2016 Alpha Omega Alpha Postgraduate Award

Congratulations to Dr. Adrienne Poon, PGY3, as she is the recipient of the 2016 Alpha Omega Alpha Postgraduate Award with grant funding to carry out her research project, “Factors associated with outpatient and primary care utilization at various health service facilities among older people in China.”

The Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) postgraduate award was established in 2011 to allow residents or fellows to pursue projects in the spirit of the AOA mission of academic achievement, leadership, humanism, and service. Dr. Adrienne Poon’s project proposal of “Factors associated with outpatient and primary care utilization at various health service facilities among older people in China” was selected as one of ten awards across the country. She will be traveling to Beijing, China in 2017 to conduct research with Dr. Weiyan Jian from Peking University and Dr. Kit Yee Chan from University of Edinburgh. Her project will explore the how elderly in China are accessing and using primary care services, which continues to be reformed as part of larger healthcare reform policy in China. She will be studying these policy changes through the Chinese Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (CHARLS) database that includes a nationally representative sample of adults in China 45 and older designed to collect information on population ageing. She will receive an award of $2,000 in support of her research project.

More information on AOA: http://alphaomegaalpha.org/postgrad_award.html

From the Chairman

A District Court Judge in Northern Texas has barred federal government agencies from taking action against school districts that don’t follow the Obama administration’s guidance on transgender bathroom policies in schools. The Department of Education’s rule requires that schools “treat a student’s gender identity as the student’s sex for purposes of the law.” Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, who has led the fight to preserve the potty rights of individuals praised the ruling.

The court’s rationale is one that could have been expected. The ruling said, “This policy would open the door to sexual predators disguised as someone they are not.” Forget that there are no reports of this happening. “It just violates tradition.” When did going to the bathroom become a tradition and not a bodily function? “Gay people are being celebrated at the expense of straight people.” Really, celebrating in the bathroom? Haven’t heard of anyone celebrating since Republican Senator Larry Craig from Idaho was celebrating his family values in the airport restroom. Straight people have it so hard.

In a National Survey it was found that 41% of transgender individuals attempted suicide (compared to 1.6% of the general population.) Why? Maybe because while in school 78% reported be harassed, 35% physically assaulted, 12% subjected to sexual violence with 15% leaving school entirely.

But it gets worse. When it comes to housing, 20% are reported as homeless with 29% turned away from homeless shelters. Why are they homeless? Maybe, because 90% of transgender individuals reported harassment, mistreatment, or discrimination on the job. That is, if they had a job, since they have twice the unemployment rate with black transgender individuals having four times the unemployment rate.

We learned a few weeks ago at Medical Grand Rounds that a significant number of transgender individuals are denied health care. Many avoid getting treatment or preventive care altogether so as to not be or feel demeaned. Most hospitals do not include gender identity in their non-discrimination policy.

It still seems to me that bathroom politics is the lowest form of self-serving pandering. Raymond Martins, a former chief resident and senior director of clinical education and training at the Whitman Walker Clinic once told me “you can’t believe how hard these transgender people have it.” I never forgot his words and that is one of the reasons we devoted a Medical Grand Rounds to the topic.

Therefore, it is difficult to believe we are still fighting for an individual’s civil rights with “bathroom wars.” It is even harder to believe that there is some Neanderthal judge in Texas who chooses to act in contrast to most other rulings across the country. More senior courts in other regions have agreed with the administration that transgender students are protected by existing laws against sex discrimination, and their decisions will not be altered by the Texas ruling. He will be overruled by a higher court so let’s hope this ideologue doesn’t cause too much damage. You would think after losing on inter-racial marriages, same sex adoptions, and gay marriage they would just give up and crawl back into their wherever they came from. Me thinks they complain too loudly. Who knows what is behind that judge’s robe? Who cares? Can’t they just be happy with their concealed weapon and their guns?

Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.
Department of Medicine  
September 2016 Grand Rounds

SEPT 1 “Corneal Disease”  
Richard Stutzman, MD  
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology  
Department of Ophthalmology  
GW Medical Faculty Associate

SEPT 8 “Neuro-oncology”  
Jonathan Sherman, MD  
Assistant Professor  
Director, Surgical Neuro-oncology  
Director, Stereotactic Radiosurgery  
Department of Neurosurgery  
GW Medical Faculty Associates

SEPT 15 “High Altitude Renal Disease”  
Shailendra Sharma, MD  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Division of Kidney Disease & Hypertension  
Department of Medicine  
GW Medical Faculty Associates

SEPT 22 “Genomics in Cardiovascular Disease”  
Ramesh Mazhari, MD  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Division of Cardiology  
Department of Medicine  
GW Medical Faculty Associates

SEPT 29 “Mitril Regurgitation”  
Patrick O’Gara, MD  
Professor of Medicine  
Harvard Medical School  
Director, Clinical Cardiology  
Executive Medical Director, Shapiro Cardiovascular Center  
Brigham and Women’s Hospital  
Boston, MA

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 # 104

SEPT 7  
Mortality & Morbidity Conference

SEPT 14  
Allen Solomon, MD  
Professor of Medicine  
Director, Cardiology Fellowship  
Division of Cardiology  
Department of Medicine  
GW Medical Faculty Associates  
TBA

SEPT 21  
Allen Solomon, MD  
Professor of Medicine  
Director, Cardiology Fellowship  
Division of Cardiology  
Department of Medicine  
GW Medical Faculty Associates  
TBA

SEPT 28  
Patrick O’Gara, MD  
Professor of Medicine  
Harvard Medical School  
Director, Clinical Cardiology  
Executive Medical Director, Shapiro Cardiovascular Center  
Brigham and Women’s Hospital  
Boston, MA  
TBA

Resident Lecture Series  
September 2016 Noon Conference

SEPT 1  
Medicine Grand Rounds
SEPT 2  
Chairman’s Rounds
SEPT 5  
HOLIDAY
SEPT 6  
Journal Club
SEPT 7  
GME
SEPT 8  
Medicine Grand Rounds
SEPT 9  
“Acute Coronary Syndrome”- Dr. Jonathan Reiner
SEPT 12  
“Tylenol Overdose”- Dr. Abdulaziz Almehlsi
SEPT 13  
“Morbidity and Mortality”-  
Drs. Freba Farhat and Sheldon Steiner
SEPT 14  
“TBD”- Dr. Courtney Paul
SEPT 15  
Medicine Grand Rounds
SEPT 16  
Chairman’s Rounds
SEPT 19  
“Goals of Care/Advanced Care Planning”-  
Dr. Katalin Roth
SEPT 20  
Clinicopathologic Conference-  
Drs. Teja Mandava and Caitlin Minge
SEPT 21  
TBD
SEPT 22  
Medicine Grand Rounds
SEPT 23  
Chairman’s Rounds
SEPT 26  
TBD
SEPT 27  
Clinicopathologic Conference-  
Drs. Qusai Al Saleh and Alia Khoja
SEPT 28  
“Allergy”- Dr. Anjeni Keswani
SEPT 29  
Medicine Grand Rounds
SEPT 30  
Chairman’s Rounds

Medicine Team Contacts

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<tr>
<th>Team</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHITE TEAM</td>
<td>(202) 715-5669</td>
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<tr>
<td>YELLOW TEAM</td>
<td>(202) 715-6041</td>
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<tr>
<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 Addition to the Medicine Faculty

Nabil Fallouh, MD, MS joins us as a full-time faculty member in the Division of Hospital Medicine and Emergency Medicine. Dr. Fallouh earned his Medical Degree at the University Of Damascus School Of Medicine in the Syrian Arab Republic. He completed his Residency in Internal Medicine at William Beaumont Hospital, Michigan, where he previously completed a second Externship in Internal Medicine. The first was in Family Medicine at Sparrow Hospital, Lansing Michigan. Dr. Fallouh has a Master’s Degree in Clinical Research Design and Statistical Analysis, from The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Dr. Fallouh is board certified in Internal Medicine and is licensed in the state of Michigan and the District of Columbia.

Dr. Fallouh’s scholarly activities include five Peer Reviewed journals and publications, one non peer reviewed publications, and nine abstracts.

Dr. Fallouh’s special interests lie in the area of research; he completed two programs as a Research Scholar at Medical College of Ohio and at the University of Michigan. His interests are focused on the Cardioprotective Effect of Digitalis Against Ischemia-Reperfusion Injury.

Department of Medicine Annual Report 2016

To view the 2016 Annual Report for the Department of Medicine please go to the link:

http://smhs.gwu.edu/medicine/

Click on 2016 Annual Report– Dept. of Medicine (left hand side in yellow box)

Ongoing Clinical Trials

ENDOCRINOLOGY

Dr. Sen from Endocrinology is doing a research study looking at Type 2 Diabetes and Stage 1-3 CKD. We are looking to see if we can reduce the risk of these patients getting heart disease by ultimately increasing their CD34+ cell number, function and gene expression by giving them TRADJENTA for 12 weeks.

