FORTY YEARS AGO

Forty years ago this month, on September 16, 1977, Andreas Gruentzig performed the first coronary angioplasty. The patient was Adolph Bachman, a 37 year old man with progressive angina. In November of 1977 he presented his first four cases of coronary angioplasty to a packed meeting hall at the American Heart Association national meeting. His innovative procedure spread like wildfire through the cardiology community. In 1979 he started leading courses in angioplasty in Zurich and then a year later when he moved to Emory University. He was a consummate teacher, gentleman and friend. Though his life was cut short by a tragic plane crash in 1985 when he was only 46 years old, his groundbreaking work has helped hundreds of thousands of patients if not millions. His legacy will live forever. (or until we eradicate coronary artery disease) Thanks to Joel Gorfinkel, MD for providing this information.

From the Chairman

Recently, while reading a book on the discovery of the Polio vaccine, it occurred to me that the fight over health insurance is a relatively new phenomena. Although FDR and Truman made noise about universal coverage, all forms of insurance were vigorously opposed by the AMA. I think the idea drifted away during the Eisenhower years only to return in the form of Medicare under Johnson. During the Polio years of the 1920’s-50, physicians would be paid out of pocket and patients look towards National Foundations for help with the cost of hospitalization and rehabilitation. That’s where much of those dimes marched.

Private insurance started slowly in the early 1900’s mostly as disability policies from work. In 1929, Baylor hospital, in order to attract business, offered a pre-paid employee plan for hospitalization. The insurance was only good at this one hospital, and therefore, was the forerunner of the latter day HMO. Throughout the 1950’s labor unions, led the way for employer-sponsored coverage, and by 1958, the majority of Americans had some form of health coverage.

Many probably don’t realize the role played by one organization in Washington, D.C. in establishing private insurance. The Group Health Association (GHA) was formed in January of 1937 to provide employees of the Home Owners Loan Corporation with health care through a member-controlled organization (socialized medicine?). Members paid monthly dues that covered their entire family. This was not looked upon favorably by the AMA and the DC Medical Society. These organizations felt that GHA infringed on a physician’s right to set their own fees and pressured local hospitals to refuse GHA doctors the use of their facilities. In 1941 the Supreme Court found these two organizations to be in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act and so GHA survived. Makes one proud of the history of our national and local medical organizations in holding back progress on health insurance.

In order to keep members out of the hospital, the docs would make house calls on weekends which was an added service throughout the 1960’s. The physicians of the GHA went even further and established one of the first physician unions in the country and began to bargain for rights (more socialization?). The contentious issue of allowing physicians to see patients outside of the GHA led to a short strike in 1978 which settled in the physicians favor.

GHA opened its doors to other members including Federal Employees and thrived for many years. However, with rising health costs, financial instability, declining enrollment, and a plummeting market share it began to face hard times throughout the 1980’s. The use of ancillary personnel such as midwives, and nurse practitioners and physician assistants was pioneering but wasn’t enough to offset the rising cost of health care. Expansion into the suburbs to increase market shares also didn’t work. And the fact that the patient population of the organization was aging did not help.

Despite opposition from a spirited group of loyal followers who embraced this type of health care delivery system, GHA was taken over by Humana in 1993. It has since passed to Kaiser as a remnant of its former self. Many of the physicians who worked much of their career for GHA still reside in the DC area. Even today you will get many different opinions about the quality of care provided by GHA from those who remember, but no one can deny that in many ways it was ahead of its time.

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

SEPT 7 Understein Lecture
“Diastology for the Clinician”
Rick Nishamura, MD
Division Chair, Professor of Medicine
Division of Structural Heart Disease
Department of Cardiovascular Medicine
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota

SEPT 14 “Hurricane Katrina and GW Disaster Policy”
Jeffrey Williams, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Pulmonary Diseases
Department of Medicine
GW Medical Faculty Associates

SEPT 21 NO CONFERENCE
Rosh Hashana

Mallika Mundkur, MD MPH
Medical Officer, Food and Drug Administration
Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology

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.

