Why is carrying a concealed weapon a right but having access to health care not? There seems to be a clause in the Constitution that allows and covers most things, for example: the right to have an abortion, the right to marry anyone you want, the right to protest at funerals for falling warriors, to give some examples. Therefore, there must be something that would cover the right to good health. How about, our unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

You would have thought that the Founding Fathers would have at least mentioned the right to be bled or the implementation of leeches. After all, those were the two main treatments in 1776. Many scholars think that Washington did not die from laryngitis but from too many bleeding sessions removing 40% of his blood volume in 12 hours.

The treatment of bloodletting goes back at least to the 5th century BC. According to Wikipedia, “Bleeding a patient to health was modeled on the process of menstruation. Hippocrates believed that menstruation functioned to "purge women of bad humours".

The second amendment of the Constitution goes back to 1787 when even if the writers wanted individuals to have guns in their homes and not just restricted to a militia as is written, how did they know about AK-47’s? Most judges and scholars who debated the clause, almost always arrived at one conclusion, finding that the amendment protects gun ownership for purposes of military duty and collective security. Yet the Supreme Court decision in 2008, written by Justice Antonin Scalia, is rooted in originalism, the concept that the Constitution should be interpreted based on the original intent of the founders or whatever Scalia and others thought it was.

So if we aren’t going to have Universal Health Care at least we should mitigate violent crimes by banning guns. The NRA says this would make things worse. Would it? Following several high-profile killing sprees the Australian government coordinated more restrictive firearms legislation with all state governments. Starting in 1990 Gun laws became largely aligned in all the states by 1996 according to the Australian National Firearms Agreement,

A person who possesses or uses a firearm must have a firearm license be at least 18 years of age, have a "genuine reason" and must not be a "prohibited person. How did it work? Between 1991 and 2001, the number of firearm-related deaths in Australia declined 47%. Suicide deaths using firearms more than halved over the ten years.

In 2013, there were 73,505 nonfatal firearm injuries (23.2 injuries per 100,000 U.S. citizens), and 33,636 deaths due to firearms. This gun violence cost U.S. taxpayers approximately $600 million in direct hospital costs. (Of course death is cheaper than injuries.)

My favorite quote on all of this was from Joe the Plumber (remember) who after a mass shooting involving children in California said, “Your dead kids don’t trump my Constitutional rights,” He may be the next Attorney General.

Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.


**Department of Medicine**

**November 2017 Grand Rounds**

NOV 2 "Inflammatory Bowel Disease"
**Matthew Chandler, MD**
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Gastroenterology
Department of Medicine
GW Medical Faculty Associates

NOV 9 "Lifestyle Medicine/Wellness Center"
**Kaylan Baban, MD**
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Founding Director, The GW Wellness Center
Division of General Internal Medicine
Department of Medicine
GW Medical Faculty Associates

NOV 16 “Tactical Medicine– A Unique Opportunity for Research and Innovation”
**Kevin O’Conner, MD**
Associate Professor of Medicine
Director, Executive Medicine
Division of General Internal Medicine
Department of Medicine
GW Medical Faculty Associates

NOV 23 Thanksgiving Break

NOV 30 “Pulmonary Embolism”
**Jalil Ahari, MD**
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Pulmonary Diseases
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 I of the Physician’s Recognition Award of the American Medical Association.

---

**Cardiology Grand Rounds**

*5:00 PM, Ross Hall, Room # 104*

NOV 1 Mortality & Morbidity Conference

NOV 8 Dr. William Dietz
Director, Sumner M Redstone Global Center for Prevention and Wellness
Milken Institute School of Public Health
GW University
*Obesity and CV Disease*

NOV 15 No Conference— AHA

NOV 22 No Conference— Thanksgiving

NOV 29 TBA

---

**Resident Lecture Series**

**November 2017 Noon Conference**

NOV 1 GME– Core
NOV 2 Medicine Grand Rounds
NOV 3 Recruitment
NOV 6 Recruitment
NOV 7 Journal Club
NOV 8 Recruitment
NOV 9 Medicine Grand Rounds
NOV 10 Recruitment
NOV 13 Recruitment
NOV 14 Patient Safety Conference– Drs. Sarah Tran and Lisa Glass
NOV 15 Recruitment
NOV 16 Medicine Grand Rounds
NOV 17 Recruitment
NOV 20 Recruitment
NOV 21 Recruitment
NOV 22 Research in Residency– Dr. Hind Rafei
NOV 23 HOLIDAY
NOV 24 HOLIDAY
NOV 27 Recruitment
NOV 28 Septic Arthritis– Dr. Adey Berhanu
NOV 29 Recruitment
NOV 30 Medicine Grand Rounds

---

**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.)
Please Join Us In Welcoming Our Newest Additions to the Medicine Faculty

**Daniel Baram, MD** join the Division of Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine as an Associate Professor of Medicine.

Dr. Baram completed undergraduate studies at Pennsylvania State University, and obtained his Medical Degree from Thomas Jefferson University in 1990. He then completed Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at New York Hospital – Weill Cornell Medical Center. He continued his training as a Critical Care Fellow at the National Institutes of Health and as a pulmonary fellow at New York University/Bellevue.