The study lasts 16 weeks and consist of 4 visits to the MFA. The patients would be assigned to take either TRADJENTA, or placebo for 12 weeks, during which will we test body composition, REE, active energy expenditure, arterial stiffness, blood biochemistry, and endothelial progenitor cells. Patients are provided a compensation of $50 for each study visit.

Participant Requirements:

- Type 2 Diabetes
- Age 40-70 (male or female)
- Currently only taking metformin, insulin or both for diabetes

Contact Fiona Dore at ex.2342

INFECTIONOUS DISEASES

FLU

The Infectious Disease department will be looking for patients with Influenza again this year for an observational study sponsored by the NIH. Participants who meet the eligibility criteria will be enrolled and information (demographics, medical history (including prior influenza and pneumococcal vaccination), medications (including antivirals) and treatments prescribed will be recorded. A blood sample for serum and plasma will be obtained at enrollment, as well as an upper respiratory tract specimen. The respiratory specimen will be sent for central reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) testing for influenza. Status will be re-assessed at approximately 14 days after enrollment and another blood sample for serum and plasma will be obtained. Subjects will be compensated $25 for enrollment visit and $75 for returning for the 14 day follow up visit. For more information, call the ID Clinical Trials Unit at the (202) 741-2230.

HIV

Infectious diseases is conducting HIV treatment trials. Trials open to recruitment include trials looking for patients naïve to treatment. Please contact Chelsea Ware at 202-677-6496 for more information.
### Rheumatology Academic Conference Schedule September 2016

2300 M Street, Suite 3-332  
8 AM–11:30 AM  
Questions? Call (202) 741-2488

**SEPT 1:** "Lupus, Sarcoidosis, and Morphea: Case Based Tips for Effective Management"  
Adam Friedman MD

**SEPT 1:** M & M

**SEPT 8:** Journal Club  
Drs. Serafi and Phillpotts

**SEPT 8:** Rheumatology Board Training Preparation

**SEPT 15:** Intra-City Rheumatology Grand Rounds  
**NOTE LOCATION:** Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC)  
**NOTE TIME:** 7:30 AM

**SEPT 15:** Division Meeting

**SEPT 22:** "Hand and Wrist Surgery in Rheumatoid Arthritis"  
Sam Moghtaderi, MD

**SEPT 22:** Fellowship Interviews

**SEPT 29:** Radiology Conference: Part I  
**Dr. Kathleen Brindle,** Associate Professor of Radiology  
Chief, Musculoskeletal Radiology  
Location: GW Hospital, Radiology Conference Room

**SEPT 29:** Rheumatology Board Training Preparation

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### Kudos and Congratulations

**Kudos... to Dr. Suzanne Chang,** Hospital Medicine; she received a big thank you from Dr. Bruno Petinaux, Interim Chief Medical Officer at GWUH, for her great documentation, very thorough and detailed, on patients on 4S which was reviewed by the DC DOH.

**Kudos... to Dr. Marijane Hynes,** Internal Medicine; she was asked to speak at the ACP in March 2017 on obesity.

**Kudos... to Dr. Elizabeth Bluhm,** Internal Medicine, on her recent abstract publication, “Medication use trajectories of postmenopausal breast cancer survivors and matched cancer-free controls” in the Breast Cancer Research and Treatment Journal.

**Kudos... to Dr. Christina Puchalski,** Geriatrics, for receiving a letter of appreciation from the Pediatrics Faculty Development Advisory Group at the University of Mississippi Medical Center for her service as a mentor in their mentoring program for the 2015-2016 academic year.

**Kudos... to Drs. Aneesha Hossain, PGY3, Kanika Gupta, PGY3, Andrew Mener, Hem/Onc Fellow, and Dr. Imad Tabbara, Hematology/Oncology, for their case report published in BMJ Case Reports, "Case of CML lymphoid Blast Crisis Presenting as Bilateral Breast Masses"**

**Kudos... to Dr. Robert Kaiser,** as he has been elected by the America n Academy of Home Care Medicine (AAHCM) to serve on the Board of Directors through the 2019 term.

**Congratulations... to Dr. Farah Siddiqui,** Podiatry, and her husband, Kaamil Ali, on the new addition to their family, baby girl Khadijah Ali, born on June 9th weighing in at 8bs 5ozs.

**Thank you... to Irene Tamagna and family** on their generous donation for the Annual Irene Tamagna Hypertension Lectures.

*See you next month!* The Editor

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