kelly**
Director, Regulatory Affairs
American College of Cardiology
Current Legislative Issues
- May 28 **Allen Solomon, MD**
Professor of Medicine
Division of Cardiology
Department of Medicine
GW Medical Faculty Associates
TBA



Resident Lecture Series May 2014 Noon Conference

- May 1 **Medicine Grand Rounds**
- May 2 **Chairman's Rounds**
- May 5 **"Inpatient Insulin Management"- Dr. Joshua Cohen**
- May 6 **Journal Club**
- May 7 **"Pregnancy and Rheumatology"- Dr. Mahnaz Momeni**
- May 8 **Medicine Grand Rounds**
- May 9 **Chairman's Rounds**
- May 12 **"Hyponatremia"- Dr. Sabyasachi Sen**
- May 13 **Clinicopathologic Conference- Drs. Meena Hasan and Omar Al Dhaybi**
- May 14 **"Mitral Valve Diseases"- Dr. Scott Shapiro**
- May 15 **Medicine Grand Rounds**
- May 16 **Chairman's Rounds**
- May 19 **"Allergy for the PCP"- Dr. Janine Van Lancker**
- May 20 **"Neuromuscular Disorder"- Dr. Henry Kaminski**
- May 21 **"Young Woman with Fever and Rash"- Dr. Mahnaz Momeni**
- May 22 **Medicine Grand Rounds**
- May 23 **Chairman's Rounds**
- May 26 **HOLIDAY**
- May 27 **TBA**
- May 28 **TBA**
- May 29 **Medicine Grand Rounds**
- May 30 **TBA**

2014 Distinguished Researcher Award

Congratulations to **Dominic Raj, MD, DM, DNB, FASN**, professor of Medicine, who was named the Distinguished Researcher of the year for GW. The GW Medical Center Distinguished Researcher Award is presented annually to honor a member of the faculty for outstanding research achievements as demonstrated by the quality and significance of the faculty member's work and the individual's track record of biomedical, public health and health services research. Dr. Raj was nominated by Dr. Wasserman for this award.

Dr. Raj, Professor of Medicine and of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, is the recipient of two prestigious UO-1 grants from the National Institutes of Health. These multi-million dollar studies will examine the role of gut microbiome on inflammation and cardiovascular disease. For the first UO-1 project titled, "Anti-inflammatory Therapy in Diabetic CKD," Dr. Raj will work with University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University, Vanderbilt University, and Washington University. As the principal investigator for this multi-million dollar grant, he will examine the effect of two anti-inflammatory therapies on slowing progression of atherosclerosis and protein-energy wasting in hemodialysis patients.

For his second UO-1 project titled, "Gut Microbiota and Atherosclerosis in ESRD," Dr. Raj will collaborate with the Cleveland Clinic, University of California San Diego, University of Miami, and University of Utah. As the principal investigator for this multi-million dollar grant, he will examine the effect of two novel anti-inflammatory therapies on slowing progression of atherosclerosis and left ventricular hypertrophy in patients with CKD.

This consortium of experts in kidney disease, brought together by the National Institute of Health, will test multiple novel therapies targeting different pathways in a collaborative manner. It is because of Dr. Raj's reputation that he was able to bring such an amazing group of investigators together.

Dr. Raj recently has been nominated to be a standing member of the Clinical and Integrative Cardiovascular Sciences Study Section (CICS), a subcommittee of the Cardiovascular and Respiratory Sciences Integrated Review Group of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Center for Scientific Review. The 19-member study section is responsible for reviewing grant applications for patient-oriented research involving the cardiovascular system and related regulatory organ systems. Dr. Raj's main goal for his four-year term, which began in June, is to ensure that kidney disease is integrated with the study of cardiovascular disease. Topics covered by the CICS include: human clinical studies; modulation of cardiac/cardiovascular responses and adaptations; neural control of the cardiovascular system; clinical, population, or translational studies of the responses of the cardiovascular system to trauma or surgery; and environmental stresses and modifying conditions.

Dr. Raj is an established researcher, an experienced clinician and an inspiring educator. He has advanced the field of Renal Diseases at GW and will be soon taking it to another level with the establishment of the Renal Transplant program. Congratulations on this highly deserving award!

Honors

To Dr. Marie Borum, Gastroenterology, for being accepted as a member of the 2014-2015 class of Fellows in the *Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Program*. ELAM offers an intensive one year program of leadership training with extensive coaching, networking and mentoring opportunities aimed at expanding the national pool of qualified women candidates for leadership. This selection places her among the best and brightest of today's and tomorrow's women leaders in academic medicine, dentistry and public health.