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

SEPT 6 Understein Visiting Professor
Rick Nishamura, MD
Professor of Medicine
Division of Cardiology
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota
Pericardial Disease: A New Look at an Old Disease

SEPT 13 Mortality & Morbidity Conference

SEPT 20 Gregg Miller
Radiation Safety and Medical Physics
The George Washington University Hospital
Radiation Safety

SEPT 27 Allen Solomon, MD
Professor of Medicine
Director, Cardiology Fellowship
Division of Cardiology
Department of Medicine
GW Medical Faculty Associates
TBA

Resident Lecture Series
September 2017 Noon Conference

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 Addition to the Medicine Faculty

Michael G. Knight, MD, MSHP joins us as an Assistant Professor of Medicine and Patient Safety Officer for the Division of General Internal Medicine.

Dr. Knight completed undergraduate studies at Oakwood University, and obtained his Medical Degree with Special Qualifications in Biomedical Research from the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University. During Medical School, he participated in the yearlong Clinical Research Training Program at the National Institutes of Health, where his research focused on metabolic disease and obesity in women of African descent. He then completed Residency in Internal Medicine, with special training in Obesity Medicine, at New York Presbyterian – Weill Cornell Medical Center.

He continued his training at the University of Pennsylvania as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar and Fellow of the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics. While there, he completed a Masters in Health Policy Research, received training in LEAN Six Sigma, and led quality improvement and patient safety efforts in patient and provider communication, adverse event review, and transitions of care. He continued his training as a visiting fellow at The Joint Commission, where he focused on culture of safety development and sentinel event review.

While at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Knight also practiced clinically as an Attending in Internal Medicine at the Crencz VA Medical Center, and served as the clinical director for the MOVE! Level 3 Weight Management Program. In this role, he led a multidisciplinary team to provide medical weight management through nutrition, physical activity, and medication management. He also practiced clinically in General Internal Medicine, and focused on preventive medicine, chronic disease management, and coordination of care. Dr. Knight is board certified in Internal Medicine, and practices clinically with a focus in Obesity Medicine in the GW Weight Management Clinic and General Internal Medicine Practice.

Aditi Mallick, MD joins us as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Department of Medicine, Division of Hospital Medicine. Prior to joining us, Dr. Mallick was a Hospitalist and member of the clinical faculty of Johns Hopkins Hospital. She is board-certified in Internal Medicine and is licensed in the District of Columbia and the State of Maryland.

Dr. Mallick earned her A.B. with honors from Harvard College, including a Certificate in Healthcare Policy, her Medical Degree from Stanford University with a scholarly concentration in Health Services Research and Policy; and completed Internal Medicine Residency training at Massachusetts General Hospital.

She is currently serving as Senior Medical Advisor for Clinician Engagement and co-leading efforts to reduce clinician burden at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Her work centers on administrative burden reduction as a means of achieving more efficient, more patient-centered care.

Dr. Mallick has published her research in peer-reviewed journals including Circulation, Journal of Cardiac Failure, and JACC Heart Failure.

Faysal Haroun, MD joins us as an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology & Oncology. Dr. Haroun was awarded his Medical Degree from the American University of Beirut School of Medicine. He completed his Residency in Internal Medicine and Fellowship in Hematology & Oncology at The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences where he also served as Assistant Chief of Service (Chief Resident).

Dr. Haroun is licensed in the District of Columbia and is a member of several professional organizations, including the American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Society of Hematology and the American Medical Association. His special interests include lung cancer as well as benign and malignant blood disorders. Dr. Haroun is also invested in novel therapeutics such as immunotherapy and targeted treatments aimed at improving outcomes for our patients.

Dr. Haroun enjoys caring for his patients, and is dedicated to providing the best available therapies to them.

Loren Chen, MD, FACP joins us as an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine. He obtained his undergraduate degree in music at the University of Virginia and Medical Degree at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine. He went on to complete his Residency in Internal Medicine at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital (TJUH) in Philadelphia and remained on faculty as a Hospitalist at TJUH for a number of years. He is board-certified in Internal Medicine and is licensed in the District of Columbia and the State of Pennsylvania.