In 1998, Dr Baram joined the faculty of the Pulmonary/Critical Care Division at Stony Brook University Medical Center and became the Co-Director of the Lung Cancer Evaluation Center there in 2002. This multidisciplinary clinic was developed to optimize care of patients being evaluated for lung cancer. In 2009, he transitioned over to The John T. Mather Memorial Hospital and again developed a pulmonary practice specializing in Interventional Bronchoscopy and Lung Cancer evaluation including the establishment of an ACR-certified Lung Cancer Screening Program.

In 2014, Dr Baram received his board-certification in Interventional Pulmonology through the American Association of Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology (AABIP). His practice includes Endobronchial Ultrasound (EBUS), Bronchial Stenting, Electrocautery and Argon Plasma Coagulation, Balloon Dilation and Stenting, Bronchial Thermoplasty for treatment of severe persistent asthma, electro navigational bronchoscopy and other aspects of diagnostic and therapeutic bronchoscopy.

**Mallika Mundkur MD** joins us as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Department of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine as a volunteer. She is a board-certified Internist with expertise in Public Health, Informatics and Pharmacoepidemiology.

Dr. Mundkur holds a degree in Biochemistry from Harvard College, a degree in Medicine from the University of Massachussetts, and a Masters of Public Health from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Following completion of Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Dr. Mundkur was selected as Chief Medical Resident and went on to complete Fellowships in both Clinical Informatics (National Library of Medicine) and Health Outcomes Research (Harvard Medical School, Division of Pharmacoepidemiology, Brigham and Women’s Hospital).

Dr. Mundkur is now a Medical Officer within the Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology at the Food and Drug Administration where her work focuses on the use of national surveillance systems and emerging data sources to assess the safety and effectiveness of new pharmaceuticals.

**Margaret Gloria, M.D** joins us as an Instructor of Medicine in the Department of Medicine, Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Care.

Dr. Gloria received her Medical Degree from the University Of Arizona School Of Medicine in 2013. She completed her Residency training in Internal Medicine at George Washington University in 2016. Dr. Gloria completed a Fellowship in Palliative Medicine at George Washington University in 2017. She is board certified in Internal Medicine and board eligible in Palliative Medicine. Dr. Gloria is licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Dr. Gloria has an interest in Refugee Health and served on a medical mission to the Middle East. She has also been involved in research studies in the area of Palliative Medicine. She is also a proud recipient of the Susan M. Hasselquist Humanism and Clinical Excellence Award which is awarded to clinicians recognized for their

**HONORS**

Dr. Lalit Narayan, General Internal Medicine, for being selected as a member to The SMHS Academy of Education Scholars.

Dr. Jehan El-Bayoumi, General Internal Medicine, for being selected as the White House Medical Unit (WHMU) top consultant for the 4th year in a row and also being selected by the ACP to receive the national award: W. Lester Henry Award for Diversity and Access to Care.

Dr. David Popiel, General Internal Medicine, on receiving the Gold Humanism Honor Society Faculty Award!
Rheumatology Academic Conference Schedule  
November 2017  
2300 M Street, Suite 3-332  
8 AM – 11:30 AM  
Questions? Call (202) 741-2488

NOV 2: ACR National Meeting– NO CONFERENCE

NOV 9: Radiology Conference  
**Dr. Kathleen Brindle**  
Associate Professor of Radiology  
Chief, Musculoskeletal Radiology  
Location: GW Hospital, Radiology Conference Room

NOV 9: Rheumatology Board Training Preparation

NOV 9: CNS Vasculitis  
**Dr. Kathleen Burger**

NOV 16: Patient Safety monitoring and education

NOV 23: Thanksgiving- HOLIDAY

NOV 30: Journal Club/Quality Improvement Project  
**Drs. McBride and Dr. Phillpotts**

NOV 30: Rheumatology Board Training Preparation

---

**Kudos and Congratulations**

*Kudos*...to **Dr. Allen Solomon**, Cardiology, and the Gold Team, for receiving a note of praise from a patient in the hospital, "the care I received was phenomenal".

*Kudos*...to **Dr. Lisa Martin**, Cardiology, on a letter of praise from a patient, "Dr. Martin is truly caring, compassionate doctor and I am so fortunate to be under her care.”

*Kudos*...to **Dr. Nabil Fallouh**, Hospital Medicine, on a recent letter of praise from the hospital, “we appreciate his ongoing support, leadership, guidance and motivation for the Trio Rounding efforts... he is not only a champion of this program but is setting standard to make it successful.”

*Kudos*...to **Dr. Chase Houghton**, PGY 2, on a letter of praise from a patient in the hospital, she wrote how grateful she was about the wonderful work Dr. Houghton has done and helping her connect with her brother.

*Kudos*...to **Dr. Shant Ayanian**, Hospital Medicine, on providing an in-service to the hospital nursing staff, “...he encouraged and empowered our nurses to speak up to ensure we are always providing safe and quality care to all our patients.”

*See you next month!  The Editor*