There has been discourse since the founding of this country yet was it always this extreme? Other than the pre-civil war era, which resulted in several states seceding, has there been a time when politicians have acted so partisan, uncivil, and obnoxious? How can they get away with this? For example, for years now, polling has shown that a majority of Americans support stricter gun control laws yet nothing has been done. Mass murder after mass murder has failed to sway Congress from taking any action. Why do individual representatives feel comfortable going against the majority opinion? One word, gerrymandering!

Although gerrymandering has been around since the 1800’s, and probably before, never has it been so pervasive. The primary goals of gerrymandering are to maximize the effect of supporters’ votes and to minimize the effect of opponents’ votes. In 2002, according to two political scientists, only four challengers were able to defeat incumbent members of the U.S. Congress, the lowest number in modern American history. That is 4 out of 435 or .009%. With that type of safety record we end up with “yahoos” from both sides of the aisle caring only about their partisan districts and not the good of the country. And it does apply to both sides; California saw only ONE congressional seat change hands between 2000 and 2010.

So with that type of safety for continued election, on issues such as gun control we have to continue listening to the ponderous didacticism and moral pomposity of all the machine gun Kelly’s. The Founding Fathers, blah, blah, blah. While “another one bites the dust” (Queen 1980).

While school after school gets to make the headlines with dead children, nothing happens. After the Sandy Hook shooting, the NRA proposed that Congress appropriate funds to hire armed police officers for every American school. Now our bravado militaristic leader, whose bone spurs kept him out of Vietnam, is touting arming teachers. As Andy Borowitz said, “any teacher who actually wants to carry a concealed weapon should automatically be disqualified.” But it’s not militarism that our education system needs but freedom. Freedom from being scared of going to school and being terrorized. The argument usually turns away from guns and towards mental illness. As if there are any controls or there could be any controls over keeping guns out of the hands of everyone who may be or may become mentally ill. Congress couldn’t even vote for keeping individuals on the terrorist watch list from being denied their right to buy guns. “We need to make sure that individuals with mental illness don’t own a gun” is the mantra that is dragged out after every mass shooting. Notice the emphasis is not on gun control or even strengthening background checks but treating mental illness. But treat it while we cut funding for Medicaid and abolish the Affordable Care Act. This is the very definition of hypocrisy.

Finally, closer to home, Maryland Del. Don Dwyer (R-Anne Arundel) has announced a fundraising event where he is selling raffle tickets for an AR-15 and AK-47. “Don Dwyer says and does what he believes whether people like it or not, and if they don’t like it they can un-elect me. Fortunately for me I continue to get elected.” Wonder why that is?
Department of Medicine
March 2018 Grand Rounds

MAR 1  “Recent Advances in Aggressive B-Cell Lymphoma: How tumor biology is directing therapy”
Kieron Dunleavy, MD
Professor of Medicine
Department of Medicine
The George Washington University

MAR 8  “Pre-exposure Prophylaxis for Prevention of HIV”
Marc Siegel, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Department of Medicine
The George Washington University

MAR 15  “Incidence of Preventable Death following Mass Casualty Shootings and Opportunities for Rescue”
Babak Sarani, MD, FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery
The George Washington University

MAR 22  “Sudden Cardiac Death in Dialysis Patients: You Can’t Treat What You Don’t Know”
Tariq Shafi, MBBS, MHS
Associate Professor of Medicine
Johns Hopkins University

MAR 29  “New insights on vascular calcification”
Ziad Massy, MD, PhD
Professor of Nephrology
The Paris Ouest University

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 (AMA).

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

MAR 7  M&M
Joseph Forgione

MAR 14  Advanced CHF
Palak Shah

MAR 21  Silent Atrial Fibrillation
Allen Solomon, MD

MAR 28  Calcium Sensing (CaR) and Cardiovascular Disease
Ziad A. Massey, MD, PhD

Resident Lecture Series
March 2018 Noon Conference

Mar1  Medicine Grand Rounds
Mar 2  Rodolfo Curiel-Ankylosing Spondylitis
Mar 5  Dr. Mitchell Smith-Abnormal Protein
Mar 6  Journal Club - Drs. Xuixia Wei & Chase Houghton
Mar 7  GME-Core
Mar 8  Medicine Grand Rounds
Mar 9  Chairman’s Rounds - Drs. Celia Mouyal & Steve Testa
Mar 12  Scott Baute: Post-Cath complications
Mar 13  Patient Safety Conference - Drs. Caitlin Mingey & Tanuka Datta
Mar 14  Chairman’s Rounds - Drs. Stanley Liu and Greg Piech
Mar 15  Medicine Grand Rounds
Mar 16  Match Day/No Noon Conference
Mar 19  Dr. David Parenti - Nosocomial Infections
Mar 20  Clinical Pathology Conf. – Drs. Seemal Awan & Michael Simon
Mar 21  Ms. Deena Nasr-PA Professions
Mar22  Medicine Grand Rounds
Mar 23  Dr. Andrew Bradley-Stress testing
Mar 26  Dr. Mandana Hashefi-Vasculitis
Mar 27  Tamara Swigert-Diabetes Prevention/Physical activity
Mar 28  Dr. Anna McLean: Pleural effusion
Mar 29  Medicine Grand Rounds
Mar 30  Chairman’s Rounds - Drs. Matt Tick and Kristen Millado

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
GWIH Defining Medicine Intranet: Go to Applications \ Inactive-Non-Production \ Directory Contact System
If you have trouble with your MedHub account, please contact Mary Mitchum at mdmitchum@mfa.gwu.edu.
Onco-Nephrology Clinic

The Division of Kidney Diseases and Hypertension is pleased to announce the establishment of the Onco-Nephrology Clinic. Kidney disease is common in patients with cancer. Both cancer and cancer therapies (such as chemotherapy, surgery, and radiation) can lead to acute and chronic kidney disease, which are associated with poor prognosis. Early diagnosis and treatment could improve outcomes in these patients.