To Dr. Marco Mercader, Cardiology, for being awarded \$10,000 Life Sciences Prize in the 3rd Annual Office of Technology Transfer (OTT) Innovation Competition for his invention of a device to control atrial arrhythmias after open heart surgery. OTT Innovation Competition is an annual opportunity for GW researchers in the physical sciences and life sciences to present the commercial potential of their innovations. A panel of experienced entrepreneurs, investors, and industry leaders selected Dr. Mercader among 18 participants competing for funding.

Announcement: Somos Amigos Medical Missions, MD's needed

The next planned medical mission trip is to a small village in the Dominican Republic on June 14-20, 2014, which delivers primary care to rural patients. There are openings for additional doctors this June and would welcome residents as well as attendings. The group is well staffed with translators, nurses, lab and good infrastructure.

For more information, please visit the link to the Somos Amigos website: <http://somosamigos.org/>

If you are interested in going this June, please contact **Dr. Katalin Roth** or **Dr. Michael Keegan**, Medical Director, mtkeegan@hotmail.com for more information.



Chairman's Rounds

GWU Hospital Auditorium, 12:00 Noon

All Faculty Invited to Attend

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| May 2 | Dr. Hanna Mariani
Dr. Trevor Uyemura |
| May 9 | Dr. Nuha Alammar
Dr. Laura Perry |
| May 16 | Dr. Andrew Myers
Dr. Shelton McMullan |
| May 23 | Dr. Victoria Trendilova
Dr. Ahmed Abughaban |

Rheumatology Academic Conference Schedule May 2014

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

- May 1 No Conference
- May 1 Didactic Sessions
1:00 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, 6th floor
- May 8 Contraception for Patients with Rheumatologic Disorders
Dr. Jennifer Lesko
- May 8 Didactic Sessions
1:00 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, 6th floor
- May 15 **Journal Club**
Dr. Heidi Hanna
- May 15 Didactic Sessions
1:00 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, 6th floor
- May 22 **Radiology Conference**
Dr. Kathleen Brindle, Associate Professor of Radiology
Chief, Musculoskeletal Radiology
- May 22 Didactic Sessions
1:00 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, 6th floor
- May 29 **QI Project**
Dr. Mahsa Tehrani
- May 29 Didactic Sessions
1:00 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, 6th floor

Our condolences to the family of **Dr. Orville Wright Donnelly** who passed away in March. Dr. Donnelly was on the clinical faculty at GWU and also volunteered many hours teaching and working with the Admissions Department for GW School of Medicine. We are sincerely saddened by your loss.

Kudos & Congratulations

Congratulations... To **Drs. Kenneth Becker, David Perry, David Simon, and Patience White** for being recognized at the welcome luncheon for all new emeriti faculty members that took place on April 11th.

More Congratulations ...to our ACP "Doctors' Dilemma" medical jeopardy team: **Dr. Tudi Al-Sabban** (PGY3), **Dr. Ashley Freeman** (PGY3), **Dr. Chad Henson** (PGY3), who were not only chosen to represent all DC residency programs, but also made it to the semi-finals at the national competition!

Kudos... to **Dr. Mohamad Houry**, PGY2, for being selected for the GW School of Medicine Class of 2014 Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS). This organization is dedicated to recognizing students and physicians who practice, "patient-centered medical care by modeling the qualities of integrity, excellence, compassion, altruism, respect, and empathy." Well done!

More Kudos... to **Dr. Guillermo Gutierrez**, Pulmonary, **Dr. Vivek Jain**, Pulmonary, and **Dr. Ashley Freeman**, PGY3, on having their abstracts, "*Sleep Architecture Correlates of Subjective Sleep Perception in Postmenopausal Women*" and "*Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea improves Menopause Rating Scales*" accepted for inclusion in the Poster Presentation Session at the 28th annual meeting of the Associates Professional Sleep Societies, LLC (APSS) in June.

More, More Kudos... to **Dr. Angela Lee**, Geriatrics & Palliative Care, for receiving a letter of praise from a patient, "Our intensive meetings with Dr. Lee were clarifying, informative, poignant and heart-breaking. I felt Dr. Lee was completely accessible, humane, compassionate, and superlatively skillful."

See you next month! *The Editor*



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