To be more “upstream” on the spectrum of health, he transitioned into Primary Care at Thomas Jefferson University. Throughout this time, he never stopped rooting for his DC area sports teams and reading The Washington Post.

Dr. Chen looks forward to being back in the DC Metropolitan area, being closer to family, free admissions to museums, DC winning a championship, and making his home once again with the warm social climate that is Virginia/Maryland/DC. He cherishes building meaningful relationships with patients and their loved ones. He wants to make sure they receive sufficient explanations and are empowered to take care of their health so they can live as good of a quality of life for as long as possible; not just for themselves, but for the positive influence we can all have in each other’s lives. It will be a pleasure and honor to be a part of your life.

Adam Hodes, DO joins the Division of General Internal Medicine as an Internist and Instructor of Medicine.

Dr. Hodes obtained his Bachelor’s Degree in Biology from the University of Rochester in Rochester, NY. He went on to earn his Medical Degree from the Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine in New York City. He completed his Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania as an Internal Medicine resident. He obtained his undergraduates in music at the University of Virginia and Medical Degree at the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences where he also served as Assistant Chief of Service (Chief Resident).

Dr. Hodes has also selected as Chief Resident for the Internal Medicine training program. It was in this role that he developed an interest in evidence-based medicine and medical education. He is passionate about providing mentorship and training to medical students and residents while promoting high quality patient centered care.

Chairman’s Rounds
GWU Hospital Auditorium, 12:00
All Faculty Invited to Attend

SEPT 1  Dr. Ellen Dinerman  Dr. Lisa Glass
SEPT 22 Dr. Alla Khaja  Dr. Teja Mandava
Rheumatology Academic Conference Schedule
September 2017
2300 M Street, Suite 3-332
8 AM – 11:30 AM
Questions? Call (202) 741-2488

SEPT 7: Journal Club
Drs. McBride and Phillipotts

SEPT 7: Knowledge Bowl and Rheumatology Board Training Preparation
Topic: HIV-associated rheumatic disorders

SEPT 14: Spine Imaging
Dr. Kathleen Brindle, Associate Professor of Radiology
Chief, Musculoskeletal Radiology

SEPT 14: Fellowship Interview Day

SEPT 21: Intra-City Rheumatology Grand Rounds
NOTE LOCATION: Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC)
NOTE TIME: 7:30 AM

SEPT 21: Knowledge Bowl and Rheumatology Board Training Preparation
Topic: Amyloidosis

SEPT 28: Peripheral Skeleton Imaging
Dr. Kathleen Brindle, Associate Professor of Radiology
Chief, Musculoskeletal Radiology

SEPT 28: Knowledge Bowl and Rheumatology Board Training Preparation
Topic: Autoimmune Eye and Ear Disorders

Kudos and Congratulations

CORRECTION to last month’s Kudos...Kudos goes to the Division of General Internal Medicine for receiving CareFirst PCMH Outcome Incentive Award 2017 which has earned us an increase in reimbursements for our performance in the PCMH program. Thank you to the Division for all your time and effort on this initiative.

Kudos to Dr. Bonita Coe, former faculty member for DGIM, on a write up titled, "Eating Healthy When Dining Out" in the Medstar Southern Maryland Hospital Center, HEALTH Summer 2017 edition.

Kudos to one of our former chief residents, Dr. Sarah Kattakuzhi, on her publication, “Expansion of Treatment for Hepatitis C Virus Infection by Task Shifting to Community Based Non specialist Providers” in Annals of Internal Medicine.

Kudos to Dr. Dragica Mrkoci, former faculty, on her recent promotion to Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at Uniformed Services University, USU.

Kudos to Dr. James Gehring, Hospital Medicine, on his new role as Physician Director at Large for the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA).

Condolences to the family of Dr. Tony Saddler, on the passing of her father, Dr. Haynes Robinson, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

See you next month! The Editor