Dr. Regunathan-Shenk will lead this clinic and work collaboratively with Urologists, Medical and Surgical Oncologists (cancer physicians), Radiologists, Pharmacologists and Dieticians to provide personalized care for patients presenting with cancer-related kidney problems.

The clinic will offer a full spectrum of personalized kidney-related services that manages the immediate and late complications of cancer and cancer therapies such as:

- Glomerular diseases
- Acute kidney injury
- Chronic kidney disease
- Hypertension
- Fluid and electrolyte disorders
- Radiation kidney injury Post-nephrectomy (partial or total removal of kidney)
- Kidney disease after stem cell transplant
- Myeloma-related kidney disease
- Paraneoplastic kidney disease

Dr. Regunathan-Shenk is a board certified Nephrologist. She received her Medical Degree from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She completed her Internal Medicine Residency and General Nephrology Fellowship at New York Presbyterian - Columbia University Medical Center. Following her Fellowship, she completed an additional year of subspecialty training in Glomerular Diseases at New York Presbyterian-Columbia University Medical Center. She has specific interest in cancer related kidney diseases and hypertension.

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

Amanda Gallagher, NP, joins the Department of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology as a Nurse Practitioner. She earned her Bachelor of Science Nursing Degree from Boston College, Connell School of Nursing in 2014 and her Masters in Nursing from Georgetown University in 2017. She is licensed as a Registered Nurse in the State of Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Virginia and Washington DC and recently obtained licensure as a Nurse Practitioner in the District of Columbia. Amanda’s nursing experience has exposed her a large array of clinical and administrative duties and responsibilities. Her special interests lie in the area of Endocrinology and Diabetes.

Student Feedback……continued

From an abridged letter 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":

- Afsoon Roberts, MD
  Associate Professor of Medicine

Education Research News

Congratulations to Academy of Education Scholar, Lalit Narayan and his research team for having a paper, A Survey of Language Diversity and Communications Barriers in Six Indian Academic Emergency Medicine Departments accepted for the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine.

MATCH DAY!!!

Remember Match Day - March 16, 2018 at noon - Ross Hall.
## Rheumatology Academic Conference Schedule

**March 2018**

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

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| March 1    | 8:00-9:00 AM  | Radiology Conference  
K. Brindle, MD                                                        |
| March 1    | 9:00-9:30 AM  | Fellows sign-out and patient safety monitoring and education         |
| March 1    | 9:30-11:30 AM | Knowledge Bowl and Rheumatology Boards training/preparation          |
| March 8    | 8:00-9:00 AM  | Journal Club  
Dr. McBride & Dr. Phillpotts                                           |
| March 8    | 9:00-9:30 AM  | Fellows sign-out and patient safety monitoring and education         |
| March 8    | 9:30-11:30 AM | Knowledge Bowl and Rheumatology Boards training/preparation          |
| March 14   | 5:00-6:00 PM  | Renal biopsy conference: IgA Nephropathy and Myeloma proximal tubulopathy |
| March 15   | 7:30-9:00 AM  | Intra-city Grand Rounds Location:  
Walter Reed/Naval Hospital                                              |
| March 15   | 10:00-11:00 AM| Fellows sign-out and patient safety monitoring and education         |
| March 22   | 8:00-9:00 AM  | The diagnosis and management of low back pain.  
David Borenstein, MD                                                    |
| March 22   | 9:00-9:30 AM  | Fellows sign-out and patient safety monitoring and education         |
| March 22   | 9:30-1:30 AM  | Knowledge Bowl and Rheumatology Boards training/preparation          |
| March 29   | 8:00-9:30 AM  | Hepatic Steatosis  
Patricia Latham, MD                                                    |
| March 29   | 9:30-10:00 AM | Fellows sign-out and patient safety monitoring and education         |
| March 29   | 9:30-11:30 AM | Knowledge Bowl and Rheumatology boards training/preparation          |

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**Kudos, Congratulations and Condolences**

*Congratulations*.....to Dr. Maram Alkhatib (Internal Medicine) and her husband, Dr. Mohammad Abu-Rub (Neurology), who welcomed a bouncing 8lbs, 15oz baby girl, Salma AbuRub into the world on February 4, 2018.

*Kudos*... to Dr. Ali Ramezani, the recipient of the Joseph M. Krainin, MD Memorial Young Investigator Award from the National Kidney Foundation—His translational research will examine the use of specific microbiome-based therapy to prevent progression of atherosclerosis.

*Kudos*...Nancy Uhland, NP-C, the recipient of the American Association of Kidney Patients’ (AAKP) 2018 Medal of Excellence Award in the Nurse Category.

*Kudos*...to Dr. Tahira Lodhi, who received high praise from a patient.....the patient said that she did not feel rushed, she felt heard and says “I feel better than I have felt in three years.”

*Kudos*...to Dr. Richard Simons, who was appointed as Chair of the Education and Publication Committee for the 2018-19 term of the American College of Physicians, Board of Regents.

See you next month! The Editor